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14	Attorneys for Plaintiffs ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, A GREG ESTES and CHERIE ESTES, on behalf of the			
15	CURERIOR COURT OF THE	CTATE OF CALLEDNIA		
16	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
17	FOR THE COUNT			
18	ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an individual; CHERIE ESTES, an individual; on	CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC		
19	behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,	DECLARATION OF RICHARD L. KELLNER REGARDING PLAINTIFFS'		
20	Plaintiffs,	SUBMISSION OF A REVISED PROPOSED ORDER AND SETTLEMENT DOCUMENTS		
21	VS.  CENTEY HOMES OF CALIFORNIA LLC.	IN RESPONSE TO COURT'S MARCH 2, 2023 RULING ON PRELIMINARY		
22	CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, LLC., a Limited Liability Company; CENTEX HOMES DEALTY COMPANY a Corporation: PLUTE	APPROVAL MOTION		
23	REALTY COMPANY, a Corporation; PULTE HOME CORPORATION, a Corporation; MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC., a Corporation;	Judge: Hon. Peter Wilson		
24	and DOES 1-100,	Dept: CX-101 Complaint Filed: 5/9/2013		
	Defendants.	-		
<ul><li>25</li><li>26</li></ul>		Continued Hearing Date: March 30, 2023 Time: 2:00 p.m.		
27		Dept.: CX-101		
28				

## **DECLARATION OF RICHARD L. KELLNER**

I, Richard L. Kellner, declare as follows:

- 1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice before all of the courts of the State of California and am one of the attorneys for the Plaintiffs and class in this action. All information set forth herein is of my own personal knowledge.
- 2. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** is the revised [Proposed] Order Granting Preliminary Approval which will also be separately: (a) filed as a proposed Order; and (b) submitted to the Court's Clerk in Word form. These changes are consistent with the Court's ruling on March 2, 2023 and the hearing on Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary approval on that same date.
- 3. Pursuant to the Court's aforestated direction, the revised Proposed Order (**Exhibit 1**) also has as Exhibits thereto: (a) the Settlement Agreement [**Exh A**]; (b) the Settlement Notice to individuals who were mailed Class Notice in February 2018 [**Exh B**]; the Settlement Notice to individuals who were NOT mailed Class Notice in February 2018 [**Exh C**]; (c) the Request for Exclusion Form [**Exh D**]; and (d) the Prior Owner Verification Form [**Exh E**].
  - a. Please note that the Proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval attaches the Settlement Agreement (as directed by the Court) which, itself, has exhibits thereto).
  - b. Accordingly, to allow the Court to expeditiously locate Exhibits B through Exhibits E of the Settlement (i.e., the Settlement Notices, Request for Exclusion and Prior Owner Verification Forms), we are also providing the PDF pages where those Exhibits are located in the Proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval:
    - i. Exhibit B at pages 127-138 of the Proposed Order.
    - ii. Exhibit C at pages. 140-152 of the Proposed Order.
    - iii. Exhibit D at page 154 of the Proposed Order.
    - iv. Exhibit E at page 156 of the Proposed Order.
- 4. For the Court's benefit, redlined versions of each of the changed documents are attached to this declaration to highlight the revisions made concerning the unresolved issues raised by the Court in the March 2nd ruling. It should be noted that the redline changes were the result of careful discussions and circulation of proposed changes between the parties in this action.

1	Original Class Members who were compelled to Arbitration; (b) the use of one contact person in the		
2	settlement notice is intentional because efficiency dictates only one counsel acting in that capacity; and		
3	(c) there is no need for a translated version of the Settlement Notice packets to be sent since the class		
4	homes are in an English-speaking area.		
5	10. Accordingly, the parties believe that they have addressed all of the Court's expressed		
6	concerns and respectfully request that the Court enter the Proposed Order Granting Preliminary		
7	Approval that is being separately submitted as per the Court's rules.		
8	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is		
9	true and correct. Executed on March 20, 2023, at Los Angeles, California.		
10	/s/Richard L. Kellner		
11	Richard L. Kellner		
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 **COUNTY OF ORANGE** 10 ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an individual; CHERIE ESTES, an individual; on behalf of themselves and all 11 Assigned for all purposes to: others similarly situated, 12 Hon. Peter Wilson Plaintiffs, Dept: CX-101 13 VS. 14 CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA. [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING LLC., a Limited Liability Company; CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF 15 **SETTLEMENT** Corporation; **PULTE HOME** CORPORATION Corporation; ON, a INDUSTRIES, 16 MUELLER INC., Hearing Date: March 30, 2023 Corporation; and DOES 1-100, 17 Time: 2:00 p.m. Defendants. Dept.: CX-101 18 Complaint Filed: May 9, 2013 19 AND RELATED CROSS-CLAIMS. 20 21 WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Class Representatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, 22 Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex 23 Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation ("Defendants") have reached a proposed 24 settlement and compromise of the disputes between them in the above actions, which is embodied 25

in the Settlement Agreement filed with the Court, including modifications thereto (collectively attached hereto as Exhibit A, and hereinafter referred to as the "Settlement Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Court by Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw previously granted Plaintiff's motion for class certification on August 7, 2017, and duly appointed Bridgford, Gleason &

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Artinian, Kabateck LLP, and McNicholas & McNicholas as Class Counsel, and duly appointed Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes as class representatives,

WHEREAS, the Parties have applied to the Court for preliminary approval of a proposed Settlement of the Action, the terms and conditions of which are set forth in the Settlement Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Court has preliminarily considered the Settlement to determine, among other things, whether the Settlement is sufficient to warrant the issuance of notice to members of the Class (as defined below);

AND NOW, the Court, having read and considered the Settlement Agreement and accompanying documents and the motion for preliminary settlement approval and supporting papers, and the Parties to the Settlement Agreement having appeared in this Court for hearings on Preliminary approval of the Settlement on March 30, 2023, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, the Class Representatives, Defendants, and all Class Members.
- 2. The Court grants preliminary approval of the terms and conditions contained in the Settlement Agreement. The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement are within the range of possible approval at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 3. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations conducted at arms' length by the parties. In making this preliminary finding, the Court considered the nature of the claims, the amounts and kinds of benefits paid in settlement, the allocation of settlement proceeds among the class members, and the fact that a settlement represents a compromise of the Parties' respective positions rather than the result of a finding of liability at trial.
- 4. The Court further preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement have no obvious deficiencies and do not improperly grant preferential treatment to any individual class member.
  - 5. Subject to further consideration by the Court at the time of the Final

Approval Hearing, the Court preliminarily approves the Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class, as falling within the range of possible final approval, as being the product of informed, arm's length negotiation by counsel, as meriting submission to the Class for its consideration.

- 6. The parties have identified the homes included within the class definition certified by this Court on August 7, 2017, which are listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement (the "Class Area"). For purposes of the proposed Settlement, and conditioned upon the Agreement receiving final approval following the Final Approval hearing and that order becoming final, the certified class shall be further defined as follows:
  - (1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action, (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.
- 7. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Class, subject to final approval by this Court of the Settlement. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to act on behalf of the Class with respect to all acts required by the Settlement Agreement or such other acts which are reasonably necessary to consummate the proposed Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement.
- 8. The Court approves ILYM Group Inc. ("ILYM") as Settlement Administrator to administer the notice and claims procedures of the Settlement for the purpose of administering the proposed Settlement and performing all other duties and obligations of the Settlement Administrator as defined in the Settlement, this Preliminary Approval Order, and/or as may otherwise be ordered by the Court, with the understanding that ILYM's compensation will be capped at \$19,550.00.
- 9. The Court approves, as to form and content, the two different Settlement Notices: (a) the first for the Original Class Members who were served with the Class Notice in

February 2018 (attached hereto as Exhibit "B"); and (b) the second for all subsequent purchasers of the homes listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement who were not sent Class Notice in February 2018 (attached hereto as Exhibit "C"). The Court hereby instructs the Settling Parties to proceed with Settlement Notice in the manner and on the schedule set forth in the Settlement Agreement as follows:

- a. The Settlement Administrator shall serve by U.S. Mail:
  - i. To those individuals who were mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "B" hereto; and
    - 2. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "D" hereto);
  - ii. To those individuals in the chain of title for the class homes listed in Exhibit "A" to the Settlement Agreement who were NOT mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "C" to the Settlement Agreement;
    - 2. The Request for Exclusion Form (Exhibit "E" hereto); and
    - 3. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "F" hereto).
- b. For a Prior Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member, that Prior Owner must submit by mail or electronic means a Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator within sixty (60) days of mailing by the Settlement Administrator (Exhibit "F" to Settlement Agreement) that verifies that the Prior Owner replaced the copper pipes in the Class Home with PEX or epoxy coating of the pipes.
  - i. In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification

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Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the home's copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide the present owner with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification to the Settlement Administrator that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home. In the event that there is a dispute between a prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who will forward such documentation to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

- c. For a Present Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member:
  - i. With respect to those individuals who were served with Class Notice in February 2018, there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement.

- ii. With respect to those individuals who were NOT served with Class Notice in February 2018, that individual must not submit a Request for Exclusion Form and there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement.
- d. For all Notice papers returned as undeliverable or changed address, the Settlement Administrator shall re-send the Notice documents after a skip-trace, and the time frame for a potential class member to return any forms shall re-commence from the date of that re-mailing.
- 10. In order to facilitate printing and dissemination of the Settlement Notice, the Settlement Administrator and Parties may change the format, but not the content, of the Settlement Notice, without further Court order, so long as the legibility is not adversely impacted. The Settlement Administrator and Parties may also, without further Court order, insert the information specified in the blank places provided in the Settlement Notice.
- 11. Within ten (10) business days of Preliminary Approval, the Parties shall provide the Settlement Administrator with the addresses of all homes that are included within the definition of the Class.
- 12. The Settlement Administrator must complete the notice mailing within thirty (30) calendar days of preliminary approval being granted, in envelopes marked "Personal and Confidential."
- 13. By the time of filing of the final settlement approval motion, the Settlement Administrator shall provide, and Plaintiff shall file proof, by affidavit or declaration, of the mailing of the Settlement Notice in the form and manner provided in the Agreement and in this Preliminary Approval Order.
- 14. The Settlement Administrator must also create a dedicated website for this Settlement, which will provide a portal for electronic submission of Request for Exclusion Forms,

Prior Owner Verification Forms and any Objections to the Settlement. The dedicated website shall also make available the Settlement Agreement, the operative complaint, the pleadings submitted in support of preliminary approval, approval of attorneys' fees, costs and class representative enhancements, and final approval, and all orders continuing or re-setting any hearing dates. The dedicated website shall also make available all Orders by this Court with respect to aforesaid motions.

- 15. The Court finds that the Parties' plan for providing notice to the Settlement Class described in the Settlement Agreement complies fully with the requirements of due process and all other applicable provisions of law, including *California Code of Civil Procedure* §382, *California Civil Code* §1781, *California Rules of Court*, Rules 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and all other applicable law., and any other applicable law and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to the Settlement Class, the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and the Final Approval Hearing.
- 16. All potential members of the Class who were sent Class Notice in February 2018 shall not have the right to be excluded from the Class because the time for such right to be excluded has expired. With respect to any potential member of the Settlement Class who was NOT sent Class Notice in February 2018 AND who desires to be excluded from the Class and therefore not be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement, he/she must submit to the Settlement Administrator, pursuant to the instructions set forth in the Notice, a timely and valid written Request for Exclusion (attached as Exhibit "E" hereto).
- Date to submit written objections and/or requests for exclusion. The Settlement Administrator shall prepare and deliver to Class Counsel, who shall file with the Court, a final report stating the total number of Class members who have submitted timely and valid Requests for Exclusion from the Class, and the names of such individuals. The final report regarding the Claims Period shall be filed with the Court within seven (7) business days of the expiration of the deadline to submit

objections and/or requests for exclusion.

- 18. The deadline to file the motion for final approval of the Settlement and Class Counsel's fee application shall be twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing date of **August 17, 2023**.
- 19. Responses to any objections received shall be filed with the Court no later than twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, and Plaintiffs' responses may be included in their motion for final approval.
- 20. Any member of the Settlement Class who is eligible to (and so chooses) to be excluded shall not be entitled to receive any of the benefits of the Settlement Agreement, shall not be bound by the release of any claims pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, and shall not be entitled to object to the Settlement Agreement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing. The names of all persons timely submitting valid Requests for Exclusion shall be provided to the Court.
- 21. Any member of the Class may appear at the Final Approval Hearing, in person or by counsel, and may be heard to orally object to the settlement, or, to the extent allowed by the Court, to speak in support of or in opposition to, the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement, the application for an award of attorneys' fees, cost, and expenses to Class Counsel, and any compensation to be awarded to the Class Representatives.
- 22. Pending the final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, all pre-trial proceedings in the instant case are stayed. If the Settlement is terminated or final approval does not for any reason occur, the stay shall be immediately terminated.
- August 17, 2023 in Dept. CX-101 of the Orange County Superior Court, to address: (a) whether the proposed Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate, and whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should be entered; and (b) whether Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses and incentive awards should be approved. The date and time of the Final Approval Hearing shall be set forth in the Class Notice. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or in connection with the Settlement Agreement.

1	24. If the Settlement is finally approved by the Court, the Court shall retain		
2	jurisdiction over the Settling Parties, the Class Members, and this Action in accordance with CCP		
3	§ 664.6 and CRC Rule 3.769(h), with respect to matters arising out of, or in connection with, the		
4	Settlement, and may issue such orders as necessary to implement the terms of the Settlement. The		
5	Court may approve the Settlement, with such modifications as may be agreed to by the Class		
6	Representatives, Class Counsel, and Defendants, without further notice to the Class Members.		
7	IT IS SO ORDERED.		
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9	Dated:		
10	HONORABLE PETER J. WILSON		
11	JUDGE OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT		
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Exhibit A

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13	Facsimile: (310) 475-7871		
14	Attorneys for Plaintiffs ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, ANA		
	DEL RIVERO, GREG ESTES, and CHERIE ESTES on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situat		
15			
16	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
17	FOR THE COUNT	Y OF ORANGE	
18	ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an	CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC	
19	individual; CHERIE ESTES, an individual; on behalf of themselves and all others similarly	CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND	
20	situated,	RELEASE BETWEEN PLAINTIFFS AND DEFENDANTS FOR SETTLEMENT	
21	Plaintiffs, vs.	PURPOSES ONLY	
22	CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, LLC., a	Judge: Hon. Peter Wilson	
23	Limited Liability Company; CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a Corporation; PULTE CORPORATION Corporation:	Dept: CX-101 Complaint Filed: 5/9/13	
24	HOME CORPORATION, a Corporation; MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC., a Corporation; and DOES 1-100,	-	
25	Defendants.		
26	AND RELATED CROSS-CLAIMS.		
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# STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE

Plaintiffs and Class Representatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation ("Defendants") collectively hereinafter referred to as the "Parties," by and through their respective counsel of record, agree to resolve the above-captioned case through this Class Action Settlement and Release Agreement, dated December 13, 2022, which is being entered into by the Parties for settlement purposes only.

### I. DEFINITIONS

- **1.1** Action. "Action" shall mean the above-captioned lawsuit.
- 1.2 Administrative Costs. "Administrative Costs" means the costs of administering the settlement by the Class Administrator, including, but not limited to, the costs of mailing the Settlement Class Notice and related documents to Settlement Class Members, and the Class Administrator's costs in administering the portion of the Settlement Fund to be distributed to Settlement Class Members.
- **1.3 Agreement.** "Agreement" means this Class Settlement Agreement and Release, including all exhibits hereto.
- 1.4 Attorney Fee Award. "Attorney Fee Award" means the amount awarded by the Court to Plaintiffs' Counsel as attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, disbursements or other compensation, such amount to be in full and complete satisfaction of Plaintiffs' Counsel's claim or request (and any claim or request made by any other attorneys) for payment of attorneys' fees, costs, disbursements and compensation in the Action.
- **1.5 Award.** "Award" means the *pro rata* benefit to be paid on behalf of each Settlement Class Member from the "Net Settlement Fund."

### **1.6** Class. "Class" shall mean:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action, (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

the settlement of the Action, including Plaintiff's Counsel's application for the Attorney Fee Award and

the Representative Plaintiff's Award, and to enter the Final Approval Order and Judgment.

- 1.17 Final Approval Order and Judgment. "Final Approval Order and Judgment" shall mean the Court's Order pursuant to Rule of Court 3.769 granting final approval of this Settlement Agreement and providing for the orderly performance and enforcement of the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement, as well as the Judgment rendered by the Court pursuant to Rule of Court 3.769(h).
- 1.18 Motion for Preliminary Approval. "Motion for Preliminary Approval" shall mean the Motion for Preliminary Approval of the Settlement to be filed in this Action pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.769(c).
- 1.19 Net Settlement Fund. "Net Settlement Fund" means the Settlement Fund (including accrued interest) minus (a) Administrative Fees and Costs, (b) the total attorneys' fees and costs awarded to Settlement Class Counsel by the Court; and (c) any incentive payments awarded to the Class Representatives by the Court.
- 1.20 Notice Date. "Notice Date" shall mean the date on which the Class Administrator shall send the Settlement Class Notice to all members of the Settlement Class who are not Original Class Members. The Notice Date shall be no more than ten (10) business days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order.
- **1.21 Objection Deadline.** "Objection Deadline" means sixty (60) calendar days from the Settlement Class Notice Date.
- **1.22 Opt-Out.** "Opt-Out" means a Settlement Class Member who timely submits a properly completed and executed Request for Exclusion.
- 1.23 Opt-Out Period. "Opt-Out Period" means the period commencing on the Settlement Class Notice Date and ending sixty (60) calendar days thereafter during which Settlement Class Members may submit a timely Request for Exclusion. The last day of the Opt-Out Period shall be specifically set forth in the Settlement Class Notice.
- 1.24 Original Class Members. All members of the Class to whom Class Notice was sent on or about February 2018.
  - 1.25 Participating Settlement Class Member. "Participating Settlement Class

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Member" shall mean the Settlement Class Member who is the current owner(s) of each home on the Class Home List, unless (a) a prior owner re-piped the home with PEX or an epoxy coating and submits a Prior Owner Re-Piping Form as provided in Section 4.4 of this Settlement Agreement; or (b) the Settlement Class Member Opted Out.

- 1.26 Parties. "Parties" shall mean the Class Representatives, the Settlement Class Members, and Defendants.
- 1.27 Plaintiffs. "Plaintiffs" shall mean the Class Representatives and the Settlement Class Members.
- 1.28 Plaintiffs' Released Parties. "Plaintiffs' Released Parties" shall mean Defendants, Cross-Defendants, and each and all of their past, present, and future parents, subsidiaries, subcontractors, affiliated companies and corporations, and each and all of their respective past, present, and future directors, officers, managers, employees, general partners, limited partners, principals, agents, insurers, reinsurers, shareholders, attorneys, advisors, representatives, predecessors, successors, divisions, joint ventures, assigns, or related entities, and each and all of their respective executors, successors, assigns, and legal representatives, and any subcontractors hired by Defendants to construct or work on the homes listed on the Class Home List and each and all of their past, present, and future parents, subsidiaries, subcontractors, affiliated companies and corporations, and each and all of their respective past, present, and future directors, officers, managers, employees, general partners, limited partners, principals, agents, insurers, reinsurers, shareholders, attorneys, advisors, representatives, predecessors, successors, divisions, joint ventures, assigns, or related entities, and each and all of their respective executors, successors, assigns, and legal representatives, as well as any supplier, manufacturer or distributor of copper pipe for potable water systems in the Settlement Class Members' homes and each and all of their past, present, and future parents, subsidiaries, subcontractors, affiliated companies and corporations, and each and all of their respective past, present, and future directors, officers, managers, employees, general partners, limited partners, principals, agents, insurers, reinsurers, shareholders, attorneys, advisors, representatives, predecessors, successors, divisions, joint ventures, assigns, or related entities, and each and all of their respective executors, successors, assigns, and legal representatives.

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modifications made by the Court.

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v. Pulte Home Corporation action.

class representatives in the Action.

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Request for Exclusion is Exhibit E.

entered the Preliminary Approval Order.

which the Preliminary Approval Order is entered by the Court.

the release set forth in Paragraph 5.1 of this Agreement.

Members" means the release set forth in Paragraph 5.2 of this Agreement.

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Settlement Class Members to the Class Administrator requesting to opt out of the settlement. A form

**Preliminary Approval.** "Preliminary Approval" shall mean that the Court has

Preliminary Approval Date. "Preliminary Approval Date" means the date on

Preliminary Approval Order. "Preliminary Approval Order" shall mean the

Release by Class Representatives. "Release by Class Representatives" means

Release by Settlement Class Members. "Release by Settlement Class

Related Actions. "Related Actions" means Shah, et. al. v. Pulte Home

order entered by the Court that grants Preliminary Approval of this Settlement including, among other

things, preliminary approval of the terms of the settlement, provisional certification of the Settlement

Class, and approval of the form and method of Settlement Class Notice. The Preliminary Approval

Order shall be in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit D, subject to non-material

Corporation, Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2014-00731604; Smith v. Pulte Home

Corporation, Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2015-0080812; the claims pending with the

American Arbitration Association filed by the owners of the homes that were the subject of the Court's

subject of the Court's November 15, 2021 order requiring certain homeowners to arbitration in the Smith

the amount, if any, that is approved by the Court for payment to the Class Representatives for acting as

Representative Plaintiffs' Award. "Representative Plaintiffs' Award" means

Request for Exclusion. "Request for Exclusion" means the submission by

July 9, 2021 order granting Defendants' motion to compel arbitration in this action; and the claims

pending with the American Arbitration Association filed by the owners of the homes that were the

1.37 Settled Claims of the Class Representatives. "Settled Claims of the Class Representatives" means collectively any and all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, that the Class Representatives ever had against Defendants, Cross-Defendants, as well as any other supplier, manufacturer, distributor, or installer of copper plumbing lines or systems in the Class Representatives' homes and their insurers, including claims for penalties, attorneys' fees and costs of such, that arise from the design, installation, repair, or use of copper plumbing lines and systems in the homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the design, installation, repair, or use of copper plumbing lines and systems. The Settled Claims of the Class Representatives specifically extend to claims that the Class Representatives do not know or suspect to exist in their favor at the time of settlement. The foregoing releases constitute a waiver of, without limitation, section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which 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 release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

The Class Representatives understand and acknowledge the significance of these waivers of Civil Code section 1542 and/or of any other applicable law relating to limitations on releases. In connection with such waivers and relinquishments, the Class Representatives acknowledge that they are aware that they may hereafter discover facts in addition to, or different from, those facts they now know or believe to be true with respect to the subject matter of the settlement, but that it is their intention to release finally, fully, and forever, all Settled Claims of the Class Representatives, and in furtherance of such intention, the release of the Settled Claims of the Class Representatives will be and remain in effect notwithstanding the discovery or existence of any such additional or different facts.

1.38 Settled Class Claims. "Settled Class Claims" means collectively any and all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, that the

Settlement Class Members ever had against Defendants, Cross-Defendants, or any other supplier, manufacturer, distributor, or installer of copper plumbing lines or systems in the Settlement Class Members' homes and their insurers, including claims for penalties, attorneys' fees and costs of such, that arise from or in any way relate to the design, installation, repair, or use of copper plumbing lines and systems in the homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from or in any way relating to the design, installation, repair, or use of copper plumbing lines and systems.

Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* alleged construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the homes identified in Exhibit A, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

- 1.39 Settlement or Settlement Agreement. "Settlement" or "Settlement Agreement" shall mean the terms and conditions of this Class Action Settlement and Release Agreement, which is being entered into by the Parties for settlement purposes only.
- 1.40 Settlement Class Members. "Settlement Class Members" shall mean (1) the Original Class Members, and (2) either the present homeowner(s) of the 145 homes listed on Exhibit A, or the former owners of such homes who have provided information acceptable to the Parties that they repiped the home with PEX or an epoxy coating before selling. Settlement Class Members shall exclude Opt-Outs. The Settlement Class Members comprise the "Settlement Class."
- 1.41 Settlement Class Notices. "Settlement Class Notices" means the notices of provisional certification of a Settlement Class and proposed settlement contemplated by this Agreement, substantially in the forms attached hereto collectively as <a href="Exhibit B">Exhibit B</a> and <a href="Exhibit B">Exhibit B</a>, more fully described in Section IV of this Agreement..
- 1.42 Settlement Fund. "Settlement Fund" shall mean the total amount of \$1,371,348.00 that shall be funded by Defendants and wired to Class Administrator's account within 30 days of Final Approval. The Settlement Fund shall be the exclusive source for: (a) the benefits to the Settlement Class Members (*i.e.*, the Award); (b) the Attorney Fee Award; (c) Class Administrator's Costs; and (d) the Class Representatives' Awards.
- **1.43 Settlement Effective Date**. "Settlement Effective Date" shall mean the first day following the last of the following occurrences:

- (a) The time to appeal or seek permission to appeal or seek other judicial review of the Final Approval Order and Judgment has expired with no appeal or other judicial review having been taken or sought in this Action and all of the Related Actions; or
- (b) If an appeal or other judicial review of the Final Approval Order and Judgment has been taken or sought in this Action and all of the Related Actions, the date the Final Approval Order and Judgment in this Action and all of the Related Actions is finally affirmed by an appellate court with no possibility of subsequent appeal or other judicial review therefrom, or the date the appeal(s) or other judicial review therefrom are finally dismissed with no possibility of subsequent appeal or other judicial review in this Action and all of the Related Actions.

### II. RECITALS

- **2.1 Description of the Action.** Plaintiffs filed this Action on May 9, 2013 on behalf of themselves and other allegedly similarly situated persons whose homes were built by Defendants and contained copper plumbing lines and systems that purportedly were inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California.
- 2.1.0 Litigation of the Action. Class Counsel assert that they have, for close to nine years, vigorously litigated this Action and the other related actions against other developers for the same claim that the chemical interaction between the water supplied in Ladera Ranch and the copper pipes installed by developers lessened the reasonably-expected useful life of the copper pipes and resulted or would result in pinhole leaks. This has included extensive motion practice on the issue of whether the cases can proceed as class actions (which were litigated on two separate occasions before the Court of Appeal) and extensive work with a common water chemist expert.
- **2.1.1 Discovery in the Action.** The Parties have engaged in extensive discovery and motion practice in connection with this action.
- **2.2** Class Certification. On August 7, 2017, the Court certified the Class as defined in Section 1.6 of this Settlement Agreement.
- 2.3 Settlement Efforts. Subsequent to certification of this class action and extensive litigation of this case, the Parties have engaged in arms-length negotiations before Hon. Stephen J. Sundvold (ret.) JAMS ADR. As a result of this mediation, the parties were able to reach agreement on

settlement. The terms of that negotiated settlement are reflected in this Agreement.

- 2.4 Plaintiffs' Reasons for Entering Into Settlement. Class Counsel and Plaintiffs believe that the claims asserted in this Action have merit. Class Counsel and Plaintiffs, however, recognize the uncertain outcome and the risk of any litigation, especially in complex actions such as this, as well as the difficulties and delays inherent in such litigation. Class Counsel and Plaintiffs are also mindful of the inherent problems of proof and defenses to the claims asserted in this Action. In light of the above, Class Counsel and Plaintiffs believe that the Settlement set forth in this Settlement Agreement confers substantial benefits upon the Settlement Class and each of the Class Members and is fair, just, equitable, reasonable, adequate and in the best interests of all Settlement Class Members.
- 2.5 Defendants' Reasons for Entering into Settlement. Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action. Defendants, however, desire to settle the Action, on the terms and conditions set forth in this Settlement Agreement, in order to:

  (a) avoid the burden, expense, and uncertainty of continuing the Action; (b) avoid the diversion of their resources and personnel required by continuing the Action; and (c) put to rest any and all claims that are, or could have been, brought or asserted in this Action, or any similar litigation, in this or any other court's jurisdiction, which are based upon any of the facts, circumstances or conduct alleged in the Action. Defendants have therefore determined that it is desirable and beneficial that the Action be settled upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Settlement Agreement. This Settlement Agreement is based on the express understanding that nothing contained in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed or deemed an admission of liability, culpability, negligence, or wrongdoing on the part of any of Defendants or any of Plaintiffs' Released Parties, all of whom deny any liability.
- 2.6 Conditional Settlement. Subject to Court approval as provided herein, the Parties stipulate and agree that, in consideration of the promises and covenants set forth in this Agreement and upon the entry by the Court of a Final Approval Order and the occurrence of the Effective Date, the Action shall be fully settled and compromised as to the Settlement Class Members upon the terms and conditions set forth below. Further, this Settlement has been entered into in concert with settlements reached in the Related Actions and is conditioned upon final execution and final Court approvals of the settlements in the Related Actions.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises set forth in this Agreement, as well as the good and valuable consideration provided for herein, the Parties hereby agree to a full and complete settlement of the Action on the following terms and conditions:

### III. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

- pay the total sum of \$1,371,348.00 to fund the Settlement Fund. Allocation of the payment of this sum among Defendants and Cross-Defendants is set forth separate settlement agreements between them. Defendants and Cross-Defendants shall be responsible only for their agreed-upon shares of the total Settlement Fund. Any Net Settlement Funds allocated to homes on the Class Home List whose eligible Settlement Class Member Opts-Out of this Settlement shall revert back to Defendants and Cross-Defendants according to their agreements.
- 3.1.0 Funding of the Settlement Fund. Within 30 days of the Court's entry of the Final Approval of the Settlement, Defendant shall wire to the Class Administrator's account to be established the amounts listed in Section 3.1 to be used as the Settlement Fund, consistent with the terms of this Settlement Agreement, and shall be maintained in the Class Administrator's account until distributions are made.
- 3.1.1 Calculation of Net Settlement Fund. Within five (5) business days of the Settlement Effective Date, the Class Administrator shall calculate the Net Settlement Fund by deducting from the Settlement Fund the anticipated Administrative Costs for the Settlement, attorneys' fees and costs awarded by the Court, any incentive payments awarded to the Class Representatives by the Court, and any other payments agreed to by the Parties and approved by the Court.
- **3.1.2** Calculation of Eligible Shares to each Class Member. Within five (5) business days of the Settlement Effective Date, the Class Administrator shall calculate the Eligible Share of the Net Settlement Fund attributable to each Settlement Class Member by dividing the Net Settlement Fund by 145 (*i.e.*, the number of homes on the Class Homes List).
- **3.1.3** Claims Paid. This is a claims-paid settlement, and, except for prior owners as provided in Section 4.4 of this Settlement, no Participating Settlement Class Member shall be required to submit any claim form in order be eligible to obtain an Eligible Share. Every Participating

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Settlement Class Member who does not file a valid Request for Exclusion shall automatically be eligible for to an Eligible Share.

## 3.1.4 Payment of Claims to the Participating Settlement Class Members.

Within (30) days after the Settlement Effective Date, the Class Administrator shall mail individual Settlement Checks to each Participating Settlement Class Member.

3.1.5 Disposition of Uncashed Settlement Checks. Each Settlement Check mailed by the Class Administrator to Participating Settlement Class Members shall be valid for 180 days from the date shown on the Settlement Check. Any checks not cashed within that time shall be treated as uncashed checks under California's Unclaimed Property Law and forwarded to the appropriate government authority.

3.1.6 Attorneys' Fees, Costs and Expenses. Defendants take no position as to the proper amount of any attorneys' fee award to Class Counsel, and agree that they will not oppose an application by Class Counsel for attorneys' fees. Class Counsel represent and warrant that they will not seek an attorneys' fees award of more than one-third of the Settlement Fund, which equates to Four Hundred Fifty-Seven One Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$457,116.00) and reimbursement of legal costs up to \$75,000.00, and that these amounts are inclusive of all fees, costs, and expenses of Class Counsel, past and future, in connection with the Action. The fees shall be divided among Class Counsel based upon their agreement. The attorneys' fees and costs in the amount awarded by the Court shall be paid directly to Class Counsel from the Settlement Fund within two court days after the Settlement Effective Date. The effectiveness of this Settlement is not conditioned upon nor will it be delayed in the event that the Court fails to approve Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and costs in whole or in part. Defendants shall have no obligation to pay any attorneys' fees or costs to Class Counsel other than such amount awarded by the Court to Class Counsel from the Settlement Fund. Any fees not awarded shall be included within the Net Settlement Fund for distribution to the Participating Settlement Class Members. The Class Representatives have reviewed and approved the aforesaid division of attorneys' fees.

3.1.7 Incentive Payments to the Class Representatives. Plaintiffs intend to apply to the Court for two (2) incentive payments (one for each household of Class Representatives) of

\$10,000.00 each (i.e. a total of \$20,000.00). Defendants take no position as to the proper amount of any incentive payments to the Class Representatives and agree that they will not oppose an application by Class Counsel for the Class Representatives' incentive payments. The effectiveness of this Settlement will not be conditioned upon or delayed by the Court's failure to approve any incentive payments to either Class Representatives, and/or the Court's award of incentive payments in an amount less than that sought by either Class Representatives. Defendants shall have no obligation to pay any incentive payments to the Class Representatives, separate from any amount awarded by the Court to the Class Representatives from the Settlement Fund. Any fees not awarded shall be included within the Net Settlement Fund for distribution to the Participating Settlement Class Members.

3.1.8 Costs of Notice and Claims Administration. Within ten (10) business days of the Settlement Effective Date, the Class Administrator shall be reimbursed from the Settlement Fund for its costs associated with the preparation and mailing of the Notice described in Section 4.2, and the costs for distributing settlement checks to Class Members.

### IV. NOTICE TO THE CLASS

4.1 Contact Information of Potential Class Members. Within ten (10) business days of Preliminary Approval, Class Counsel shall provide the Class Administrator with the Class Home List. The Class Administrator shall then determine the identity of all potential Settlement Class Members by conducting a "chain of title" search for the names and addresses of all individuals who had an ownership interest in the subject homes from the date of construction to the present date. The "chain of title" search shall be supplemented with other information as set forth in Sections 4.3 and 4.4, below, to arrive at address lists for the Settlement Class Members defined in Section 1.40 of this Settlement Agreement.

## 4.2 Notice to the Settlement Class.

- **4.2.0** Notice to the potential Settlement Class Members who were not Original Class Members shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- **4.2.1** Notice to the Original Class Members shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C.
  - 4.3 Notice by Mail is the Best, Most Fair and Most Reasonable Form of Notice

under the circumstances.

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4.4.1.

4.3.1

Administrator, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit F.

Confidential."

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copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home. In the

**Practicable under the Circumstances.** The Parties agree that providing direct mailed notice to all

Administrator within thirty (30) days of Preliminary Approval, in envelopes marked "Personal and

address shall promptly be re-mailed by the Class Administrator to such forwarding address. To the

extent that any Settlement Class Notices are returned as non-deliverable without a forwarding address,

the Class Administrator shall conduct a reasonable research to locate valid address information for the

intended recipients of such Settlement Class Notices, and shall promptly re-mail the Settlement Class

Notice, as applicable, to any Settlement Class Members for whom new address information is identified.

be deemed to have the right to payment from the Net Settlement Fund, unless a prior owner had re-piped

the home with PEX or an epoxy coating. Class Counsel have determined that it is impracticable to

inspect every home in the class to determine whether there has been a replacement of the copper pipes

by prior owners with PEX or an epoxy coating. Accordingly, a term of this Settlement is that prior to

the Final Approval of the Settlement, a prior owner must submit a verification that the prior owner had

re-piped the home with PEX or an epoxy coating. A Prior Owner Re-Piping Form shall be served with

**Form.** In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner

has replaced the home's copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Class Administrator shall

Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the home's copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating;

and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had

provide the present owner with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner

the Settlement Class Notices and be available on a Class Settlement website maintained by the Class

potential Settlement Class Members is the best, most fair and most reasonable form of notice practicable

The Notices shall be mailed to all Settlement Class Members by the Class

Any Notices that are returned as non-deliverable with a forwarding

**Prior Homeowners.** Under the terms of the Settlement, the current owner shall

Procedure upon Prior Homeowner Submission of Prior Owners Verification

CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE AGREEMENT

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Requests for Exclusion. The Notice attached as Exhibit B shall provide

Settlement Class Members who were not Original Class Members an opportunity to Opt Out. In order to request exclusion, such Settlement Class Members must mail a written Request for Exclusion to the Class Administrator. The Request for Exclusion must be signed by the Settlement Class Member, and postmarked no later than the deadline for filing a Request for Exclusion set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order entered by the Court. The Parties agree that they will propose to the Court that the deadline for submitting a Request for Exclusion set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order be sixty (60) days after the date Notice was last mailed. All Settlement Class Members who do not timely and properly file a Request for Exclusion from the Settlement Class shall be bound by all proceedings, orders, and judgments in the Action, even if the Settlement Class Member has pending, or subsequently initiates, litigation against any of the Defendants relating to the release of Settled Class Claims. A Settlement Class Member who chooses to be excluded from the Settlement Class will be excluded entirely therefrom and, therefore, from participation in the Settlement. The Class Administrator shall timely provide the Parties with copies of all Requests for Exclusion within seven days after receipt of said Requests. In the event that in excess of 10% of the Participating Settlement Class Members opt out, Defendants, at their sole discretion, may terminate this Settlement, but Defendants must give notice of their intent to terminate the Settlement within 15 days after the deadline to submit a Request for Exclusion.

statement of the objection, as well as the specific reason(s), if any, for each objection, including any legal support the Settlement Class Member wishes to bring to the Court's attention and any evidence the Settlement Class Member wishes to introduce in support of the objection. Any Settlement Class Member who is not an Opt Out may file and serve a written objection either on his or her own or through an attorney hired at his or her own expense. Any Settlement Class Member who is not an Opt Out intending to make an appearance at the Final Approval Hearing must: (a) file a notice of appearance with the Court no later than the date set in the Preliminary Approval Order approved by the Court or as the Court may otherwise direct; and (b) mail a copy of the notice of appearance postmarked by the date set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order to the Class Administrator.

4.6.1 Opt Outs shall have no standing to object to the Settlement, motions for attorneys' fees, costs and/or the proposed incentive awards, and/or the proposed Final Approval Order and Judgment. As soon as possible after receipt of an objection, the Class Administrator shall provide a copy of the objection and supporting papers (and the accompanying envelope or other packaging) to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel. Any Settlement Class Member who fails to comply with the provisions of this Section shall waive and forfeit any and all rights t to object to the Settlement, motions for attorneys' fees, costs and/or the proposed incentive awards, and/or the proposed Final Approval Order and Judgment and shall be bound by all the terms of the Settlement Agreement and by all proceedings, orders, and judgments in the Action.

4.7 Proof of Payment. Within ninety (90) days after the Settlement Effective Date, the Class Administrator will certify to the Court that checks have been mailed to the Participating Settlement Class Members. The certification required by this Section shall be by declaration(s), based on the personal knowledge of the declarant(s), filed with the Court and served on Class Counsel and Counsel for Defendants.

#### V. RELEASE OF CLAIMS

5.1 Release by Class Representatives. Upon the Settlement Effective Date, Class Representatives and all of their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors and assigns, shall and hereby do release and forever discharge Plaintiffs' Released Parties from the Settled Claims of the Class Representatives.

- **5.2** Release by Settlement Class Members. Upon the Settlement Effective Date, Settlement Class Members and all of their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors and assigns, shall and hereby do release and forever discharge Plaintiffs' Released Parties from the Settled Class Claims.
- **5.3** Complete Defense. The Parties shall be deemed to have agreed that the Releases set forth in Sections 5.1 and 5.2 will be and may be raised by the Parties and Plaintiffs' Released Parties as a complete defense to, and will preclude any action or proceeding based on the claims set forth therein.
- **5.4 Effectuation of Settlement**. None of the releases set forth herein includes releases of claims to enforce the terms of the Settlement.

### VI. PRELIMINARY COURT APPROVAL OF THE SETTLEMENT

- 6.1 Motion for Preliminary Approval. The Parties shall submit this Settlement to the Court in support of the Motion for Preliminary Approval and shall request a determination by the Court as to its fairness, adequacy, and reasonableness. Promptly upon execution of this Settlement, Class Counsel shall apply to the Court for the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, which shall:
  - (a) Preliminarily approve the Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate;
- (b) Approve as to form and content the proposed Notices substantially in the forms attached hereto as Exhibits B and C;
- (c) Approve the manner of providing Notice to the Settlement Class Members as described in Section IV of this Settlement Agreement and find that this manner of notice constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and constitutes valid, due, and sufficient notice to all Settlement Class Members in accordance with California and federal laws and the Constitution of the U.S.;
- (d) Approve ILYM Group, Inc. as the Class Administrator, or another administrator mutually agreed to by the Parties;
  - (e) Schedule the Final Approval Hearing to be held by the Court to determine:
    - (1) Whether the proposed Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate;

Release of all Settled Class Claims against the Plaintiffs' Released Parties by the Class Representatives

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and to take such other action as may reasonably be necessary to implement the terms of this Settlement.

The Parties shall use their best efforts, including all efforts contemplated by this Settlement Agreement

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and any other efforts that may become necessary by order of the Court, or otherwise, to effectuate the terms of this Settlement. As soon as practicable after execution of this Settlement, Class Counsel shall, with the assistance and cooperation of Defendants and their counsel, take all necessary steps to secure the Court's Final Judgment.

- **8.4 No Prior Assignments.** The Parties represent, covenant, and warrant that they have not directly or indirectly, assigned, transferred, encumbered, or purported to assign, transfer, or encumber to any person or entity any portion of any liability, claim, demand, action, cause of action, or right released and discharged in this Settlement.
- **8.5 Notices.** Unless otherwise provided herein, all legal notices, demands, or other communications given hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given as of the third business day after emailing <u>and</u> mailing by U.S. registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:

### (a) To the Class:

Michael H. Artinian, Esq.
Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian
26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250
Newport Beach, CA 92660
mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com
Richard L. Kellner, Esq.
Kabateck LLP
633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200
Los Angeles, CA 90017
rlk@kbklawyers.com

Richard K. Bridgford, Esq.

### (b) To Defendants:

Joseph A. Ferrentino, Esq.
Jeffrey R. Brower, Esq.
Newmeyer & Dillion LLP
895 Dover Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor
Newport Beach, CA 92660
Joe.ferrentino@ndlf.com
Jeffrey.browner@ndlf.com
Anna S. McLean, Esq.

Anna S. McLean, Esq.
Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP
4 Embarcadero Center, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111-4109
amclean@sheppardmullin.com

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	8.6	Construction.	The Parties agree that the terms and con	ditions of this Settlement
are the result	of lengtl	ny, intensive arm	n's-length negotiations between the Parti	es' counsel, and that the
terms of this	Settleme	nt shall not be co	onstrued in favor of or against any Party	

- 8.7 Captions and Interpretations. Section titles or captions contained in this Settlement are a matter of convenience and for reference, and in no way define, limit, extend, or describe the scope of this Settlement or any provision. Each term of this Settlement is contractual and not merely a recital.
- **8.8 Modification.** This Settlement may not be changed, altered, or modified, except in a writing signed by the Parties and their counsel, and approved by the Court. This Settlement may not be discharged except by performance in accordance with its terms or by a writing signed by the Parties.
- 8.9 Integration Clause. Except for the settlement agreements between Defendants and Cross-Defendants, this Settlement contains the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the resolution of the Action, and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, representations, and statements, whether oral or written and whether by a Party or such Party's legal counsel, are merged in this Settlement. No rights under this Settlement may be waived except in a writing signed by the Party making the waiver and its counsel. Notwithstanding the forgoing, it is understood and agreed that Defendants and Cross-Defendants will execute a separate settlement agreement documenting the terms and conditions of the settlement of the claims and cross-complaint against Cross-Defendants.
- 8.10 Binding on Assigns. This Settlement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties, Cross-Defendants, Plaintiffs' Released Parties and their respective heirs, trustees, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns and, where applicable, all of their current or former parent entities, corporations, subsidiaries, related and affiliated companies and entities, officers, directors, agents, representatives, attorneys, insurers, predecessors, successors, assignees, employees, and all individuals or entities acting by, through, under, or in concert with any of them.
- 8.11 Class Counsel Signatories. It is agreed that, because the Settlement Class Members are so numerous, it is impossible or impractical to have each one execute this Settlement. The Notice will advise all Settlement Class Members of the binding nature of the Release. Excepting only the eligible Settlement Class Members who timely submit a Request for Exclusion, the Notice shall have

the same force and effect as if this Settlement were executed by each Settlement Class Member with regard to the Settled Class Claims.

- **8.12** Counterparts. This Settlement may be executed in counterparts, and when each Party has signed and delivered at least one such counterpart, each counterpart shall be deemed an original, and, when taken together with other signed counterparts, shall constitute one Settlement, which shall be binding upon and effective as to all Parties.
- **8.13** Governing Law. This Settlement Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California, without regard to choice-of-law principles.
- **8.14** Continuing Jurisdiction. The Court shall retain jurisdiction over the interpretation and implementation of this Settlement Agreement.
- 8.15 Venue. Any and all actions or disputes arising out of this Settlement Agreement, including without limitation the enforcement, interpretation, breach, or attempted rescission of this Settlement Agreement, shall be brought exclusively in this Court.
- **8.16 Waiver**. Any failure by any Party to insist upon the strict performance by any other Party of any of the provisions of this Settlement Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of any of the provisions of this Settlement Agreement, and such Party, notwithstanding such failure, shall have the right thereafter to insist upon the specific performance of any and all of the provisions of this Settlement Agreement.
- 8.17 Conflicts. In the event of conflict between this Settlement Agreement and any other prepared pursuant to the Settlement, other than any Court order, the terms of this Settlement Agreement shall supersede and control. Notwithstanding the forgoing, it is understood and agreed that Defendants and Cross-Defendants will execute a separate settlement agreement documenting the terms and conditions of the settlement of the claims and cross-complaint against Cross-Defendants.
- **8.18** Singular/Plural. The plural of any defined term includes the singular, and the singular of any defined term includes the plural, as the case may be.
- **8.19 Reasonable Extensions of Time**. Without further order of the Court, the Parties may agree to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any of the provisions of this Settlement.

1	IT IS SO AGREED:	DocuSigned by:
2	Dated: 12/21/2022	By: Enrique Del Rivero  Enrique Del Rivero
3		Enrique Del Rivero Class Representative Plaintiff
4	12/21/2022	
5	Dated: 12/21/2022	By:  By:  Ana Del Rivero
6		Class Representative Plaintiff
7	5 .	
	Dated:	By: Greg Estes
8		Class Representative Plaintiff
9		
10	Dated:	By: Cherie Estes
11		Class Representative Plaintiff
12	Dated:	CENTEX HOMES, a Nevada general partnership
13		and CENTEX REAL ESTATE CORPORATION, a
14		Nevada corporation By: CENTEX REAL ESTATE COMPANY, LLC,
15		a Nevada limited liability company, as sole Managing Partner, successor by conversion of
16		Centex Real Estate Corporation, a Nevada
17		Corporation
18		D.
		By: Its:
19		
20	Dated:	PULTE HOME CORPORATION
21		
22		By:
23		Its:
24		
25		
26		
27		
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1	IT IS SO AGREED:	
2	Dated:	By:
3		By: Enrique Del Rivero Class Representative Plaintiff
4		
5	Dated:	By: Ana Del Rivero
		Class Representative Plaintiff
6	12 (10 (2022	DocuSigned by:  Gry Estus
7	Dated: 12/19/2022	By:  Greg Estes
8		Class Representative Plaintiff
9	12 /10 /2022	DocuSigned by:
10	Dated: 12/19/2022	By: Cherie Estes
11		Class Representative Plaintiff
12	Dated:	CENTEX HOMES, a Nevada general partnership
13		and CENTEX REAL ESTATE CORPORATION,
14		Nevada corporation By: CENTEX REAL ESTATE COMPANY, LLC,
15		a Nevada limited liability company, as sole Managing Partner, successor by conversion of
16		Centex Real Estate Corporation, a Nevada
17		Corporation
18		D <sub>10</sub>
19		By:
20		
	Dated:	PULTE HOME CORPORATION
21		
22		By:
23		Its:
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

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1	IT IS SO AGREED:	
2	Dated:	By:
3		By: Enrique Del Rivero Class Representative Plaintiff
4		-
THE STATE OF THE S	Dated:	By: Ana Del Rivero
5		Class Representative Plaintiff
6		
7	Dated:	By:
8		Greg Estes Class Representative Plaintiff
9		
10	Dated:	By:Cherie Estes
11		
		Class Representative Plaintiff
12	Dated: 12-23-22	CENTEX HOMES, a Nevada general partnership and CENTEX REAL ESTATE CORPORATION, a
13		Nevada corporation
14		By: CENTEX REAL ESTATE COMPANY, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, as sole
15		Managing Partner, successor by conversion of
16		Centex Real Estate Corporation, a Nevada Corporation
17		
8		By:
		Its: Provider
19		
20	Dated: 12-23-22	PULTE HOME CORPORATION
21		
22		By:
23		By:
24	,	
25		
26		
27		
28		

1	APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:
2	244 4 2 / 6 /
3	By: Mihil H at
	Michael H. Artinian, Esq.
4	Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian  Counsel for Plaintiffs
5	
6	By: /s/Richard L. Kellner
7	Richard L. Kellner, Esq.
8	Kabateck LLP Counsel for Plaintiffs
9	
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11	Joseph A. Ferrentino, Esq.
12	Newmeyer & Dillion LLP Counsel for Defendants
13	Counsel jor Dejendants
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# EXHIBIT A

# **EXHIBIT A**

	Address
1.	37 Lewiston Court
2.	24 Michael Road
3.	5 Loden Pass
4.	43 St. Just Avenue
5.	61 Bedstraw Loop
6.	36 Caltrop Way
7.	1 David Street
8.	5 Jenny Lane
9.	1 Lewiston Court
10.	27 Bedstraw Loop
11.	16 St. Just Avenue
12.	1 Parliament Place
13.	6 St. Giles Court
14.	17 Twinflower Street
15.	26 Bower Lane
16.	6 Jenny Lane
17.	28 Bedstraw Loop
18.	2 Eric Street
19.	3 Cambridge Road
20.	12 Caltrop Way
21.	56 Bedstraw Loop
22.	2 Loden Pass
23.	32 Caltrop Way
24.	4 Jenny Lane
25.	2 St. Steven Court
26.	1 Loden Pass
27.	63 Bedstraw Loop
28.	41 Bedstraw Loop
29.	45 Bedstraw Loop
30.	37 Bedstraw Loop
31.	20 Bower Lane
32.	4 Emmy Lane
33.	6 Emmy Lane
34.	9 Eric Street
35.	2 Emmy Lane
36.	20 St. Just Avenue
37.	67 Bedstraw Loop
38.	5 St. Steven Court
39.	8 St. Steven Court
40.	1 Tudor Way

	Address
	Addiess
41.	40 Lewiston Court
42.	22 Bower Lane
43.	27 Bower Lane
44.	8 Michael Road
45.	1 Emmy Lane
46.	8 Eric Street
47.	10 Eric Street
48.	65 Bedstraw Loop
49.	17 Regents Park
50.	10 St. Giles Court
51.	52 Bedstraw Loop
52.	71 Bedstraw Loop
53.	78 Bedstraw Loop
54.	31 St. Just Avenue
55.	42 St. Just Avenue
56.	8 Caltrop Way
57.	6 Michael Road
58.	35 St. Just Avenue
59.	18 St. Just Avenue
60.	1 St. Ives Way
61.	7 St. Giles Court
62.	59 Bedstraw Loop
63.	34 Lewiston Court
64.	35 Bedstraw Loop
65.	14 Bower Lane
66.	18 Parliament Place
67.	39 Bedstraw Loop
68.	5 Cambridge Road
69.	74 Bedstraw Loop
70.	2 Jenny Lane
71.	57 Bedstraw Loop
72.	3 David Street
73.	34 Bower Lane
74.	5 St. Ives Way
75.	7 Jenny Lane
76.	22 Michael Road
77.	23 Twinflower Street
78.	16 Michael Road
79.	8 Jenny Lane
80.	8 Bedstraw Loop
81.	7 Emmy Lane
82.	7 Bower Lane

83. 8 Parliament Place 84. 37 St. Just Avenue 85. 25 Bedstraw Loop 86. 43 Bedstraw Loop 87. 30 St. Just Avenue 88. 14 St. Just Avenue 89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road 94. 16 St. Giles Court
84. 37 St. Just Avenue 85. 25 Bedstraw Loop 86. 43 Bedstraw Loop 87. 30 St. Just Avenue 88. 14 St. Just Avenue 89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
84. 37 St. Just Avenue 85. 25 Bedstraw Loop 86. 43 Bedstraw Loop 87. 30 St. Just Avenue 88. 14 St. Just Avenue 89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
84. 37 St. Just Avenue 85. 25 Bedstraw Loop 86. 43 Bedstraw Loop 87. 30 St. Just Avenue 88. 14 St. Just Avenue 89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
85. 25 Bedstraw Loop 86. 43 Bedstraw Loop 87. 30 St. Just Avenue 88. 14 St. Just Avenue 89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
86. 43 Bedstraw Loop 87. 30 St. Just Avenue 88. 14 St. Just Avenue 89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
87. 30 St. Just Avenue 88. 14 St. Just Avenue 89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
88. 14 St. Just Avenue 89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
89. 4 Eric Street 90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
90. 2 Tudor Way 91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
91. 2 Parliament Place 92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
92. 21 Regents Park 93. 32 Michael Road
93. 32 Michael Road
94 116 St. Giles Court
95. 10 Michael Road
96. 20 Michael Road
97. 19 Regents Park
98. 7 Regents Park
99. 9 Parliament Place
100. 18 Bower Lane
101.  12 Michael Road
102. 15 St. Giles Court
103. 28 Bower Lane
104. 15 Parliament Place
105. 28 Michael Road
106. 47 Bedstraw Loop
107. 30 Bower Lane
108.   12 Parliament Place
109. 3 St. Giles Court
110. 30 Bedstraw Loop
111. 16 Parliament Place
112. 8 St. Giles Court
113. 3 Bower Lane
114. 14 Michael Road
115. 7 Cambridge Road
116. 15 Regents Park
117. 54 Bedstraw Loop
118. 16 St. Steven Court
119. 5 Bower Lane
120. 4 Loden Pass
121. 19 Bedstraw Loop
122. 76 Bedstraw Loop
123. 22 Parliament Place
124. 2 St. Giles Court

	<u>Address</u>
125.	19 Twinflower St
126.	14 St. Steven Court
127.	10 Jenny Lane
128.	2 David Street
129.	10 Bedstraw Loop
130.	1 Cambridge Road
131.	9 Emmy Lane
132.	3 St. Steven Court
133.	6 Bedstraw Loop
134.	23 Regents Park
135.	39 Lewiston Court
136.	6 David Street
137.	4 Parliament Place
138.	2 St. Just Avenue
139.	10 Bower Lane
140.	50 Bedstraw Loop
141.	49 Bedstraw Loop
142.	26 St. Just Avenue
143.	4 Michael Road
144.	5 Eric Street
145.	7 St. Steven Court

# EXHIBIT B

# Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

## THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC*, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THIS SETTLEMENT AND POTENTIALLY ENTITLED TO RELIEF IN THIS SETTLEMENT BECAUSE YOU DID <u>NOT</u> OPT OUT OF THE ACTION FOLLOWING SERVICE OF THE CLASS NOTICE IN OR AROUND FEBRUARY 2018.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses,

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address] incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating. All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class.

• If you are a member of the Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

Your Legal Rights and Options in this Settlement		
If you are a member of the Settlement Class your options are to:		
Do Nothing And Receive a Settlement Payment	If you do nothing, you will receive your share of the settlement fund, but you will be giving up any rights you may have to separately sue Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties as defined in the Settlement Agreement for any legal claims released by this Settlement. See Questions 7-8 and 19, <i>below</i> .	
OBJECT BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 2022	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. If you do submit a written objection, you also may request to speak at the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court. See Questions 16-18, <i>below</i> .	

- These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator, ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or <a href="mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com">mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com</a>.
- The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

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<b>Questions? Contact Settlement</b>	Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

# WHAT THIS NOTICE CONTAINS

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3. 4.	Why is this a class action? Why is there a settlement?
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5. 6.	How do I know if I am part of the settlement?  If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home,
7.	how can I be included in the Class?  If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?
THE SETTLE	MENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?PAGE 6
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19.	How do I get more information?

#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement. You are potentially subject to the terms of the Settlement because you did not optout of the case when notice was sent to the Class in 2018.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

## 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

# 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "class members." One court resolves the issues for all class members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator,

Toll Free Telephone (; [Email Address]

# 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

## WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

# 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

6. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the Class Administrator on or before

7. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings.

## THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

## 8. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,372,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class members, (b) the expense of administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses

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Questions? Contact Settlemen	nt Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,449.33) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,372,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,449.33), the net settlement fund amount would be \$800,348.67. Each of the 145 Class members would receive approximately \$5,519.64.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

# 9. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

The precise terms of the settlement's "release," which defines the claims given up by the Class in exchange for payment of settlement benefits, are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The

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Questions? Contact Settlemen	nt Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

Settlement Agreement can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_.com">www.\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at \_\_\_\_\_, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

As a member of the Class, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

# 10. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Class Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Class Administrator who shall forward such writings to Hon. Nancy Wieben Stock (ret.) of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Ross Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

# 11. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

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<b>Questions? Contact Settlement</b>	Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

# 12. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

# 13. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,449.33, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

## 14. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. You must also include: (a) your name, address, and

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator,

Toll Free Telephone (; [Email Address]

telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

You must mail your objection, and any supporting records, to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date],\_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
ILYM	

You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection, your objection will be deemed waived, you will not be permitted to assert your objection at the final approval hearing, and it will not be considered by the Court. If you do not submit or identify all supporting records with your written objection, you will not be able to present such supporting records at the fairness hearing.

### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

# 15. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval s hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2022, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The judge will only listen to people who have properly submitted a timely objection, and timely and properly requested to speak at the final approval hearing (see Questions 18-19, below). After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

9	
<b>Questions? Contact Settlement</b>	Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

## 16. Do I have to come to the hearing?

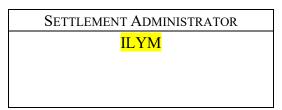
No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time and in the proper manner, it will be considered by the Court. Although no Class member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

# 17. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Class member who timely and properly submits an objection to the settlement may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of the objection.

To request to speak at the final approval hearing, either by yourself or through your own attorney, at your own expense, you must send a letter by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you are requesting leave to appear at the final approval hearing in the matter *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC*, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange. You must also include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature, and (if applicable) the name, address, telephone number, and signature of your attorney. Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

You must mail your request to speak at the final approval hearing to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], \_\_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:



You cannot request to speak at the fairness hearing by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method of communication except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

## IF YOU DO NOTHING

## 18. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

# **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

# 19. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

-		ontact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.
Te	o Visit the Settlement Website:	
W	wwcom	
To	o Contact the Class Administra	ntor:
	oll Free Number: mail:	
C	ontact the Attorneys for the Cla	ass:
M Br 26 N	ichard K. Bridgford, Esq. lichael H. Artinian, Esq. ridgford, Gleason & Artinian o Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 ewport Beach, CA 92660 ike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com	
K: 63 Lo	ichard L. Kellner, Esq. abateck LLP 33 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 os Angeles, CA 90017 k@kbklawyers.com	
PL		EFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.
Dated: _	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
		11
		ettlement Administrator,
	Toll Free Telephor	ne (; [Email Address]

# EXHIBIT C

# Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

## THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC*, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address] owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating. All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class.

• If you are a member of the Settlement Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT	
If you are a memb	per of the Settlement Class your options are to:
Do Nothing And Receive a Settlement Payment	If you do nothing, you will receive your share of the settlement fund, but you will be giving up any rights you may have to separately sue Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties as defined in the Settlement Agreement for any legal claims released by this Settlement. See Questions 8-9 and 22, <i>below</i> .
EXCLUDE YOURSELF BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE],	You will not receive any payment from the settlement, but you will preserve any existing rights you may have to bring your own lawsuit against Defendants based on the same alleged violation of certain statutory standards relating to the copper pipes installed in certain homes. See Questions 13-15, below.
OBJECT BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 2022	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. If you do submit a written objection, you also may request to speak at the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court. See Questions 18-20, <i>below</i> .

- These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator, ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.
- The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

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<b>Questions? Contact Settlement</b>	Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

## 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

## 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "class members." One court resolves the issues for all class members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator,

Toll Free Telephone (; [Email Address]

## 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

## WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

# 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

# 6. Are there exceptions to being included?

Yes. The Settlement Class does not include persons who opt-out or exclude themselves from the settlement in a timely and correct manner by submitting a written request for exclusion. Questions 13-15 below describe how to opt-out of the Settlement Class and settlement.

7. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the Class Administrator on or before

8. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings.

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator,

Toll Free Telephone (; [Email Address]

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

# 9. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,372,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class members, (b) the expense of administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,449.33) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,372,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,449.33), the net settlement fund amount would be \$800,348.67. Each of the 145 Class members would receive approximately \$5,519.64.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_\_.com">www.\_\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at \_\_\_\_\_, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

# 10. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown,

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Questions? Contact Settlemen	t Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

The precise terms of the settlement's "release," which defines the claims given up by the Class in exchange for payment of settlement benefits, are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_\_.com">www.\_\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at \_\_\_\_\_, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

Unless you exclude yourself, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

## HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

# 11. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Class Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Class Administrator who shall forward such writings to Hon. Nancy Wieben Stock of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Ross Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

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Questions? Contact Settlement	t Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

# 12. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

### EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

If you want to keep the right to sue or continue to sue the Defendants over the legal issues in this case, or if you do not wish to participate in the settlement for any other reason, you must take steps to exclude yourself from the settlement. This is sometimes called "opting-out" of the settlement.

# 13. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from the settlement?

No. If you opt out of the settlement you will not receive any settlement payment and you cannot object to the settlement or appear at the fairness hearing. By opting out of the settlement, you will not release any claims which otherwise would be released by the settlement and you will not be bound by any judgment or orders of the Court in approving the settlement. You will retain whatever rights or claims you may have, if any, against Defendants, and you will be free to continue or pursue your own lawsuit against Defendants, if you choose to do so.

# 14. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue later?

No. Unless you timely and validly exclude yourself from the settlement by the deadline of [60-day deadline], 2022, you will give up the right to sue Defendants for the claims that this Settlement releases and resolves.

## 15. How do I get out of the settlement?

To exclude yourself from the settlement, you must fill out and sign the attached Request For Exclusion From Class Action form and mail it to the Class Administrator with a postmark no later than [60-day date], 2022, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR
<mark>ILYM</mark>

You cannot exclude yourself from the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

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<b>Questions? Contact Settlement</b>	Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	: [Email Address]

Requests for exclusion that do not include all required information and/or that are not timely submitted will be deemed null, void, and ineffective. If you submitted a timely yet insufficient request for exclusion, the Settlement Administrator will contact you. We ask that you cooperate with the Settlement Administrator to achieve your desired result in connection with this settlement.

Class members who fail to submit a valid and timely request for exclusion shall be bound by all terms of the settlement and any final judgment and orders of the Court entered in this lawsuit if the settlement is approved, regardless of whether they ineffectively or untimely requested exclusion from the settlement.

## THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

# 16. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

# 17. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,449.33, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

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<b>Questions? Contact Settlement</b>	Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

If you do not request to be excluded (opt out), you can tell the Court if you don't agree with the settlement or any part of it.

# 18. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC*, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. You must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

You must mail your objection, and any supporting records, to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
<mark>ILYM</mark>	

You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection, your objection will be deemed waived, you will not be permitted to assert your objection at the final approval hearing, and it will not be considered by the Court. If you do not submit or identify all supporting records with your written objection, you will not be able to present such supporting records at the fairness hearing.

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<b>Questions? Contact Settlement</b>	Administrator,
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]

# 19. What's the difference between objecting and excluding?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you don't agree with something about the settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. If your objection is overruled and that ruling becomes final, you will still: (i) remain a Settlement Class member; (ii) be subject to the orders and judgment of the Court; and (iii) will still participate in the settlement if it is approved by the Court. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you.

## THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

# 20. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2022, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The judge will only listen to people who have properly submitted a timely objection, and timely and properly requested to speak at the final approval hearing (see Questions 21-22, below). After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

## 21. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time and in the proper manner, it will be considered by the Court. Although no Class member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

# 22. May I speak at the hearing?

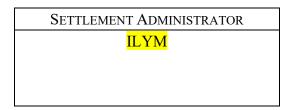
Any Settlement Class member who does not request exclusion and who timely and properly submits an objection to the settlement may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of the objection.

To request to speak at the final approval hearing, either by yourself or through your own attorney, at your own expense, you must send a letter by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you are requesting leave to appear at the final approval hearing in the matter *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange. You must

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Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator,		
Toll Free Telephone (	; [Email Address]	

also include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature, and (if applicable) the name, address, telephone number, and signature of your attorney. Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

You must mail your request to speak at the final approval hearing to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date],\_\_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:



You cannot request to speak at the fairness hearing by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method of communication except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

## IF YOU DO NOTHING

# 23. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

## **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

# 24. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

To Visit the Settlement Website:

www.\_\_\_.com

To Contact the Class Administrator:

Toll Free Number:
Email:

Contact the Attorneys for the Class:

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator,

Toll Free Telephone (; [Email Address]

Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com

Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated:	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson
		JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

# EXHIBIT D

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 **COUNTY OF ORANGE** 10 ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an individual; CHERIE ESTES, an individual; on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, 11 Assigned for all purposes to: 12 Hon. Peter Wilson Plaintiffs, Dept: CX-101 13 VS. OF CALIFORNIA, 14 CENTEX HOMES [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING LLC., a Limited Liability Company; CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF 15 **SETTLEMENT** Corporation; **PULTE** HOME CORPORATION Corporation; ON, a INDUSTRIES, 16 MUELLER INC., **Hearing Date:** , 2023 Corporation; and DOES 1-100, 17 Time: 2:00 p.m. Defendants. **Dept.: CX-101** 18 19 Complaint Filed: May 9, 2013 AND RELATED CROSS-CLAIMS. 20 21 WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Class Representatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, 22 Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex 23 Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation ("Defendants") have reached a proposed 24 settlement and compromise of the disputes between them in the above actions, which is embodied 25 in the Settlement Agreement filed with the Court; 26 WHEREAS, the Court by Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw previously granted Plaintiff's 27 motion for class certification on August 7, 2017, and duly appointed Bridgford, Gleason & 28 Artinian, Kabateck LLP, and McNicholas & McNicholas as Class Counsel, and duly appointed

[PROPOSED] ORDER

Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes as class representatives,

WHEREAS, the Parties have applied to the Court for preliminary approval of a proposed Settlement of the Action, the terms and conditions of which are set forth in the Settlement Agreement, as amended (the "Settlement Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Court has preliminarily considered the Settlement to determine, among other things, whether the Settlement is sufficient to warrant the issuance of notice to members of the Class (as defined below);

AND NOW, the Court, having read and considered the Settlement Agreement and accompanying documents and the motion for preliminary settlement approval and supporting papers, and the Parties to the Settlement Agreement having appeared in this Court for hearings on Preliminary approval of the Settlement (as amended) on \_\_\_\_\_\_, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

- The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, the Class Representatives, Defendants, , and all Class Members.
- 2. The Court grants preliminary approval of the terms and conditions contained in the Settlement Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "Settlement Agreement"). The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement are within the range of possible approval at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 3. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations conducted at arms' length by the parties. In making this preliminary finding, the Court considered the nature of the claims, the amounts and kinds of benefits paid in settlement, the allocation of settlement proceeds among the class members, and the fact that a settlement represents a compromise of the Parties' respective positions rather than the result of a finding of liability at trial.
- 4. The Court further preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement have no obvious deficiencies and do not improperly grant preferential treatment to any individual class member.

- 5. Subject to further consideration by the Court at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, the Court preliminarily approves the Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class, as falling within the range of possible final approval, as being the product of informed, arm's length negotiation by counsel, as meriting submission to the Class for its consideration.
- 6. The parties have identified the homes included within the class definition certified by this Court on August 7, 2017, which are listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement (the "Class Area"). For purposes of the proposed Settlement, and conditioned upon the Agreement receiving final approval following the Final Approval hearing and that order becoming final, the certified class shall be further defined as follows:
  - (1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action, (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.
- 7. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Class, subject to final approval by this Court of the Settlement. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to act on behalf of the Class with respect to all acts required by the Settlement Agreement or such other acts which are reasonably necessary to consummate the proposed Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement.
- 8. The Court approves ILYM Group Inc. ("ILYM") as Class Administrator to administer the notice and claims procedures of the Settlement for the purpose of administering the proposed Settlement and performing all other duties and obligations of the Settlement Administrator as defined in the Settlement, this Preliminary Approval Order, and/or as may otherwise be ordered by the Court, with the understanding that ILYM's compensation will be capped at \$19,550.00.
  - 9. The Court approves, as to form and content, the two different Settlement

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Notices: (a) the first for the Original Class Members who were served with the Class Notice in February 2018 (attached as Exhibit "B" to the Settlement Agreement); and (b) the second for all subsequent purchasers of the homes listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement who were not sent Class Notice in February 2018 (attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibit "C"). The Court hereby instructs the Settling Parties to proceed with Class Notice in the manner and on the schedule set forth in the Settlement Agreement as follows:

- a. The Class Administrator shall serve by U.S. Mail:
  - i. To those individuals who were mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "B" to the Settlement Agreement; and
    - 2. The Prior Owner Verification Form;
  - ii. To those individuals in the chain of title for the class homes listed in Exhibit "A" to the Settlement Agreement who were NOT mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "C" to the Settlement Agreement;
    - 2. The Opt-Out Form; and
    - 3. The Prior Owner Verification Form.
- b. For a Prior Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member, that Prior Owner must submit by mail or electronic means a Prior Owner Verification Form to the Class Administrator by November 7, 2022 (Exhibit "F" to Settlement Agreement) that verifies that the Prior Owner replaced the copper pipes in the Class Home with PEX or epoxy coating of the pipes.
  - i. In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification

    Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper

pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Class Administrator shall provide the present owner with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification to the Class Administrator that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home. In the event that there is a dispute between a prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Class Administrator who will forward such documentation to Hon. Nancy Weiben Stock (ret.) of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Judge Stock's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

- c. For a Present Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member:
  - With respect to those individuals who were served with Class Notice in February 2018, there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home.
  - ii. With respect to those individuals who were NOT served with Class Notice in February 2018, that individual must not submit an Opt-Out Form and there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject

#### Class Home.

- d. For all Notice papers returned as undeliverable or changed address, the Class Administrator shall re-send the Notice documents after a skiptrace.
- 10. In order to facilitate printing and dissemination of the Settlement Notice, the Settlement Administrator and Parties may change the format, but not the content, of the Settlement Notice, without further Court order, so long as the legibility is not adversely impacted. The Settlement Administrator and Parties may also, without further Court order, insert the information specified in the blank places provided in the Settlement Notice.
- 11. Within ten (10) business days of Preliminary Approval, the Parties shall provide the Class Administrator with the addresses of all homes that are included within the definition of the Class.
- 12. The Class Administrator must complete the notice mailing within thirty (30) calendar days of preliminary approval being granted, in envelopes marked "Personal and Confidential."
- 13. By the time of filing of the final settlement approval motion, the Settlement Administrator shall provide, and Plaintiff shall file proof, by affidavit or declaration, of the mailing of the Settlement Notice in the form and manner provided in the Agreement and in this Preliminary Approval Order.
- 14. The Class Administrator must also create a dedicated website for this Settlement, which will provide a portal for electronic submission of Opt-Out Forms, Prior Owner Verification Forms and any Objections to the Settlement. The dedicated website shall also make available the Settlement Agreement, the pleadings submitted in support of preliminary approval, approval of attorneys' fees, costs and class representative enhancements, and final approval. The dedicated website shall also make available all Orders by this Court with respect to aforesaid motions.
- 15. The Court finds that the Parties' plan for providing notice to the Class described in the Settlement Agreement complies fully with the requirements of due process and

all other applicable provisions of law, including *California Code of Civil Procedure* §382, *California Civil Code* §1781, *California Rules of Court*, Rules 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and all other applicable law., and any other applicable law and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to the Class, the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and the Final Approval Hearing.

- 16. All potential members of the Class who were sent Class Notice in February 2018 shall not have the right to be excluded from the Class because the time for such right to be excluded has expired. With respect to any potential member of the Class who was NOT sent Class Notice in February 2018 AND who desires to be excluded from the Class and therefore not be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement, he/she must submit to the Class Administrator, pursuant to the instructions set forth in the Notice, a timely and valid written Request for Exclusion (attached as Exhibit "E" to the Settlement Agreement).
- 17. Members of the Class shall have sixty (60) days from the Notice Date to submit objections and/or requests for exclusion. The Class Administrator shall prepare and deliver to Class Counsel, who shall file with the Court, a final report stating the total number of Class members who have submitted timely and valid Requests for Exclusion from the Class, and the names of such individuals. The final report regarding the Claims Period shall be filed with the Court within seven (7) business days of the expiration of the deadline to submit objections and/or requests for exclusion.
- 18. The deadline to file the motion for final approval of the Settlement and Class Counsel's fee application shall be twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing date of \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- 19. Responses to any objections received shall be filed with the Court no later than twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, and Plaintiffs' responses may be included in their motion for final approval.
  - 20. Any member of the Class who is eligible to (and so chooses) to be excluded

shall not be entitled to receive any of the benefits of the Settlement Agreement, shall not be bound by the release of any claims pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, and shall not be entitled to object to the Settlement Agreement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing. The names of all persons timely submitting valid Requests for Exclusion shall be provided to the Court.

- 21. Any member of the Class may appear at the Final Approval Hearing, in person or by counsel, and may be heard, to the extent allowed by the Court, in support of or in opposition to, the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement, the application for an award of attorneys' fees, cost, and expenses to Class Counsel, and any compensation to be awarded to the Class Representatives.
- 22. Any Settlement Class Member who does not make an objection in the time and manner provided shall be deemed to have waived such objection and forever shall be foreclosed from making any objection to the fairness or adequacy of the proposed settlement as incorporated in the Settlement Agreement, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs, or the Final Approval Order and Judgment.
- 23. Pending the final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, all pre-trial proceedings in the instant case are stayed. If the Settlement is terminated or final approval does not for any reason occur, the stay shall be immediately terminated.
- 24. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court at 2:00 p.m. on in Dept. CX-101 of the Orange County Superior Court, to address: (a) whether the proposed Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate, and whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should be entered; and (b) whether Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses and incentive awards should be approved. The date and time of the Fairness Hearing shall be set forth in the Class Notice. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or in connection with the Settlement Agreement.
- 25. If the Settlement is finally approved by the Court, the Court shall retain jurisdiction over the Settling Parties, the Class Members, and this Action, only with respect to matters arising out of, or in connection with, the Settlement, and may issue such orders as

1	necessary to implement the terms of the Settlement. The Court may approve the Settlement, with			
2	such modifications as may be agreed to by the Class Representatives, Class Counsel, and			
3	Defendants, without further notice to the Class Members.			
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.			
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6	Dated:			
7	JUDGE OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT			
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[PROPOSED] ORDER

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# EXHIBIT E

# REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FROM CLASS ACTION

# Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

To: Class Administ	trator		
)))))			
The undersigned, _	(Mambay Nama)	, of,,,,	
	(Member Ivame)	(Mutting Address)	(City)
(State)	, requests to be exclude	led from the class in the above-e	entitled
matter, as permitted	d by notice of the court t	o class members dated	·
Dated:			
Print name of mem	ber	Signature	

# EXHIBIT F

# PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM

# Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

To: Class Administrator		
[Address. Etc.]		
The undersigned,	, of (Mailing Address)	_,, (Citv)
do hereby certify that I was a prior owne	(address of home in class)	and I had paid
for the replacement of the copper pipes of	of that home with PEX/Epoxy Co	oating. Attached is
proof of payment for replacement. In the	e event that there is need for mor	re information regarding
the foregoing, I can be contacted at	or	·
(telephone number) (em	ail address)	
Dated:		
Print name	Signature	

1	Richard K. Bridgford, Esq., SBN: 119554		
2	Michael H. Artinian, Esq., SBN: 203443		
	BRIDGFORD, GLEASON & ARTINIAN 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250		
3	Newport Beach, CA 92660		
4	Telephone: (949) 831-6611		
5	Facsimile: (949) 831-6622		
6	Richard L. Kellner, Esq., SBN: 171416		
	KABATECK LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200		
7	Los Angeles, CA 90017		
8	Telephone: (213) 217-5000		
9	Facsimile: (213) 217-5010		
10	John Patrick McNicholas, IV, Esq., SBN: 125868		
10	McNICHOLAS & McNICHOLAS, LLP 10866 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1400		
11	Los Angeles, CA 90024		
12	Telephone: (310) 474-1582		
13	Facsimile: (310) 475-7871		
	Attorneys for Plaintiffs ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, AN		
14	GREG ESTES and CHERIE ESTES, on behalf of them	nselves and all others similarly situated	
15	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE S	CTATE OF CALLEODNIA	
16			
17	FOR THE COUNTY	OF ORANGE	
	ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an	CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC	
18	individual; CHERIE ESTES, an individual; on behalf	STIPULATION AND AMENDMENT TO	
19	of themselves and all others similarly situated,	SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE	
20	Plaintiffs, vs.	AGREEMENT	
21	CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, LLC., a	Judge: Hon. Peter Wilson	
	Limited Liability Company; CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a Corporation; PULTE HOME CORPORATION, a Corporation;	Dept: CX-101 Complaint Filed: 5/9/2013	
22	HOME CORPORATION, a Corporation; MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC., a Corporation; and	Complaint Fried. 3/9/2013	
23	DOES 1-100,	Continued Hearing Date: March 30, 2023	
24	Defendants.	Time: 2:00 p.m. Dept.: CX-101	
25		Zepan Cir Ivi	
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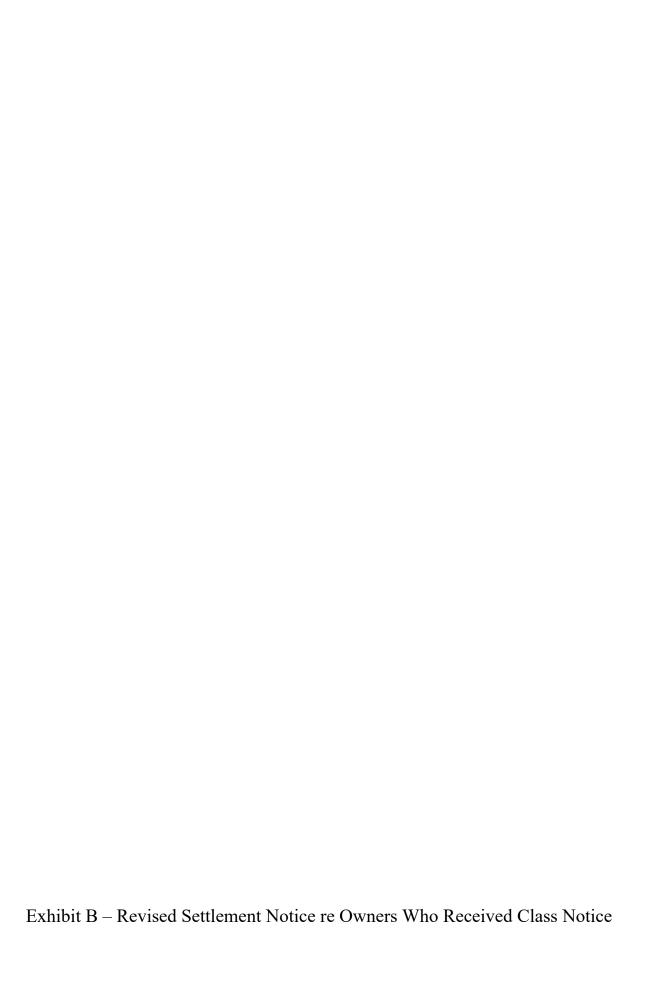
WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Class Representatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Este
and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs") and Defendants Centex Homes of California LLC, Centex Homes Realty
Company and Pulte Home Corporation ("Defendants") have entered into the Class Action Settlement and
Release Agreement, executed as of December 23, 2022 (the "Settlement Agreement") to resolve thi
matter.

WHEREAS, the Court has directed the parties to make certain changes that do not alter the material terms of the Settlement Agreement, but do provide some clarification of terms and additional procedural rights to class members, some of which shall be memorialized in modified Settlement Notice documents.

PLAINTIFFS AND DEFENDANT HEREBY STIPULATE TO THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT:

- 1. The following Exhibits (attached hereto) shall replace the ones that were originally attached to the Settlement Agreement executed by the parties:
  - a. Exhibit B Settlement Notice re Owners Who Received Class Notice.
  - b. Exhibit C Settlement Notice re Owners Who Did Not Receive Class Notice
  - c. Exhibit D Proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval
  - d. Exhibit E Request for Exclusion
  - e. Exhibit F Prior Owner Verification Form.
- 2. It is hereby clarified, stipulated and agreed that under Section 1.40 of the Settlement Agreement, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Settlement Class Member.
- 3. It is hereby clarified, stipulated and agreed that under Section 4.3.1 of the Settlement Agreement, if a Settlement Notice has to be re-mailed, the time within which a potential class member has to respond shall recommence from the date of that mailing.
- 4. It is hereby stipulated and agreed that under Section 4.4.1 of the Settlement Agreement, the Arbitrator of potential disputes shall be Ross Feinberg of JAMS in place of Hon. Nancy Wieben Stock (ret.) of JAMS.
- 5. It is hereby stipulated, clarified and agreed that under Section 4.6, a Settlement Class Member may: (a) lodge an objection by not only the processes set forth in Section 4.6, but also by orally

1	making an objection at the Final Approval hearing, consistent with the language in the modified Settlement		
2	Notices and Proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval; and (b) appear at the Final Approval hearing		
3	without filing any paperwork with the Court or the Settlement Administrator.		
4			
5	Dated: March 20, 2023 BRIDGFORD, GLEASON & ARTINIAN KABATECK LLP		
6	McNICHOLAS & McNICHOLAS, LLP		
7			
8	By: richard kellner		
9	Richard L. Kellner		
10	Michael Artinian Counsel for Plaintiffs		
11			
12	Dated: March 17, 2023 NEWMEYER & DILLION LLP		
13			
14	By: And to Out		
15	Joseph A. Verrentino		
16	Jeffrey R. Brower Attorneys for Defendants		
17			
18	Dated: March 17, 2023 SHEPPARD MULLIN RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP		
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21	D		
22	Anna McLean		
23	Anna McLean Attorneys for Defendants		
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# Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

### THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THIS SETTLEMENT AND POTENTIALLY ENTITLED TO RELIEF IN THIS SETTLEMENT BECAUSE YOU DID <u>NOT</u> OPT OUT OF THE ACTION FOLLOWING SERVICE OF THE CLASS NOTICE IN OR AROUND FEBRUARY 2018.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval.

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, OR (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class Members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses,

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address] incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class Member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating. All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class. In other words, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

• If you are a member of the Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

Your Legal Rights and Options in this Settlement			
If you are a member of the Settlement Class your options are:			
What Do I Have To Do To Qualify For A Payment	For Present Owners of a Class Home. If you presently own a class home, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING to receive a share of the Settlement Fund UNLESS a prior owner asserts that they replaced their home's copper pipe systems. IF A PRIOR OWNER SUBMITS A PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM stating that they replaced the entire copper pipe systems in the home, you can receive a share of the Settlement Fund ONLY IF you submit proof sufficient to convince an arbitrator that the home had copper pipe systems in place at the time you purchased it.  For Prior Owners of a Class Home. If you are a prior owner of a class home, THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN QUALIFY AS A CLASS MEMBER and obtain a share of the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner Verification Form {NO LATER THAN [DATE] and demonstrate that you replaced the entire copper pipe system when you owned the home.  See Questions 7-8 and 19, below.		
OBJECT [WRITTEN OBJECTION DUE BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 2023	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. You may also attend the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court, whether or not you put your objection in writing. See Questions 16-18, <i>below</i> .		

• These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator,

- ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.
- The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class Members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

# WHAT THIS NOTICE CONTAINS

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3. 4.	Why is this a class action? Why is there a settlement?	
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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement. You are potentially subject to the terms of the Settlement because you did not optout of the case when notice was sent to the Class in 2018.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class Members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

#### 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

## 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "Class Members." One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

### 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

# 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

6. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the Settlement Administrator on or before

7. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings. There is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

# 8. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,371,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class Members, (b) the expense of administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses

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awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class Members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,116.00) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,371,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,116.00), the net settlement fund amount would be \$799,682.00. Each of the 145 Class Members would receive approximately \$5,515,04.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and all settlement pleadings and Notices can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_.com">www.\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at (866) 826-2818, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

# 9. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class Member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

As a member of the Class, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

#### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

# 10. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who shall forward such writings to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

# 11. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class Members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

# 12. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

## 13. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,116.00, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

# 14. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must either: (1) appear in person or through counsel at the Final Approval Hearing (the details of which are on page 10 of this Notice) and state in detail the basis for your objection; or (2) submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior

Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. Your writing must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection or personally provide them at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

Your written objection, and any supporting records, must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:

<mark>Setti</mark>	EMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
	<b>ILYM</b>	

You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection and fail to appear at the Final Approval Hearing to state your objection, your objection will be deemed waived and will not be considered by the Court.

#### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

# 15. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

# 16. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it, but you have the right to do so. Although no Class Member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

# 17. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Class Member may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of their objection.

Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

## 18. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

#### **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

## 19. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

#### To Visit the Settlement Website:

www.\_\_\_.com

#### **To Contact the Settlement Administrator:**

Toll Free Number: (866) 826-2818 Email:

## **Contact the Attorneys for the Class:**

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Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com

Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com

You may also visit the Court's website to obtain access to the documents that have been filed in this case at <a href="www.occourts.org/online-service">www.occourts.org/online-service</a> and then enter the case number (30-2013-0064338) and the year of filing (2013), and then select the document that you want to obtain. There is a fee to purchase a document for viewing.

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated:	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson
		JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT



# Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

### THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval.

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, OR (2) prior owners of homes in the Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class Members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class Member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating.

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address] All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class. In other words, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

• If you are a member of the Settlement Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT		
If you are a member of the Settlement Class your options are:		
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO QUALIFY FOR A PAYMENT	For Present Owners of a Class Home. If you presently own a class home, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING to receive a share of the Settlement Fund UNLESS a prior owner asserts that they replaced their home's copper pipe systems. IF A PRIOR OWNER SUBMITS A PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM stating that they replaced the entire copper pipe systems in the home, you can receive a share of the Settlement Fund ONLY IF you submit proof sufficient to convince an arbitrator that the home had copper pipe systems in place at the time you purchased it.  For Prior Owners of a Class Home. If you are a prior owner of a class home, THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN QUALIFY AS A CLASS MEMBER and obtain a share of the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner.	
	the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner Verification Form {NO LATER THAN [DATE] and demonstrate that you replaced the entire copper pipe system when you owned the home.  See Questions 8-9 and 22, <i>below</i> .	
Exclude Yourself By [60 Days After Date of Notice],	You will not receive any payment from the settlement, but you will preserve any existing rights you may have to bring your own lawsuit against Defendants based on the same alleged violation of certain statutory standards relating to the copper pipes installed in certain homes, to the extent that you have any such claim. See Questions 13-15, <i>below</i> .	
OBJECT [WRITTEN OBJECTION DUE BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 2023	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. You may also attend the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court, whether or not you put your objection in writing. See Questions 18-20, <i>below</i> .	

• These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you

have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator, ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.

• The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class Members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class Members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

#### 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

#### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "Class Members." One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

# 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

# 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

# 6. Are there exceptions to being included?

Yes. The Settlement Class does not include persons who opt-out or exclude themselves from the settlement in a timely and correct manner by submitting a written request for exclusion. Questions 13-15 below describe how to opt-out of the Settlement Class and settlement.

7. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the Settlement Administrator on or before

8. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings. There is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

## 9. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,371,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class Members, (b) the expense of

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Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, ILYM Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address]

administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class Members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,116.00) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,371,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,116.00), the net settlement fund amount would be \$799,682.00. Each of the 145 Class members would receive approximately \$5,515.09.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and all settlement pleadings and Notices can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_.com">www.\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at (866) 826-2818, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

# 10. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class Member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

The precise terms of the settlement's "release," which defines the claims given up by the Class in exchange for payment of settlement benefits, are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_\_.com">www.\_\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at (866) 826-2818, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

Unless you exclude yourself, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

#### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

### 11. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who shall forward such writings to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

# 12. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class Members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any

appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

#### EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

If you want to keep the right to sue or continue to sue the Defendants over the legal issues in this case, or if you do not wish to participate in the settlement for any other reason, you must take steps to exclude yourself from the settlement. This is sometimes called "opting-out" of the settlement.

# 13. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from the settlement?

No. If you opt out of the settlement you will not receive any settlement payment and you cannot object to the settlement or appear at the fairness hearing. By opting out of the settlement, you will not release any claims which otherwise would be released by the settlement and you will not be bound by any judgment or orders of the Court in approving the settlement. You will retain whatever rights or claims you may have, if any, against Defendants, and you will be free to continue or pursue your own lawsuit against Defendants, if you choose to do so.

# 14. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue later?

No. Unless you timely and validly exclude yourself from the settlement by the deadline of [60-day deadline], 2022, you will give up the right to sue Defendants for the claims that this Settlement releases and resolves.

# 15. How do I get out of the settlement?

To exclude yourself from the settlement, you must fill out and sign the attached Request For Exclusion From Class Action form and mail it to the Settlement Administrator with a postmark no later than [60-day date], 2022, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
ILYM	

You cannot exclude yourself from the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

Requests for exclusion that do not include all required information and/or that are not timely submitted will be deemed null, void, and ineffective. If you submitted a timely yet insufficient request for exclusion, the Settlement Administrator will contact you. We ask that you cooperate with the Settlement Administrator to achieve your desired result in connection with this settlement.

Settlement Class members who fail to submit a valid and timely request for exclusion shall be bound by all terms of the settlement and any final judgment and orders of the Court entered in this lawsuit if the settlement is approved, regardless of whether they ineffectively or untimely requested exclusion from the settlement.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

# 16. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

# 17. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,116.00, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

If you do not request to be excluded (opt out), you can tell the Court if you don't agree with the settlement or any part of it.

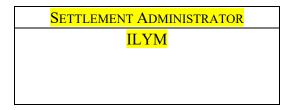
### 18. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must either: (1) appear in person or through counsel at the Final Approval Hearing (the details of which are on page 10 of this Notice) and state in detail the basis for your objection; or (2) submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. Your writing must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection or personally provide them at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

Your written objection, and any supporting records, must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], addressed to:



You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection and fail to appear at the Final Approval Hearing to state your objection,, your objection will be deemed waived and will not be considered by the Court.

# 19. What's the difference between objecting and excluding?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you don't agree with something about the settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. If your objection is overruled and that ruling becomes final, you will still: (i) remain a Settlement Class member; (ii) be subject to the

orders and judgment of the Court; and (iii) participate in the settlement if it is approved by the Court. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you.

#### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

### 20. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

# 21. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it, but you have the right to do so.. Although no Class Member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

# 22. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Settlement Class Member may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of their objection.

Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

#### 23. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

#### GETTING MORE INFORMATION

# 24. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

To Visit the Settlement Website:
wwwcom
To Contact the Settlement Administrator:
Toll Free Number: (866) 826-2818
Email:
Contact the Attorneys for the Class:

Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com

Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com

You may also visit the Court's website to obtain access to the documents that have been filed in this case at <a href="www.occourts.org/online-service">www.occourts.org/online-service</a> and then enter the case number (30-2013-0064338) and the year of filing (2013), and then select the document that you want to obtain. There is a fee to purchase a document for viewing.

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated:	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson
		JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

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Exhibit D – Revised Proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval

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8	SUPERIOR COURT OF TH	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9	COUNTY O	OF ORANGE
10	ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG	CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC
11	ESTES, an individual; CHERIE ESTES, an individual; on behalf of themselves and all	Assigned for all purposes to:
12	others similarly situated,	Hon. Peter Wilson
13	Plaintiffs, vs.	Dept: CX-101
14	CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, LLC., a Limited Liability Company;	[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
15	CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a Corporation; PULTE HOME	SETTLEMENT
16	CORPORATION, a Corporation; MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC., a Corporation; and DOES 1-100,	Hearing Date: March 30, 2023
17	Defendants.	Time: 2:00 p.m. Dept.: CX-101
18		Dept 024 101
19	AND RELATED CROSS-CLAIMS.	Complaint Filed: May 9, 2013
20		
21	WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Class Repres	sentatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero
22	Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), Defen	ndants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex
23	Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corp	oration ("Defendants") have reached a proposed
24	settlement and compromise of the disputes between	een them in the above actions, which is embodied
25	in the Settlement Agreement filed with the Cou	urt, including modifications thereto (collectively
26	attached hereto as Exhibit A, and hereinafter refe	erred to as the "Settlement Agreement"):

motion for class certification on August 7, 2017, and duly appointed Bridgford, Gleason &

WHEREAS, the Court by Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw previously granted Plaintiff's

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Artinian, Kabateck LLP, and McNicholas & McNicholas as Class Counsel, and duly appointed Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes as class representatives,

WHEREAS, the Parties have applied to the Court for preliminary approval of a proposed Settlement of the Action, the terms and conditions of which are set forth in the Settlement Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Court has preliminarily considered the Settlement to determine, among other things, whether the Settlement is sufficient to warrant the issuance of notice to members of the Class (as defined below);

AND NOW, the Court, having read and considered the Settlement Agreement and accompanying documents and the motion for preliminary settlement approval and supporting papers, and the Parties to the Settlement Agreement having appeared in this Court for hearings on Preliminary approval of the Settlement on March 30, 2023, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, the Class Representatives, Defendants, and all Class Members.
- 2. The Court grants preliminary approval of the terms and conditions contained in the Settlement Agreement. The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement are within the range of possible approval at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 3. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations conducted at arms' length by the parties. In making this preliminary finding, the Court considered the nature of the claims, the amounts and kinds of benefits paid in settlement, the allocation of settlement proceeds among the class members, and the fact that a settlement represents a compromise of the Parties' respective positions rather than the result of a finding of liability at trial.
- 4. The Court further preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement have no obvious deficiencies and do not improperly grant preferential treatment to any individual class member.
  - 5. Subject to further consideration by the Court at the time of the Final

Approval Hearing, the Court preliminarily approves the Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class, as falling within the range of possible final approval, as being the product of informed, arm's length negotiation by counsel, as meriting submission to the Class for its consideration.

- 6. The parties have identified the homes included within the class definition certified by this Court on August 7, 2017, which are listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement (the "Class Area"). For purposes of the proposed Settlement, and conditioned upon the Agreement receiving final approval following the Final Approval hearing and that order becoming final, the certified class shall be further defined as follows:
  - (1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action, (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.
- 7. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Class, subject to final approval by this Court of the Settlement. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to act on behalf of the Class with respect to all acts required by the Settlement Agreement or such other acts which are reasonably necessary to consummate the proposed Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement.
- 8. The Court approves ILYM Group Inc. ("ILYM") as Settlement Administrator to administer the notice and claims procedures of the Settlement for the purpose of administering the proposed Settlement and performing all other duties and obligations of the Settlement Administrator as defined in the Settlement, this Preliminary Approval Order, and/or as may otherwise be ordered by the Court, with the understanding that ILYM's compensation will be capped at \$19,550.00.
- 9. The Court approves, as to form and content, the two different Settlement Notices: (a) the first for the Original Class Members who were served with the Class Notice in

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February 2018 (attached hereto as Exhibit "B"); and (b) the second for all subsequent purchasers of the homes listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement who were not sent Class Notice in February 2018 (attached hereto as Exhibit "C"). The Court hereby instructs the Settling Parties to proceed with Settlement Notice in the manner and on the schedule set forth in the Settlement Agreement as follows:

- a. The Settlement Administrator shall serve by U.S. Mail:
  - i. To those individuals who were mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - 1. The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "B" hereto; and
    - 2. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "D" hereto);
  - ii. To those individuals in the chain of title for the class homes listed in Exhibit "A" to the Settlement Agreement who were NOT mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "C" to the Settlement Agreement;
    - 2. The Request for Exclusion Form (Exhibit "E" hereto); and
    - 3. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "F" hereto).
- b. For a Prior Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member, that Prior Owner must submit by mail or electronic means a Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator within sixty (60) days of mailing by the Settlement Administrator (Exhibit "F" to Settlement Agreement) that verifies that the Prior Owner replaced the copper pipes in the Class Home with PEX or epoxy coating of the pipes.
  - i. In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification

Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the home's copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide the present owner with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification to the Settlement Administrator that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home. In the event that there is a dispute between a prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who will forward such documentation to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

- c. For a Present Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member:
  - i. With respect to those individuals who were served with Class Notice in February 2018, there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement.

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- ii. With respect to those individuals who were NOT served with Class Notice in February 2018, that individual must not submit a Request for Exclusion Form and there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement.
- d. For all Notice papers returned as undeliverable or changed address, the Settlement Administrator shall re-send the Notice documents after a skip-trace, and the time frame for a potential class member to return any forms shall re-commence from the date of that re-mailing.
- 10. In order to facilitate printing and dissemination of the Settlement Notice, the Settlement Administrator and Parties may change the format, but not the content, of the Settlement Notice, without further Court order, so long as the legibility is not adversely impacted. The Settlement Administrator and Parties may also, without further Court order, insert the information specified in the blank places provided in the Settlement Notice.
- 11. Within ten (10) business days of Preliminary Approval, the Parties shall provide the Settlement Administrator with the addresses of all homes that are included within the definition of the Class.
- 12. The Settlement Administrator must complete the notice mailing within thirty (30) calendar days of preliminary approval being granted, in envelopes marked "Personal and Confidential."
- 13. By the time of filing of the final settlement approval motion, the Settlement Administrator shall provide, and Plaintiff shall file proof, by affidavit or declaration, of the mailing of the Settlement Notice in the form and manner provided in the Agreement and in this Preliminary Approval Order.
- 14. The Settlement Administrator must also create a dedicated website for this Settlement, which will provide a portal for electronic submission of Request for Exclusion Forms,

Prior Owner Verification Forms and any Objections to the Settlement. The dedicated website shall also make available the Settlement Agreement, the operative complaint, the pleadings submitted in support of preliminary approval, approval of attorneys' fees, costs and class representative enhancements, and final approval, and all orders continuing or re-setting any hearing dates. The dedicated website shall also make available all Orders by this Court with respect to aforesaid motions.

- 15. The Court finds that the Parties' plan for providing notice to the Settlement Class described in the Settlement Agreement complies fully with the requirements of due process and all other applicable provisions of law, including *California Code of Civil Procedure* §382, *California Civil Code* §1781, *California Rules of Court*, Rules 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and all other applicable law., and any other applicable law and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to the Settlement Class, the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and the Final Approval Hearing.
- 16. All potential members of the Class who were sent Class Notice in February 2018 shall not have the right to be excluded from the Class because the time for such right to be excluded has expired. With respect to any potential member of the Settlement Class who was NOT sent Class Notice in February 2018 AND who desires to be excluded from the Class and therefore not be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement, he/she must submit to the Settlement Administrator, pursuant to the instructions set forth in the Notice, a timely and valid written Request for Exclusion (attached as Exhibit "E" hereto).
- Date to submit written objections and/or requests for exclusion. The Settlement Administrator shall prepare and deliver to Class Counsel, who shall file with the Court, a final report stating the total number of Class members who have submitted timely and valid Requests for Exclusion from the Class, and the names of such individuals. The final report regarding the Claims Period shall be filed with the Court within seven (7) business days of the expiration of the deadline to submit

objections and/or requests for exclusion.

- 18. The deadline to file the motion for final approval of the Settlement and Class Counsel's fee application shall be twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing date of **August 17, 2023**.
- 19. Responses to any objections received shall be filed with the Court no later than twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, and Plaintiffs' responses may be included in their motion for final approval.
- 20. Any member of the Settlement Class who is eligible to (and so chooses) to be excluded shall not be entitled to receive any of the benefits of the Settlement Agreement, shall not be bound by the release of any claims pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, and shall not be entitled to object to the Settlement Agreement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing. The names of all persons timely submitting valid Requests for Exclusion shall be provided to the Court.
- 21. Any member of the Class may appear at the Final Approval Hearing, in person or by counsel, and may be heard to orally object to the settlement, or, to the extent allowed by the Court, to speak in support of or in opposition to, the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement, the application for an award of attorneys' fees, cost, and expenses to Class Counsel, and any compensation to be awarded to the Class Representatives.
- 22. Pending the final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, all pre-trial proceedings in the instant case are stayed. If the Settlement is terminated or final approval does not for any reason occur, the stay shall be immediately terminated.
- August 17, 2023 in Dept. CX-101 of the Orange County Superior Court, to address: (a) whether the proposed Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate, and whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should be entered; and (b) whether Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses and incentive awards should be approved. The date and time of the Final Approval Hearing shall be set forth in the Class Notice. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or in connection with the Settlement Agreement.

1	24. If the Settlement is finally approved by the Court, the Court shall retain		
2	jurisdiction over the Settling Parties, the Class Members, and this Action in accordance with CCP		
3	§ 664.6 and CRC Rule 3.769(h), with respect to matters arising out of, or in connection with, the		
4	Settlement, and may issue such orders as necessary to implement the terms of the Settlement. The		
5	Court may approve the Settlement, with such modifications as may be agreed to by the Class		
6	Representatives, Class Counsel, and Defendants, without further notice to the Class Members.		
7	IT IS SO ORDERED.		
8			
9	Dated:		
10	HONORABLE PETER J. WILSON		
11	JUDGE OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT		
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Exhibit E – Revised Request For Exclusion

# REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FROM CLASS ACTION

# Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

<b>DEADLINE FOR</b>	POSTMARK OF RE	TURN FORM:	]
To: Settlement Adı	ministrator		
)))))			
Re: [ADDI	RESS OF CLASS HOM	ME]	
The undersigned, _	(Member Name)	of, of, _(Mailing Address)	(City)
(State)	, requests to be exclu	ided from the class in the above-e	entitled
matter, as permitted	d by notice of the court	to class members dated	·
Dated:			
Print name of mem	ber	 Signature	

Exhibit F – Revised Prior Owner Verification Form

# PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM

# Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

DEADLINE FOR POSTMARK OF RETU	JRN FORM:	]
To: Settlement Administrator		
[Address. Etc.]		
The undersigned,	, of,	
(Member Name)	(Mailing Address)	(City)
do hereby certify that I was a prior owner of		and I had paid
	(address of home in class)	
for the replacement of the copper pipes of that proof of payment for replacement. In the eve		_
the foregoing, I can be contacted at	or	
(telephone number) (email a	uddress)	
Dated:		
Print name	Signature	

Exhibit B

# Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

#### THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THIS SETTLEMENT AND POTENTIALLY ENTITLED TO RELIEF IN THIS SETTLEMENT BECAUSE YOU DID <u>NOT</u> OPT OUT OF THE ACTION FOLLOWING SERVICE OF THE CLASS NOTICE IN OR AROUND FEBRUARY 2018.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval.

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, OR (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class Members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses,

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address] incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class Member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating. All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class. In other words, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

• If you are a member of the Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

Your Legal Rights and Options in this Settlement		
If you are a member of the Settlement Class your options are:		
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO QUALIFY FOR A PAYMENT	For Present Owners of a Class Home. If you presently own a class home, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING to receive a share of the Settlement Fund UNLESS a prior owner asserts that they replaced their home's copper pipe systems. IF A PRIOR OWNER SUBMITS A PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM stating that they replaced the entire copper pipe systems in the home, you can receive a share of the Settlement Fund ONLY IF you submit proof sufficient to convince an arbitrator that the home had copper pipe systems in place at the time you purchased it.  For Prior Owners of a Class Home. If you are a prior owner of a class home, THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN QUALIFY AS A CLASS MEMBER and obtain a share of the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner Verification Form NO LATER THAN [DATE] and demonstrate that you replaced the entire copper pipe system when you owned the home.  See Questions 7-8 and 19, below.	
OBJECT [WRITTEN OBJECTION DUE BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 2023	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. You may also attend the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court, whether or not you put your objection in writing. See Questions 16-18, <i>below</i> .	

• These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator,

- ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.
- The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class Members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

# WHAT THIS NOTICE CONTAINS

BASIC INFORM	MATIONPAGE 4
1.	Why did I get this notice?
2.	What is this lawsuit about?
3.	Why is this a class action?
4.	Why is there a settlement?
WHO IS IN TH	E SETTLEMENT?PAGE 5
5.	How do I know if I am part of the settlement?
6.	If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Class?
7.	If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?
THE SETTLEM	MENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?PAGE 6
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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement. You are potentially subject to the terms of the Settlement because you did not optout of the case when notice was sent to the Class in 2018.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class Members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

#### 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

#### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "Class Members." One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

#### 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

# 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

6. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the Settlement Administrator on or before

7. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings. There is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

# 8. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,371,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class Members, (b) the expense of administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses

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awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class Members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,116.00) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,371,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,116.00), the net settlement fund amount would be \$799,682.00. Each of the 145 Class Members would receive approximately \$5,515,04.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and all settlement pleadings and Notices can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_.com">www.\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at (866) 826-2818, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

# 9. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class Member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

As a member of the Class, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

#### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

#### 10. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who shall forward such writings to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

# 11. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class Members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

# 12. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

### 13. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,116.00, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

# 14. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must either: (1) appear in person or through counsel at the Final Approval Hearing (the details of which are on page 10 of this Notice) and state in detail the basis for your objection; or (2) submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior

Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. Your writing must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection or personally provide them at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

Your written objection, and any supporting records, must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
<mark>ILYM</mark>	

You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection and fail to appear at the Final Approval Hearing to state your objection, your objection will be deemed waived and will not be considered by the Court.

#### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

# 15. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

# 16. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it, but you have the right to do so. Although no Class Member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

# 17. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Class Member may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of their objection.

Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

#### 18. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

#### **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

#### 19. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

#### To Visit the Settlement Website:

www.\_\_\_.com

#### **To Contact the Settlement Administrator:**

Toll Free Number: (866) 826-2818 Email:

#### **Contact the Attorneys for the Class:**

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Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com

Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com

You may also visit the Court's website to obtain access to the documents that have been filed in this case at <a href="www.occourts.org/online-service">www.occourts.org/online-service</a> and then enter the case number (30-2013-0064338) and the year of filing (2013), and then select the document that you want to obtain. There is a fee to purchase a document for viewing.

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated:	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson
		JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Exhibit C

# Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

#### THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval.

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, OR (2) prior owners of homes in the Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class Members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class Member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating.

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address] All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class. In other words, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

• If you are a member of the Settlement Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

Your Legal Rights and Options in this Settlement			
If you are a men	If you are a member of the Settlement Class your options are:		
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO QUALIFY FOR A PAYMENT	For Present Owners of a Class Home. If you presently own a class home, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING to receive a share of the Settlement Fund UNLESS a prior owner asserts that they replaced their home's copper pipe systems. IF A PRIOR OWNER SUBMITS A PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM stating that they replaced the entire copper pipe systems in the home, you can receive a share of the Settlement Fund ONLY IF you submit proof sufficient to convince an arbitrator that the home had copper pipe systems in place at the time you purchased it.  For Prior Owners of a Class Home. If you are a prior owner of a class home, THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN QUALIFY AS A CLASS MEMBER and obtain a share of the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner		
	Verification Form {NO LATER THAN [DATE] and demonstrate that you replaced the entire copper pipe system when you owned the home.  See Questions 8-9 and 22, <i>below</i> .		
Exclude Yourself By [60 Days After Date of Notice],	You will not receive any payment from the settlement, but you will preserve any existing rights you may have to bring your own lawsuit against Defendants based on the same alleged violation of certain statutory standards relating to the copper pipes installed in certain homes, to the extent that you have any such claim. See Questions 13-15, <i>below</i> .		
OBJECT [WRITTEN OBJECTION DUE BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 2023	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. You may also attend the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court, whether or not you put your objection in writing. See Questions 18-20, <i>below</i> .		

• These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you

have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator, ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.

The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class Members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class Members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

#### 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

#### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "Class Members." One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

# 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

# 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

# 6. Are there exceptions to being included?

Yes. The Settlement Class does not include persons who opt-out or exclude themselves from the settlement in a timely and correct manner by submitting a written request for exclusion. Questions 13-15 below describe how to opt-out of the Settlement Class and settlement.

7. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the Settlement Administrator on or before

8. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings. There is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

# 9. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,371,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class Members, (b) the expense of

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Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, ILYM Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address]

administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class Members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,116.00) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,371,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,116.00), the net settlement fund amount would be \$799,682.00. Each of the 145 Class members would receive approximately \$5,515.09.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and all settlement pleadings and Notices can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_.com">www.\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at (866) 826-2818, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

# 10. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class Member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

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The precise terms of the settlement's "release," which defines the claims given up by the Class in exchange for payment of settlement benefits, are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_\_.com">www.\_\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at (866) 826-2818, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

Unless you exclude yourself, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

#### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

## 11. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who shall forward such writings to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

# 12. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class Members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any

appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

#### EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

If you want to keep the right to sue or continue to sue the Defendants over the legal issues in this case, or if you do not wish to participate in the settlement for any other reason, you must take steps to exclude yourself from the settlement. This is sometimes called "opting-out" of the settlement.

# 13. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from the settlement?

No. If you opt out of the settlement you will not receive any settlement payment and you cannot object to the settlement or appear at the fairness hearing. By opting out of the settlement, you will not release any claims which otherwise would be released by the settlement and you will not be bound by any judgment or orders of the Court in approving the settlement. You will retain whatever rights or claims you may have, if any, against Defendants, and you will be free to continue or pursue your own lawsuit against Defendants, if you choose to do so.

## 14. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue later?

No. Unless you timely and validly exclude yourself from the settlement by the deadline of [60-day deadline], 2022, you will give up the right to sue Defendants for the claims that this Settlement releases and resolves.

# 15. How do I get out of the settlement?

To exclude yourself from the settlement, you must fill out and sign the attached Request For Exclusion From Class Action form and mail it to the Settlement Administrator with a postmark no later than [60-day date], 2022, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
ILYM	

You cannot exclude yourself from the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

Requests for exclusion that do not include all required information and/or that are not timely submitted will be deemed null, void, and ineffective. If you submitted a timely yet insufficient request for exclusion, the Settlement Administrator will contact you. We ask that you cooperate with the Settlement Administrator to achieve your desired result in connection with this settlement.

Settlement Class members who fail to submit a valid and timely request for exclusion shall be bound by all terms of the settlement and any final judgment and orders of the Court entered in this lawsuit if the settlement is approved, regardless of whether they ineffectively or untimely requested exclusion from the settlement.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

# 16. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

# 17. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,116.00, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

If you do not request to be excluded (opt out), you can tell the Court if you don't agree with the settlement or any part of it.

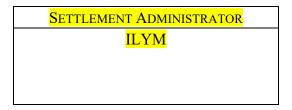
# 18. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must either: (1) appear in person or through counsel at the Final Approval Hearing (the details of which are on page 10 of this Notice) and state in detail the basis for your objection; or (2) submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. Your writing must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection or personally provide them at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

Your written objection, and any supporting records, must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:



You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection and fail to appear at the Final Approval Hearing to state your objection,, your objection will be deemed waived and will not be considered by the Court.

# 19. What's the difference between objecting and excluding?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you don't agree with something about the settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. If your objection is overruled and that ruling becomes final, you will still: (i) remain a Settlement Class member; (ii) be subject to the

orders and judgment of the Court; and (iii) participate in the settlement if it is approved by the Court. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you.

#### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

# 20. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

# 21. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it, but you have the right to do so.. Although no Class Member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

# 22. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Settlement Class Member may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of their objection.

Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

#### 23. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

#### GETTING MORE INFORMATION

# 24. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

To Visit the Settlement Website:
wwwcom
To Contact the Settlement Administrator:
Toll Free Number: (866) 826-2818
Email:
Contact the Attorneys for the Class:

Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com

Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com

You may also visit the Court's website to obtain access to the documents that have been filed in this case at <a href="www.occourts.org/online-service">www.occourts.org/online-service</a> and then enter the case number (30-2013-0064338) and the year of filing (2013), and then select the document that you want to obtain. There is a fee to purchase a document for viewing.

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated:	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson
	<del></del>	JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

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Exhibit D

# REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FROM CLASS ACTION

# Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

<b>DEADLINE FOR</b>	POSTMARK OF RE	TURN FORM:	]
To: Settlement Adı	ministrator		
)))))			
Re: [ADDI	RESS OF CLASS HOM	ME]	
The undersigned, _	(Member Name)	of, of, _(Mailing Address)	(City)
(State)	, requests to be exclu	ided from the class in the above-e	entitled
matter, as permitted	d by notice of the court	to class members dated	·
Dated:			
Print name of mem	ber	 Signature	

Exhibit E

# PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM

# Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

DEADLINE FOR POSTMARK OF RETU	URN FORM:	]
To: Settlement Administrator		
[Address. Etc.]		
The undersigned,	, of,	
do hereby certify that I was a prior owner of		and I had paid
	(address of home in class)	
for the replacement of the copper pipes of the proof of payment for replacement. In the even		_
the foregoing, I can be contacted at	or	
(telephone number) (email a	address)	
Dated:		
Print name	Signature	

# Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

#### THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THIS SETTLEMENT AND POTENTIALLY ENTITLED TO RELIEF IN THIS SETTLEMENT BECAUSE YOU DID <u>NOT</u> OPT OUT OF THE ACTION FOLLOWING SERVICE OF THE CLASS NOTICE IN OR AROUND FEBRUARY 2018.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval.

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, OR or—(2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class Members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses,

incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class Member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home- who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating. All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class. <u>In other words</u>, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will <u>qualify as a Class Member</u>.

• If you are a member of the Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

Your Legal	RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT
If you are a memb	per of the Settlement Class your options are to:
What Do I Have To Do To Qualify For A Payment DO NOTHING AND RECEIVE A SETTLEMENT PAYMENT,	For Present Owners of a Class Home. If you presently own a class home, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING to receive a share of the Settlement Fund UNLESS a prior owner asserts that they replaced their home's copper pipe systems. IF A PRIOR OWNER SUBMITS A PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM stating that they replaced the entire copper pipe systems in the home, you can receive a share of the Settlement Fund ONLY IF you submit proof sufficient to convince an arbitrator that the home had copper pipe systems in place at the time you purchased it.  For Prior Owners of a Class Home. If you are a prior owner of a class home, THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN QUALIFY AS A CLASS MEMBER and obtain a share of the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner Verification Form {NO LATER THAN [DATE] and demonstrate that you replaced the entire copper pipe system when you owned the home.  If you do nothing, you will receive your share of the settlement fund, but you will be giving up any rights you may have to separately sue Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties as defined in the Settlement Agreement for any legal claims released by this Settlement. See Questions 7-8 and 19, below.
OBJECT WRITTEN OBJECTION  DUE BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE  OF NOTICE], 202 <u>E</u> 2	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. You may also attend the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court, whether or not you put your objection in writing. You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any

aspect of the proposed settlement. If you do submit a written
objection, you also may request to speak at the final approval
hearing to present your disagreement to the Court. See
Questions 16-18, below.

- These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator, ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.
- The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class Members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

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3. 4.	Why is there a settlement?
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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

# 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement. You are potentially subject to the terms of the Settlement because you did not optout of the case when notice was sent to the Class in 2018.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class Members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

#### 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

#### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "Class Members." One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

# 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

# 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

6. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the <u>Settlement Class</u> Administrator on or before

7. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings. There is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

#### 8. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,3712,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class Memembers, (b) the expense of administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive

awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class Members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,116.00449.33) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,3712,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,116.00449.33), the net settlement fund amount would be \$799,682800,348.67.00. Each of the 145 Class Members would receive approximately \$5,515.09.64.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and all settlement pleadings and Notices can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.....com">www......com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at <a href="mailto:(866) 826-2818">(866) 826-2818</a>—, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

# 9. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class Member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

As a member of the Class, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

#### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

# 10. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the SettlementClass Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Class Administrator who shall forward such writings to Ross Feinberg, Esq. Hon. Nancy Wieben Stock (ret.) of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg Judge Stock's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

# 11. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class Members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended

and any appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

### 12. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

# 13. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532, 116.00449.33, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

# 14. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must either: (1) appear in person or through counsel at the Final Approval Hearing (the details of which are on page 10 of this Notice) and state in detail the basis for your objection; or (2) submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC-, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. Your writing must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection or personally provide them at the time of the Final Approval Fairness Hearing, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

You<u>r written</u> <u>must mail your</u> objection, and any supporting records, <u>must be mailed</u> to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR
ILYM

You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection and fail to appear at the Final Approval Fairnes Hearing to state your objection, your objection will be deemed waived, you will not be permitted to assert your objection at the final approval hearing, and it will not be considered by the Court. If you do not submit or identify all supporting records with your written objection, you will not be able to present such supporting records at the fairness hearing.

#### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

# 15. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval s-hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20232, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa

Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The judge will only listen to people who have properly submitted a timely objection, and timely and properly requested to speak at the final approval hearing (see Questions 18-19, below). After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

## 16. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it, but you have the right to do so. As long as you mailed your written objection on time and in the proper manner, it will be considered by the Court.—Although no Class Memember is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

## 17. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Class Member who timely and properly submits an objection to the settlement may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of their objection.

To request to speak at the final approval hearing, either by yourself or through your own attorney, at your own expense, you must send a letter by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you are requesting leave to appear at the final approval hearing in the matter Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange. You must also include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature, and (if applicable) the name, address, telephone number, and signature of your attorney. Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

You must mail your request to speak at the final approval hearing to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR
HLYM

You cannot request to speak at the fairness hearing by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method of communication except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

# 18. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

#### **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

## 19. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

## **To Visit the Settlement Website:**

www. .com

**To Contact the Settlement Class Administrator:** 

Toll Free Number: (866) 826-2818—

Email:

#### **Contact the Attorneys for the Class:**

Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com

Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com

You may also visit the Court's website to obtain access to the documents that have been filed in this case at www.occourts.org/online-service and then enter the case number (30-2013-0064338) and the year of filing (2013), and then select the document that you want to obtain. There is a fee to purchase a document for viewing.

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

Honorable Peter Wilson
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

# Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC-, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

#### THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC-, et al.*, Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval.

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, OR or (2) prior owners of homes in the Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class Members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class Member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating.

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address] All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on Exhibit A are NOT members of the Class. In other words, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

• If you are a member of the Settlement Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

Your Legal Rights and Options in this Settlement	
If you are a member of the Settlement Class your options are to:	
What Do I Have To Do To Qualify For A Payment Nothing And Receive a Settlement Payment	For Present Owners of a Class Home. If you presently own a class home, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING to receive a share of the Settlement Fund UNLESS a prior owner asserts that they replaced their home's copper pipe systems. IF A PRIOR OWNER SUBMITS A PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM stating that they replaced the entire copper pipe systems in the home, you can receive a share of the Settlement Fund ONLY IF you submit proof sufficient to convince an arbitrator that the home had copper pipe systems in place at the time you purchased it.  For Prior Owners of a Class Home. If you are a prior owner of a class home, THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN QUALIFY AS A CLASS MEMBER and obtain a share of the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner Verification Form {NO LATER THAN [DATE] and demonstrate that you replaced the entire copper pipe system when you owned the home.  If you do nothing, you will receive your share of the settlement fund, but you will be giving up any rights you may have to separately sue Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties as defined in the Settlement Agreement for any legal claims released by this Settlement. See Questions 8-9 and 22, below.
Exclude Yourself By [60 Days After Date of Notice],	You will not receive any payment from the settlement, but you will preserve any existing rights you may have to bring your own lawsuit against Defendants based on the same alleged violation of certain statutory standards relating to the copper pipes installed in certain homes, to the extent that you have any such claim. See Questions 13-15, below.
OBJECT <u>[WRITTEN OBJECTION</u> <u>DUE</u> BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 20232	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. You may also attend the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court, whether or not you put your objection in writing. You

may write the Court to say why you do not agree w	<del>ith any</del>
aspect of the proposed settlement. If you do submit	<del>t a written</del>
objection, you also may request to speak at the final	<del>l approval</del>
hearing to present your disagreement to the Court.	See
Questions 18-20, below.	

- These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator, ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.
- The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class Members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

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### **BASIC INFORMATION**

### 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class Members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

### 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "Class Members." One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

### 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

### 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

### 6. Are there exceptions to being included?

Yes. The Settlement Class does not include persons who opt-out or exclude themselves from the settlement in a timely and correct manner by submitting a written request for exclusion. Questions 13-15 below describe how to opt-out of the Settlement Class and settlement.

7. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the <u>Class Settlement</u> Administrator on or before

8. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings. There is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

### 9. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,3712,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class Members, (b) the expense of

administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class Members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,116.00449.33) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,37\,\textsup 2,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532\,\textsup 116.00449.33\)), the net settlement fund amount would be \$\frac{799,682.00800,348.67}{200.0000,348.67}. Each of the 145 Class members would receive approximately \$5,51\,\textsup 5.00\,\textsup 9.64.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and all settlement pleadings and Notices can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.....com">www......com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at <a href="mailto:(866) 826-2818">(866) 826-2818</a>—, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

### 10. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class Mmember will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

The precise terms of the settlement's "release," which defines the claims given up by the Class in exchange for payment of settlement benefits, are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.">www.</a>.com. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at <a href="tel:1866">(866)</a> 826-2818-</a>, toll-free, or by e-mail at <a href="mail address">[email address]</a>.

Unless you exclude yourself, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

### 11. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Class-Settlement Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the <a href="Class-Settlement">Class-Settlement</a> Administrator who shall forward such writings to <a href="Hon. Naney Wieben StockRoss Feinberg">Hon. Naney Wieben StockRoss Feinberg</a>, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for <a href="Ludge-StockMr. Feinberg">Ludge-StockMr. Feinberg</a>'s services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

## 12. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class\_Members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any

appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

### **EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT**

If you want to keep the right to sue or continue to sue the Defendants over the legal issues in this case, or if you do not wish to participate in the settlement for any other reason, you must take steps to exclude yourself from the settlement. This is sometimes called "opting-out" of the settlement.

### 13. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from the settlement?

No. If you opt out of the settlement you will not receive any settlement payment and you cannot object to the settlement or appear at the fairness hearing. By opting out of the settlement, you will not release any claims which otherwise would be released by the settlement and you will not be bound by any judgment or orders of the Court in approving the settlement. You will retain whatever rights or claims you may have, if any, against Defendants, and you will be free to continue or pursue your own lawsuit against Defendants, if you choose to do so.

### 14. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue later?

No. Unless you timely and validly exclude yourself from the settlement by the deadline of [60-day deadline], 2022, you will give up the right to sue Defendants for the claims that this Settlement releases and resolves.

### 15. How do I get out of the settlement?

To exclude yourself from the settlement, you must fill out and sign the attached Request For Exclusion From Class Action form and mail it to the Class-Settlement Administrator with a postmark no later than [60-day date], 2022, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
<u>ILYM</u>	

You cannot exclude yourself from the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

Requests for exclusion that do not include all required information and/or that are not timely submitted will be deemed null, void, and ineffective. If you submitted a timely yet insufficient request for exclusion, the Settlement Administrator will contact you. We ask that you cooperate with the Settlement Administrator to achieve your desired result in connection with this settlement.

<u>Settlement</u> Class members who fail to submit a valid and timely request for exclusion shall be bound by all terms of the settlement and any final judgment and orders of the Court entered in this lawsuit if the settlement is approved, regardless of whether they ineffectively or untimely requested exclusion from the settlement.

### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

# 16. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

### 17. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,449.33116.00, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

If you do not request to be excluded (opt out), you can tell the Court if you don't agree with the settlement or any part of it.

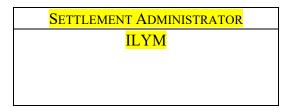
### 18. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must either: (1) appear in person or through counsel at the Final Approval Hearing (the details of which are on page 10 of this Notice) and state in detail the basis for your objection; or (2) submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC-, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. Your writing must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection or personally provide them at the time of the Final Fairness-Approval Hearing, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

You<u>r written must mail your</u> objection, and any supporting records, <u>must be mailed</u> to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], addressed to:



You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection and fail to appear at the Final Approval Fairness-Hearing to state your objection, your objection will be deemed waived, you will not be permitted to assert your objection at the final approval hearing, and it will not be considered by the Court. If you do not submit or identify all supporting records with your written objection, you will not be able to present such supporting records at the fairness hearing.

### 19. What's the difference between objecting and excluding?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you don't agree with something about the settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. If your objection is overruled and that ruling becomes final, you will still: (i) remain a Settlement Class member; (ii) be subject to the orders and judgment of the Court; and (iii) will still participate in the settlement if it is approved by the Court. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you.

### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

### 20. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20232, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The judge will only listen to people who have properly submitted a timely objection, and timely and properly requested to speak at the final approval hearing (see Questions 21-22, below). After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

### 21. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it, but you have the right to do so. As long as you mailed your written objection on time and in the proper manner, it will be considered by the Court. Although no Class Member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

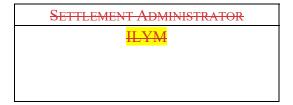
### 22. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Settlement Class Member who does not request exclusion and who timely and properly submits an objection to the settlement may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of their objection.

To request to speak at the final approval hearing, either by yourself or through your own attorney, at your own expense, you must send a letter by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you are requesting leave to appear at the final approval hearing in the matter *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange. You must also include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature, and (if applicable) the name, address, telephone number, and signature of your attorney. Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the

Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

You must mail your request to speak at the final approval hearing to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], addressed to:



You cannot request to speak at the fairness hearing by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method of communication except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

### IF YOU DO NOTHING

### 23. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

### **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

### 24. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

### **To Visit the Settlement Website:**

www.\_\_\_.com

To Contact the Class-Settlement Administrator:

Toll Free Number: (866) 826-2818

Email:

Contact the Attorneys for the Class:

Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com

Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com

You may also visit the Court's website to obtain access to the documents that have been filed in this case at www.occourts.org/online-service and then enter the case number (30-2013-0064338) and the year of filing (2013), and then select the document that you want to obtain. There is a fee to purchase a document for viewing.

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated:	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson
		JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

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8	CUREDIOD COURT OF TH	E CTATE OF CALLEODNIA
9		E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
		OF ORANGE
10	ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an individual; CHERIE ESTES, an	CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC
11	individual; on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,	Assigned for all purposes to:
12	Plaintiffs,	Hon. Peter Wilson
13	Vs.	Dept: CX-101
14	CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, LLC., a Limited Liability Company;	[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
15	CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a Corporation; PULTE HOME	SETTLEMENT
16	CORPORATION, a Corporation; MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC., a	Hearing Date: March 30———, 2023
17	Corporation; and DOES 1-100,	Time: 2:00 p.m.
18	Defendants.	Dept.: CX-101
19	AND DELATED CDOSS CLAIMS	Complaint Filed: May 9, 2013
20	AND RELATED CROSS-CLAIMS.	
21	WHEDEAS Plaintiffs and Class Penra	sentatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero,
22	•	ndants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex
23		oration ("Defendants") have reached a proposed
24		een them in the above actions, which is embodied
25		
26		art, including modifications thereto (collectively
	attached hereto as Exhibit A, and hereinafter refe	
27	WHEREAS, the Court by Hon. Thier	ry Patrick Colaw previously granted Plaintiff's
28	motion for class certification on August 7, 20	017, and duly appointed Bridgford, Gleason &

Artinian, Kabateck LLP, and McNicholas & McNicholas as Class Counsel, and duly appointed Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes as class representatives,

WHEREAS, the Parties have applied to the Court for preliminary approval of a proposed Settlement of the Action, the terms and conditions of which are set forth in the Settlement Agreement, as amended (the "Settlement Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Court has preliminarily considered the Settlement to determine, among other things, whether the Settlement is sufficient to warrant the issuance of notice to members of the Class (as defined below);

AND NOW, the Court, having read and considered the Settlement Agreement and accompanying documents and the motion for preliminary settlement approval and supporting papers, and the Parties to the Settlement Agreement having appeared in this Court for hearings on Preliminary approval of the Settlement (as amended) on March 30, 2023————, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, the Class Representatives, Defendants, -and all Class Members.
- 2. The Court grants preliminary approval of the terms and conditions contained in the Settlement Agreement—(hereinafter referred to as "Settlement Agreement"). The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement are within the range of possible approval at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 3. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations conducted at arms' length by the parties. In making this preliminary finding, the Court considered the nature of the claims, the amounts and kinds of benefits paid in settlement, the allocation of settlement proceeds among the class members, and the fact that a settlement represents a compromise of the Parties' respective positions rather than the result of a finding of liability at trial.
- 4. The Court further preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement have no obvious deficiencies and do not improperly grant preferential treatment to any individual class member.

- 5. Subject to further consideration by the Court at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, the Court preliminarily approves the Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class, as falling within the range of possible final approval, as being the product of informed, arm's length negotiation by counsel, as meriting submission to the Class for its consideration.
- 6. The parties have identified the homes included within the class definition certified by this Court on August 7, 2017, which are listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement (the "Class Area"). For purposes of the proposed Settlement, and conditioned upon the Agreement receiving final approval following the Final Approval hearing and that order becoming final, the certified class shall be further defined as follows:
  - (1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action, (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.
- 7. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Class, subject to final approval by this Court of the Settlement. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to act on behalf of the Class with respect to all acts required by the Settlement Agreement or such other acts which are reasonably necessary to consummate the proposed Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement.
- 8. The Court approves ILYM Group Inc. ("ILYM") as Class \_\_Settlement Administrator to administer the notice and claims procedures of the Settlement for the purpose of administering the proposed Settlement and performing all other duties and obligations of the Settlement Administrator as defined in the Settlement, this Preliminary Approval Order, and/or as may otherwise be ordered by the Court, with the understanding that ILYM's compensation will be capped at \$19,550.00.
  - 9. The Court approves, as to form and content, the two different Settlement

Notices: (a) the first for the Original Class Members who were served with the Class Notice in February 2018 (attached hereto as Exhibit "B" to the Settlement Agreement); and (b) the second for all subsequent purchasers of the homes listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement who were not sent Class Notice in February 2018 (attached hereto to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibit "C"). The Court hereby instructs the Settling Parties to proceed with Settlement Class Notice in the manner and on the schedule set forth in the Settlement Agreement as follows:

- a. The Class Settlement Administrator shall serve by U.S. Mail:
  - i. To those individuals who were mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "B" heretoto the Settlement Agreement; and
    - 2. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "D" hereto);
  - i. To those individuals in the chain of title for the class homes listed in Exhibit "A" to the Settlement Agreement who were NOT mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "C" to the Settlement Agreement;
    - 2. The Opt Out Request for Exclusion Form (Exhibit "E" hereto); and
    - 3. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "F" hereto).
- b. For a Prior Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member, that Prior Owner must submit by mail or electronic means a Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Class Administrator within sixty (60) days of mailing by the Settlement Administrator Werther 7, 2022 (Exhibit "F" to Settlement Agreement) that verifies that the Prior Owner replaced the copper pipes in the Class Home with

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PEX or epoxy coating of the pipes.

- i. In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the home's copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Class Administrator shall provide the present owner with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification to the Class Settlement Administrator that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home. In the event that there is a dispute between a prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the **SettlementClass** Administrator who will forward such documentation to Hon. Nancy Weiben Stock (ret.) Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg Judge Stock's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.
- c. For a Present Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member:
  - With respect to those individuals who were served with Class Notice in February 2018, there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject

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Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement.

- ii. With respect to those individuals who were NOT served with Class Notice in February 2018, that individual must not submit a Request for Exclusionn Opt Out Form and there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement...
- d. For all Notice papers returned as undeliverable or changed address, the <a href="SettlementClass">SettlementClass</a> Administrator shall re-send the Notice documents after a skip-trace, and the time frame for a potential class member to return any forms shall re-commence from the date of that re-mailing.
- 10. In order to facilitate printing and dissemination of the Settlement Notice, the Settlement Administrator and Parties may change the format, but not the content, of the Settlement Notice, without further Court order, so long as the legibility is not adversely impacted. The Settlement Administrator and Parties may also, without further Court order, insert the information specified in the blank places provided in the Settlement Notice.
- 11. Within ten (10) business days of Preliminary Approval, the Parties shall provide the Settlement Class Administrator with the addresses of all homes that are included within the definition of the Class.
- 12. The Settlement Class Administrator must complete the notice mailing within thirty (30) calendar days of preliminary approval being granted, in envelopes marked "Personal and Confidential."
- 13. By the time of filing of the final settlement approval motion, the Settlement Administrator shall provide, and Plaintiff shall file proof, by affidavit or declaration, of the mailing of the Settlement Notice in the form and manner provided in the Agreement and in this Preliminary

1,

Approval Order.

- 14. The Settlement Class Administrator must also create a dedicated website for this Settlement, which will provide a portal for electronic submission of Request for Exclusion Opt Out Forms, Prior Owner Verification Forms and any Objections to the Settlement. The dedicated website shall also make available the Settlement Agreement, the operative complaint, the pleadings submitted in support of preliminary approval, approval of attorneys' fees, costs and class representative enhancements, and final approval, and all orders continuing or re-setting any hearing dates. The dedicated website shall also make available all Orders by this Court with respect to aforesaid motions.
- Class described in the Settlement Agreement complies fully with the requirements of due process and all other applicable provisions of law, including *California Code of Civil Procedure* §382, *California Civil Code* §1781, *California Rules of Court*, Rules 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and all other applicable law., and any other applicable law and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to the <u>Settlement</u> Class, the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and the Final Approval Hearing.
- 16. All potential members of the Class who were sent Class Notice in February 2018 shall not have the right to be excluded from the Class because the time for such right to be excluded has expired. With respect to any potential member of the <u>Settlement Class</u> who was NOT sent Class Notice in February 2018 AND who desires to be excluded from the Class and therefore not be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement, he/she must submit to the <u>Settlement Class</u> Administrator, pursuant to the instructions set forth in the Notice, a timely and valid written Request for Exclusion (attached as Exhibit "E" to the <u>Settlement Agreement hereto</u>).
- 17. Members of the <u>Settlement Class shall have sixty</u> (60) days from the Notice Date to submit <u>written</u> objections and/or requests for exclusion. The <u>Settlement Class</u> Administrator shall prepare and deliver to Class Counsel, who shall file with the Court, a final

report stating the total number of Class members who have submitted timely and valid Requests for Exclusion from the Class, and the names of such individuals. The final report regarding the Claims Period shall be filed with the Court within seven (7) business days of the expiration of the deadline to submit objections and/or requests for exclusion.

- 18. The deadline to file the motion for final approval of the Settlement and Class Counsel's fee application shall be twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing date of <a href="Marguet 17">August 17</a>, 2023</a>.
- 19. Responses to any objections received shall be filed with the Court no later than twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, and Plaintiffs' responses may be included in their motion for final approval.
- 20. Any member of the <u>Settlement Class</u> who is eligible to (and so chooses) to be excluded shall not be entitled to receive any of the benefits of the Settlement Agreement, shall not be bound by the release of any claims pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, and shall not be entitled to object to the Settlement Agreement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing. The names of all persons timely submitting valid Requests for Exclusion shall be provided to the Court.
- 21. Any member of the Class may appear at the Final Approval Hearing, in person or by counsel, and may be heard to orally object to the settlement, or, an, to the extent allowed by the Court, to speak in support of or in opposition to, the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement, the application for an award of attorneys' fees, cost, and expenses to Class Counsel, and any compensation to be awarded to the Class Representatives.

# 22. Add ¶ 23 from Foti re objections must be timely

- 23.22. Pending the final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, all pre-trial proceedings in the instant case are stayed. If the Settlement is terminated or final approval does not for any reason occur, the stay shall be immediately terminated.
- 24.23. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court at 2:00 p.m. on August 17, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Dept. CX-101 of the Orange County Superior Court, to address: (a) whether the proposed Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate, and whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should be entered; and (b) whether

1	Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses and incentive awards should be
2	approved. The date and time of the Final Approvalairness Hearing shall be set forth in the Class
3	Notice. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or in
4	connection with the Settlement Agreement.
5	25.24. If the Settlement is finally approved by the Court, the Court shall retain
6	jurisdiction over the Settling Parties, the Class Members, and this Action in accordance with CCP
7	§ 664.6 and CRC Rule 3.769(h), only with respect to matters arising out of, or in connection with,
8	the Settlement, and may issue such orders as necessary to implement the terms of the Settlement.
9	The Court may approve the Settlement, with such modifications as may be agreed to by the Class
10	Representatives, Class Counsel, and Defendants, without further notice to the Class Members.
11	IT IS SO ORDERED.
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13	Dated:
14	HONORABLE PETER J. WILSON
15	HIDGE OF THE OPANGE COUNTY SUBERIOR COURT
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### PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

# To: Class-Settlement Administrator [Address. Etc.] The undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, (Member Name) (Mailing Address) (City) do hereby certify that I was a prior owner of \_\_\_\_\_\_ and I had paid (address of home in class) for the replacement of the copper pipes of that home with PEX/Epoxy Coating. Attached is proof of payment for replacement. In the event that there is need for more information regarding the foregoing, I can be contacted at \_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. (telephone number) (email address)

Signature

Print name

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8	CUREDIOD COURT OF TH	E CTATE OF CALLEODNIA
9		E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
		OF ORANGE
10	ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an individual; CHERIE ESTES, an	CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC
11	individual; on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,	Assigned for all purposes to:
12	Plaintiffs,	Hon. Peter Wilson
13	Vs.	Dept: CX-101
14	CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, LLC., a Limited Liability Company;	[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
15	CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a Corporation; PULTE HOME	SETTLEMENT
16	CORPORATION, a Corporation; MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC., a	Hearing Date: March 30———, 2023
17	Corporation; and DOES 1-100,	Time: 2:00 p.m.
18	Defendants.	Dept.: CX-101
19	AND DELATED CDOSS CLAIMS	Complaint Filed: May 9, 2013
20	AND RELATED CROSS-CLAIMS.	
21	WHEDEAS Plaintiffs and Class Penra	sentatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero,
22	•	ndants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex
23		oration ("Defendants") have reached a proposed
24		een them in the above actions, which is embodied
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26		art, including modifications thereto (collectively
	attached hereto as Exhibit A, and hereinafter refe	
27	WHEREAS, the Court by Hon. Thier	ry Patrick Colaw previously granted Plaintiff's
28	motion for class certification on August 7, 20	017, and duly appointed Bridgford, Gleason &

Artinian, Kabateck LLP, and McNicholas & McNicholas as Class Counsel, and duly appointed Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes as class representatives,

WHEREAS, the Parties have applied to the Court for preliminary approval of a proposed Settlement of the Action, the terms and conditions of which are set forth in the Settlement Agreement, as amended (the "Settlement Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Court has preliminarily considered the Settlement to determine, among other things, whether the Settlement is sufficient to warrant the issuance of notice to members of the Class (as defined below);

AND NOW, the Court, having read and considered the Settlement Agreement and accompanying documents and the motion for preliminary settlement approval and supporting papers, and the Parties to the Settlement Agreement having appeared in this Court for hearings on Preliminary approval of the Settlement (as amended) on March 30, 2023————, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, the Class Representatives, Defendants, -and all Class Members.
- 2. The Court grants preliminary approval of the terms and conditions contained in the Settlement Agreement—(hereinafter referred to as "Settlement Agreement"). The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement are within the range of possible approval at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 3. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations conducted at arms' length by the parties. In making this preliminary finding, the Court considered the nature of the claims, the amounts and kinds of benefits paid in settlement, the allocation of settlement proceeds among the class members, and the fact that a settlement represents a compromise of the Parties' respective positions rather than the result of a finding of liability at trial.
- 4. The Court further preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement have no obvious deficiencies and do not improperly grant preferential treatment to any individual class member.

- 5. Subject to further consideration by the Court at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, the Court preliminarily approves the Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class, as falling within the range of possible final approval, as being the product of informed, arm's length negotiation by counsel, as meriting submission to the Class for its consideration.
- 6. The parties have identified the homes included within the class definition certified by this Court on August 7, 2017, which are listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement (the "Class Area"). For purposes of the proposed Settlement, and conditioned upon the Agreement receiving final approval following the Final Approval hearing and that order becoming final, the certified class shall be further defined as follows:
  - (1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action, (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.
- 7. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Class, subject to final approval by this Court of the Settlement. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to act on behalf of the Class with respect to all acts required by the Settlement Agreement or such other acts which are reasonably necessary to consummate the proposed Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement.
- 8. The Court approves ILYM Group Inc. ("ILYM") as Class \_\_Settlement Administrator to administer the notice and claims procedures of the Settlement for the purpose of administering the proposed Settlement and performing all other duties and obligations of the Settlement Administrator as defined in the Settlement, this Preliminary Approval Order, and/or as may otherwise be ordered by the Court, with the understanding that ILYM's compensation will be capped at \$19,550.00.
  - 9. The Court approves, as to form and content, the two different Settlement

Notices: (a) the first for the Original Class Members who were served with the Class Notice in February 2018 (attached hereto as Exhibit "B" to the Settlement Agreement); and (b) the second for all subsequent purchasers of the homes listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement who were not sent Class Notice in February 2018 (attached hereto to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibit "C"). The Court hereby instructs the Settling Parties to proceed with Settlement Class Notice in the manner and on the schedule set forth in the Settlement Agreement as follows:

- a. The Class Settlement Administrator shall serve by U.S. Mail:
  - i. To those individuals who were mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "B" heretoto the Settlement Agreement; and
    - 2. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "D" hereto);
  - i. To those individuals in the chain of title for the class homes listed in Exhibit "A" to the Settlement Agreement who were NOT mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "C" to the Settlement Agreement;
    - 2. The Opt Out Request for Exclusion Form (Exhibit "E" hereto); and
    - 3. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "F" hereto).
- b. For a Prior Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member, that Prior Owner must submit by mail or electronic means a Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Class Administrator within sixty (60) days of mailing by the Settlement Administrator Werther 7, 2022 (Exhibit "F" to Settlement Agreement) that verifies that the Prior Owner replaced the copper pipes in the Class Home with

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PEX or epoxy coating of the pipes.

- i. In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the home's copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Class Administrator shall provide the present owner with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification to the Class Settlement Administrator that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home. In the event that there is a dispute between a prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the **SettlementClass** Administrator who will forward such documentation to Hon. Nancy Weiben Stock (ret.) Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg Judge Stock's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.
- c. For a Present Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member:
  - With respect to those individuals who were served with Class Notice in February 2018, there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject

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Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement.

- ii. With respect to those individuals who were NOT served with Class Notice in February 2018, that individual must not submit a Request for Exclusionn Opt Out Form and there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement...
- d. For all Notice papers returned as undeliverable or changed address, the <a href="SettlementClass">SettlementClass</a> Administrator shall re-send the Notice documents after a skip-trace, and the time frame for a potential class member to return any forms shall re-commence from the date of that re-mailing.
- 10. In order to facilitate printing and dissemination of the Settlement Notice, the Settlement Administrator and Parties may change the format, but not the content, of the Settlement Notice, without further Court order, so long as the legibility is not adversely impacted. The Settlement Administrator and Parties may also, without further Court order, insert the information specified in the blank places provided in the Settlement Notice.
- 11. Within ten (10) business days of Preliminary Approval, the Parties shall provide the Settlement Class Administrator with the addresses of all homes that are included within the definition of the Class.
- 12. The Settlement Class Administrator must complete the notice mailing within thirty (30) calendar days of preliminary approval being granted, in envelopes marked "Personal and Confidential."
- 13. By the time of filing of the final settlement approval motion, the Settlement Administrator shall provide, and Plaintiff shall file proof, by affidavit or declaration, of the mailing of the Settlement Notice in the form and manner provided in the Agreement and in this Preliminary

1,

Approval Order.

- 14. The Settlement Class Administrator must also create a dedicated website for this Settlement, which will provide a portal for electronic submission of Request for Exclusion Opt Out Forms, Prior Owner Verification Forms and any Objections to the Settlement. The dedicated website shall also make available the Settlement Agreement, the operative complaint, the pleadings submitted in support of preliminary approval, approval of attorneys' fees, costs and class representative enhancements, and final approval, and all orders continuing or re-setting any hearing dates. The dedicated website shall also make available all Orders by this Court with respect to aforesaid motions.
- Class described in the Settlement Agreement complies fully with the requirements of due process and all other applicable provisions of law, including *California Code of Civil Procedure* §382, *California Civil Code* §1781, *California Rules of Court*, Rules 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and all other applicable law., and any other applicable law and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to the <u>Settlement</u> Class, the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and the Final Approval Hearing.
- 16. All potential members of the Class who were sent Class Notice in February 2018 shall not have the right to be excluded from the Class because the time for such right to be excluded has expired. With respect to any potential member of the <u>Settlement Class</u> who was NOT sent Class Notice in February 2018 AND who desires to be excluded from the Class and therefore not be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement, he/she must submit to the <u>Settlement Class</u> Administrator, pursuant to the instructions set forth in the Notice, a timely and valid written Request for Exclusion (attached as Exhibit "E" to the <u>Settlement Agreement hereto</u>).
- 17. Members of the <u>Settlement Class shall have sixty</u> (60) days from the Notice Date to submit <u>written</u> objections and/or requests for exclusion. The <u>Settlement Class</u> Administrator shall prepare and deliver to Class Counsel, who shall file with the Court, a final

report stating the total number of Class members who have submitted timely and valid Requests for Exclusion from the Class, and the names of such individuals. The final report regarding the Claims Period shall be filed with the Court within seven (7) business days of the expiration of the deadline to submit objections and/or requests for exclusion.

- 18. The deadline to file the motion for final approval of the Settlement and Class Counsel's fee application shall be twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing date of <a href="Marguet 17">August 17</a>, 2023</a>.
- 19. Responses to any objections received shall be filed with the Court no later than twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, and Plaintiffs' responses may be included in their motion for final approval.
- 20. Any member of the <u>Settlement Class</u> who is eligible to (and so chooses) to be excluded shall not be entitled to receive any of the benefits of the Settlement Agreement, shall not be bound by the release of any claims pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, and shall not be entitled to object to the Settlement Agreement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing. The names of all persons timely submitting valid Requests for Exclusion shall be provided to the Court.
- 21. Any member of the Class may appear at the Final Approval Hearing, in person or by counsel, and may be heard to orally object to the settlement, or, an, to the extent allowed by the Court, to speak in support of or in opposition to, the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement, the application for an award of attorneys' fees, cost, and expenses to Class Counsel, and any compensation to be awarded to the Class Representatives.

# 22. Add ¶ 23 from Foti re objections must be timely

- 23.22. Pending the final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, all pre-trial proceedings in the instant case are stayed. If the Settlement is terminated or final approval does not for any reason occur, the stay shall be immediately terminated.
- 24.23. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court at 2:00 p.m. on August 17, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Dept. CX-101 of the Orange County Superior Court, to address: (a) whether the proposed Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate, and whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should be entered; and (b) whether

1	Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses and incentive awards should be
2	approved. The date and time of the Final Approvalairness Hearing shall be set forth in the Class
3	Notice. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or in
4	connection with the Settlement Agreement.
5	25.24. If the Settlement is finally approved by the Court, the Court shall retain
6	jurisdiction over the Settling Parties, the Class Members, and this Action in accordance with CCP
7	§ 664.6 and CRC Rule 3.769(h), only with respect to matters arising out of, or in connection with,
8	the Settlement, and may issue such orders as necessary to implement the terms of the Settlement.
9	The Court may approve the Settlement, with such modifications as may be agreed to by the Class
10	Representatives, Class Counsel, and Defendants, without further notice to the Class Members.
11	IT IS SO ORDERED.
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13	Dated:
14	HONORABLE PETER J. WILSON
15	HIDGE OF THE OPANGE COUNTY SUBERIOR COURT
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7	633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017	
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	Facsimile: (310) 475-7871	
13	Attorneys for Plaintiffs ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, AN	IA DEL RIVERO,
14	GREG ESTES and CHERIE ESTES, on behalf of them	nselves and all others similarly situated
15	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE S	STATE OF CALIFORNIA
16	FOR THE COUNTY	
17		
18	ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an individual; CHERIE ESTES, an individual; on healf	CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC
19	individual; CHERIE ESTES, an individual; on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,	STIPULATION AND AMENDMENT TO SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE
20	Plaintiffs, vs.	AGREEMENT
21	CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, LLC., a	Judge: Hon. Peter Wilson
22	Limited Liability Company; CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a Corporation; PULTE	Dept: CX-101 Complaint Filed: 5/9/2013
	HOME CORPORATION, a Corporation; MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC., a Corporation; and	-
23	DOES 1-100,	Continued Hearing Date: March 30, 2023 Time: 2:00 p.m.
24	Defendants.	Dept.: CX-101
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WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Class Representatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Este
and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs") and Defendants Centex Homes of California LLC, Centex Homes Realty
Company and Pulte Home Corporation ("Defendants") have entered into the Class Action Settlement and
Release Agreement, executed as of December 23, 2022 (the "Settlement Agreement") to resolve this
matter.

WHEREAS, the Court has directed the parties to make certain changes that do not alter the material terms of the Settlement Agreement, but do provide some clarification of terms and additional procedural rights to class members, some of which shall be memorialized in modified Settlement Notice documents.

PLAINTIFFS AND DEFENDANT HEREBY STIPULATE TO THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT:

- 1. The following Exhibits (attached hereto) shall replace the ones that were originally attached to the Settlement Agreement executed by the parties:
  - a. Exhibit B Settlement Notice re Owners Who Received Class Notice.
  - b. Exhibit C Settlement Notice re Owners Who Did Not Receive Class Notice
  - c. Exhibit D Proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval
  - d. Exhibit E Request for Exclusion
  - e. Exhibit F Prior Owner Verification Form.
- 2. It is hereby clarified, stipulated and agreed that under Section 1.40 of the Settlement Agreement, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Settlement Class Member.
- 3. It is hereby clarified, stipulated and agreed that under Section 4.3.1 of the Settlement Agreement, if a Settlement Notice has to be re-mailed, the time within which a potential class member has to respond shall recommence from the date of that mailing.
- 4. It is hereby stipulated and agreed that under Section 4.4.1 of the Settlement Agreement, the Arbitrator of potential disputes shall be Ross Feinberg of JAMS in place of Hon. Nancy Wieben Stock (ret.) of JAMS.
- 5. It is hereby stipulated, clarified and agreed that under Section 4.6, a Settlement Class Member may: (a) lodge an objection by not only the processes set forth in Section 4.6, but also by orally

1	making an objection at the Final Approval hearing, consistent with the language in the modified Settlement		
2	Notices and Proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval; and (b) appear at the Final Approval hearing		
3	without filing any paperwork with the Court or the Settlement Administrator.		
4	D. I.M. 1.00 and		
5	Dated: March 20, 2023 BRIDGFORD, GLEASON & ARTINIAN KABATECK LLP		
6	McNICHOLAS & McNICHOLAS, LLP		
7			
8	By: richard kellner		
9	Richard L. Kellner Michael Artinian		
10	Counsel for Plaintiffs		
11			
12	Dated: March 1, 2023 NEWMEYER & DILLION LLP		
13	( / M		
14	By: AMA SUCAL		
15	Joseph A. Ferrentino Jeffrey R. Brower		
16	Attorneys for Defendants		
17			
18	Dated: March 17, 2023 SHEPPARD MULLIN RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP		
19			
20			
21	By: Alman St.		
22	Anna McLean		
23	Attorneys for Defendants		
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## Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

#### THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THIS SETTLEMENT AND POTENTIALLY ENTITLED TO RELIEF IN THIS SETTLEMENT BECAUSE YOU DID <u>NOT</u> OPT OUT OF THE ACTION FOLLOWING SERVICE OF THE CLASS NOTICE IN OR AROUND FEBRUARY 2018.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval.

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, OR (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class Members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses,

incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class Member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating. All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class. In other words, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

• If you are a member of the Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

Your Legal Rights and Options in this Settlement		
If you are a member of the Settlement Class your options are:		
What Do I Have To Do To Qualify For A Payment	For Present Owners of a Class Home. If you presently own a class home, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING to receive a share of the Settlement Fund UNLESS a prior owner asserts that they replaced their home's copper pipe systems. IF A PRIOR OWNER SUBMITS A PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM stating that they replaced the entire copper pipe systems in the home, you can receive a share of the Settlement Fund ONLY IF you submit proof sufficient to convince an arbitrator that the home had copper pipe systems in place at the time you purchased it.  For Prior Owners of a Class Home. If you are a prior owner of a class home, THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN QUALIFY AS A CLASS MEMBER and obtain a share of the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner Verification Form {NO LATER THAN [DATE] and demonstrate that you replaced the entire copper pipe system when you owned the home.  See Questions 7-8 and 19, below.	
OBJECT [WRITTEN OBJECTION DUE BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 2023	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. You may also attend the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court, whether or not you put your objection in writing. See Questions 16-18, <i>below</i> .	

• These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator,

ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.

• The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class Members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

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3.	Why is this a class action?		
4.	Why is there a settlement?		
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6.	If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Class?		
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19.	How do I get more information?		

#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

## 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement. You are potentially subject to the terms of the Settlement because you did not optout of the case when notice was sent to the Class in 2018.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class Members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

#### 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

#### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "Class Members." One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

#### 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

## 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in <u>Exhibit A</u>.

6. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the Settlement Administrator on or before

7. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings. There is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

# 8. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,371,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class Members, (b) the expense of administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses

awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class Members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,116.00) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,371,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,116.00), the net settlement fund amount would be \$799,682.00. Each of the 145 Class Members would receive approximately \$5,515,04.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and all settlement pleadings and Notices can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_.com">www.\_.com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at (866) 826-2818, toll-free, or by e-mail at [email address].

# 9. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class Member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

As a member of the Class, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

#### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

#### 10. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who shall forward such writings to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

## 11. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class Members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

## 12. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

### 13. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,116.00, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

## 14. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must either: (1) appear in person or through counsel at the Final Approval Hearing (the details of which are on page 10 of this Notice) and state in detail the basis for your objection; or (2) submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior

Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. Your writing must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection or personally provide them at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

Your written objection, and any supporting records, must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date],\_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
<mark>ILYM</mark>	

You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection and fail to appear at the Final Approval Hearing to state your objection, your objection will be deemed waived and will not be considered by the Court.

#### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

# 15. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

### 16. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it, but you have the right to do so. Although no Class Member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

## 17. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Class Member may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of their objection.

Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

### 18. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

#### **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

#### 19. How do I get more information?

This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

#### To Visit the Settlement Website:

www.\_\_\_.com

#### **To Contact the Settlement Administrator:**

Toll Free Number: (866) 826-2818 Email:

#### **Contact the Attorneys for the Class:**

Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com

Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com

You may also visit the Court's website to obtain access to the documents that have been filed in this case at <a href="www.occourts.org/online-service">www.occourts.org/online-service</a> and then enter the case number (30-2013-0064338) and the year of filing (2013), and then select the document that you want to obtain. There is a fee to purchase a document for viewing.

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated:	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson
		JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT



## Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement And Final Approval Hearing Date for Court Approval

Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

#### THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS -- PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

You May be Entitled to Receive Compensation Under a Proposed Class Action Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached between defendants, Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation (collectively, "Defendants") and plaintiffs Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), on their own behalf and on behalf of the "Settlement Class," as defined in this notice. The underlying lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC is presently pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange ("Court") before Hon. Peter J. Wilson in Dept. CX-101.

Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw has previously certified this case as class action, based upon Plaintiffs' allegation that Defendants are liable for monetary damages and/or the costs of replacing the copper pipes that were originally installed in certain homes because the pipes have corroded and will inevitably leak, so as to impede the useful life of the copper pipes.

Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, liability for any of the claims asserted in this Action.

The Court has preliminarily approved a proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falling within the range of possible final approval.

The individuals who may be entitled to participate in this class action are:

(1) All present owners of residential homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, OR (2) prior owners of homes in the Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action (or May 9, 2003), (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.

The settlement will provide for a fund of \$1,371,348.00 to cover payments to approximately 145 Class Members, settlement administration expenses, attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, incentives for the Class Representatives, and any other related expenses which may be approved by the Court. Each Class Member will share equally in the net amount of the settlement fund after deduction of such fees, expenses, and incentives.

To be a member of the Class, you must be a present owner of a home listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto ("Class Home") whose copper pipes were not replaced by prior owners, **or** you must be a prior owner of a Class Home who replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coating.

Questions? Contact Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Free Telephone (866) 826-2818; [Email Address] All other individuals in the chain of title for the homes listed on <u>Exhibit A</u> are NOT members of the Class. In other words, there is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

• If you are a member of the Settlement Class, your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Please read this entire notice carefully.

Your Legal Rights and Options in this Settlement		
If you are a member of the Settlement Class your options are:		
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO QUALIFY FOR A PAYMENT	For Present Owners of a Class Home. If you presently own a class home, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING to receive a share of the Settlement Fund UNLESS a prior owner asserts that they replaced their home's copper pipe systems. IF A PRIOR OWNER SUBMITS A PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM stating that they replaced the entire copper pipe systems in the home, you can receive a share of the Settlement Fund ONLY IF you submit proof sufficient to convince an arbitrator that the home had copper pipe systems in place at the time you purchased it.  For Prior Owners of a Class Home. If you are a prior owner of a class home, THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN QUALIFY AS A CLASS MEMBER and obtain a share of the Settlement Fund is if you submit a Prior Owner	
	Verification Form {NO LATER THAN [DATE] and demonstrate that you replaced the entire copper pipe system when you owned the home.  See Questions 8-9 and 22, <i>below</i> .	
Exclude Yourself By [60 Days After Date of Notice],	You will not receive any payment from the settlement, but you will preserve any existing rights you may have to bring your own lawsuit against Defendants based on the same alleged violation of certain statutory standards relating to the copper pipes installed in certain homes, to the extent that you have any such claim. See Questions 13-15, <i>below</i> .	
OBJECT [WRITTEN OBJECTION DUE BY [60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF NOTICE], 2023	You may write the Court to say why you do not agree with any aspect of the proposed settlement. You may also attend the final approval hearing to present your disagreement to the Court, whether or not you put your objection in writing. See Questions 18-20, <i>below</i> .	

• These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. Please review the entire notice to ensure that you understand your rights and options. If you

have any questions after reading this notice, please contact the Settlement Administrator, ILYM, at (866) 826-2818, or [email address] or Class Counsel, Bridgford Gleason & Artinian at (949) 831-6611 or mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com.

• The Court still has to decide whether to provide final approval of the settlement. Class Members who do not opt out will receive a check for a settlement payment only if the Court approves the settlement and after the approved settlement becomes final, including resolution of any possible appeals. Please be patient.

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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

## 1. Why did I get this notice?

This lawsuit, entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, was filed on May 9, 2013 and is presently pending in the Court.

You have received this notice because you have been identified as a potential member of the Class because you are in the chain of title for one of the homes included within the class and Settlement.

This Court granted class certification in this action. Thereafter, the parties engaged in settlement negotiations that have resulted in this proposed settlement.

The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval. The Court has ordered the parties to mail this notice to the Class Members, to inform you about the lawsuit, the proposed settlement, the Court's final approval hearing, and your legal rights and options.

#### 2. What is the lawsuit about?

The lawsuit that is being settled is entitled *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC. The case is a "class action." That means that the "Named Plaintiffs," Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes are acting on behalf of all are Class Members. Class Members own Class Homes that contain copper pipes that allegedly are inadequate and defective for the water conditions in Ladera Ranch, California. Class Members have claims for violations of standards of residential construction enumerated in California Civil Code § 895, et seq., and various other claims.

Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and of liability, and deny that Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to any recovery. There has been no finding of any violation or wrongdoing by Defendants by any court. The Court has determined that this action may proceed as a class action.

#### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, "Class Representatives" (in this case, Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a "class" or "Class Members." One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

## 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide this lawsuit in favor of the Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, both sides agreed to the settlement. That way, they avoid the cost and risk of further litigation and the people claimed to have been affected will get prompt and certain compensation.

The Class Representatives believe that a class-wide settlement is in the best interests of the Class. The Court has preliminarily determined that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and falls within the range of possible final approval.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

## 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

If you have received this notice, you may fall within the Class defined on the first page of this Notice.

You have been preliminarily identified as a potential member of the Class, based upon the fact that you are in the chain of title for one of the Class Homes listed in Exhibit A.

## 6. Are there exceptions to being included?

Yes. The Settlement Class does not include persons who opt-out or exclude themselves from the settlement in a timely and correct manner by submitting a written request for exclusion. Questions 13-15 below describe how to opt-out of the Settlement Class and settlement.

7. If I am a prior owner who replaced the copper pipes in my home, how can I be included in the Settlement?

If you are a prior owner of a Class Home listed in <u>Exhibit A</u> and you replaced your copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must fill out and submit a Prior Owner Verification Form attached hereto and submit it to the Settlement Administrator on or before

8. If I am a prior owner who did NOT replace the copper pipes in my home, am I included in the Settlement?

No. The Class Members are only those individuals who: (a) presently own a Class Home and whose copper pipes were not replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by a prior owner; or (b) previously owned a Class Home and replaced the copper pipes in the home with PEX or epoxy coatings. There is only one owner or set of owners in the chain of title who will qualify as a Class Member.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT DO I GET?

## 9. What does the settlement provide?

Defendants will establish a settlement fund totaling \$1,371,348.00. The settlement fund will provide payment for the following: (a) payments to the Class Members, (b) the expense of

administration of the settlement incurred by the Settlement Administrator, (c) any incentive awarded to the Class Representatives, and (d) any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses awarded to Class Counsel. After payment of settlement administration expenses, the Class Representatives' incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, the entire remainder of the settlement fund will be distributed to the Class Members, in equal shares.

The parties will request Court approval for the payment of expenses actually incurred by the Settlement Administrator from the settlement fund, up to a maximum of \$19,550.00. An incentive award on behalf of the Class Representatives will be requested in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 collectively for Enrique Del Rivero and Ana Del Rivero, and \$10,000.00 collectively for Greg Estes and Cherie Estes) for their efforts. Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed 33 1/3% of the Settlement Fund (i.e. \$457,116.00) and litigation expenses not to exceed \$75,000.00. Any such amounts to be paid from the settlement fund must first be approved by the Court as being fair and reasonable, and will not exceed these maximum amounts.

The following example is provided for demonstration purposes, based upon the maximum requested amounts for settlement administration expenses, the Class Representative incentives, and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. It must be emphasized, however, that the Court will make the final determination of such amounts:

The proposed settlement fund is \$1,371,348.00. There are 145 Class Homes. If the Court approves the maximum permissible request for settlement administration expenses (\$19,550.00), the Class Representatives' incentives (\$20,000.00), and Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and litigation expenses (\$532,116.00), the net settlement fund amount would be \$799,682.00. Each of the 145 Class members would receive approximately \$5,515.09.

These figures could change depending on the Court's order granting final approval of the Settlement.

The complete terms of the settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and all settlement pleadings and Notices can be viewed on the Settlement Administrator's website, <a href="www.\_\_com">www.\_\_com</a>. You may also obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement, free of charge, by contacting the Settlement Administrator at (866) 826-2818, toll-free, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:emailto

## 10. What am I giving up in exchange for the settlement benefits?

If the settlement becomes final, each Class Member will be releasing Defendants from all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, suits, matters, obligations, damages, losses, costs, actions and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, known or unknown, against Defendants and Plaintiffs' Released Parties that arise from the installation or use of copper pipes in the Class Homes and any alleged violations of California Civil Code § 895 et seq. arising from the copper pipes. Without limiting the foregoing, and for clarification, excluded from the Settled Class Claims are any *other* construction defects or *other* claims relating to the construction of the Class Homes, against any parties, including Defendants, which are not alleged in the Action.

Unless you exclude yourself, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and will be legally binding on you, including the Court's decision whether to finally approve this settlement and the judgment entered in the lawsuit.

#### HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

### 11. How can I receive my settlement payment?

If you are a prior owner who has replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coatings, you must submit the Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator by

If you are a present owner and no prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form, you do not need to do anything to participate in the settlement. You will then receive your settlement payment if the Court grants final approval of the settlement, and that approval becomes final.

In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide you with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home.

In the event that there is a dispute between the prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who shall forward such writings to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

Please contact the Settlement Administrator at the telephone number or email address on the bottom of each page of this notice if this notice was not mailed to your current address, or if you currently have any plans to move, to ensure that your current address is used.

# 12. When will I get my payment?

Settlement payment checks will be mailed to the Class Members only after the Court grants "final approval" of the settlement, and, in some cases, after the time for any appeal has ended and any

appeal has been resolved. The earliest possible date that settlement payment checks can be mailed is \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_ days after the date presently set for the final approval hearing.

#### EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

If you want to keep the right to sue or continue to sue the Defendants over the legal issues in this case, or if you do not wish to participate in the settlement for any other reason, you must take steps to exclude yourself from the settlement. This is sometimes called "opting-out" of the settlement.

## 13. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from the settlement?

No. If you opt out of the settlement you will not receive any settlement payment and you cannot object to the settlement or appear at the fairness hearing. By opting out of the settlement, you will not release any claims which otherwise would be released by the settlement and you will not be bound by any judgment or orders of the Court in approving the settlement. You will retain whatever rights or claims you may have, if any, against Defendants, and you will be free to continue or pursue your own lawsuit against Defendants, if you choose to do so.

### 14. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue later?

No. Unless you timely and validly exclude yourself from the settlement by the deadline of [60-day deadline], 2022, you will give up the right to sue Defendants for the claims that this Settlement releases and resolves.

## 15. How do I get out of the settlement?

To exclude yourself from the settlement, you must fill out and sign the attached Request For Exclusion From Class Action form and mail it to the Settlement Administrator with a postmark no later than [60-day date], 2022, addressed to:

SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR	
<mark>ILYM</mark>	

You cannot exclude yourself from the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

Requests for exclusion that do not include all required information and/or that are not timely submitted will be deemed null, void, and ineffective. If you submitted a timely yet insufficient request for exclusion, the Settlement Administrator will contact you. We ask that you cooperate with the Settlement Administrator to achieve your desired result in connection with this settlement.

Settlement Class members who fail to submit a valid and timely request for exclusion shall be bound by all terms of the settlement and any final judgment and orders of the Court entered in this lawsuit if the settlement is approved, regardless of whether they ineffectively or untimely requested exclusion from the settlement.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

## 16. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has designated the law firms of Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian, Kabateck LLP and McNicholas & McNicholas LLP to represent the Class as "Class Counsel." Except for any attorneys' fees and litigation expenses which may be approved and awarded by the Court, to be paid exclusively from the settlement fund, you will not be charged for these lawyers. These lawyers will not seek to recover any fees or expenses except from the settlement fund, as described in this notice. If you want to be represented by another lawyer with respect to this lawsuit or settlement, you may hire one at your own expense.

## 17. How will the costs of the lawsuit and settlement be paid?

Class Counsel will make an application to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses in a combined amount not to exceed \$532,116.00, for their efforts and expenses incurred in litigating this action and obtaining the settlement. Class Counsel have agreed to divide the fees awarded by the Court based upon their agreement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for an incentive award for the Class Representatives, in an amount not to cumulatively exceed \$20,000.00, for their personal efforts and contributions on behalf of the class in litigating this action for nine years and obtaining the settlement.

Class Counsel will also make an application to the Court for approval of the costs of settlement administration to be paid to ILYM for its work administering the settlement, up to a maximum amount of \$19,550.00.

The actual amount of any such fees, expenses, and incentives, whether in the full amounts requested or in some lesser amounts, will be determined by the Court. The Court must approve the amounts as being fair and reasonable, and cannot exceed the foregoing maximum amounts. Class Counsels' fees and expenses, the Class Representative's incentive, and the costs of settlement administration, all as may be approved and awarded by the Court, shall be paid out of the settlement fund.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

If you do not request to be excluded (opt out), you can tell the Court if you don't agree with the settlement or any part of it.

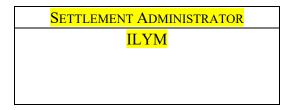
## 18. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you don't agree with any part of it and don't think the settlement should be approved. You must give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it.

To object, you must either: (1) appear in person or through counsel at the Final Approval Hearing (the details of which are on page 10 of this Notice) and state in detail the basis for your objection; or (2) submit a written letter to the Settlement Administrator by mail, postmarked by the deadline below, stating that you object to the settlement in *Enrique Del Rivero*, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al., Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange, and stating the reasons why you think the Court should not approve the settlement. Your writing must also include: (a) your name, address, and telephone number and signature; (b) a detailed statement of your specific objections; and (c) a detailed statement of the grounds for such objections.

If you wish the Court to consider any records in support of your objection, you must enclose copies of such records with the written objection or personally provide them at the time of the Final Approval Hearing, or if the subject records are not in your possession, custody, or control you must identify those records, and the person(s) whom you believe has possession of them.

Your written objection, and any supporting records, must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator, postmarked no later than [60-day date], \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to:



You cannot object to the settlement by telephone, electronic mail, or any other method except by mail, in the manner described in this notice.

An objector is not required to retain an attorney in order to object to the Settlement, but may do so if desired, at the objector's own expense. If the objector submitting the objection is represented by an attorney, the objection must comply with the additional requirements set forth in the Court's Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, a copy of which is available without charge from the Settlement Administrator.

If you do not properly submit a timely written objection and fail to appear at the Final Approval Hearing to state your objection,, your objection will be deemed waived and will not be considered by the Court.

## 19. What's the difference between objecting and excluding?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you don't agree with something about the settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. If your objection is overruled and that ruling becomes final, you will still: (i) remain a Settlement Class member; (ii) be subject to the

orders and judgment of the Court; and (iii) participate in the settlement if it is approved by the Court. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you.

#### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to give final approval to the settlement, and to consider any objections to the settlement. If you have properly filed a timely objection, you may attend and you may ask to speak, but you are not required to do so.

### 20. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a final approval hearing at 2:00 pm (PST) on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, in Department CX101 of the Orange County Superior Court, Civil Complex Center, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana California 92701. The hearing may be moved by the Court to a different date or time without additional notice. At the hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long it will take after the hearing for the Court to issue a ruling.

## 21. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and counsel for Defendants will answer any questions the judge may have. If you submitted an objection, you do not have to come to the final approval hearing to talk about it, but you have the right to do so.. Although no Class Member is required to attend the hearing, it is open to the public and anyone who wishes is free to attend at their own expense.

# 22. May I speak at the hearing?

Any Settlement Class Member may ask the Court for permission to speak at the final approval hearing in support of their objection.

Pursuant to the Court rules that are then in effect, there might be an option to appear by Zoom or other electronic means authorized by the Court. https://www.occourts.org/directory/civil/complex-civil/calendar-schedule/civil-panel-schedule.html

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

#### 23. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and do nothing, and the settlement is approved and that order becomes final, you will be legally bound by the settlement. You will receive the settlement payment due and you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants about the claims in this case.

#### GETTING MORE INFORMATION

# 24. How do I get more information?

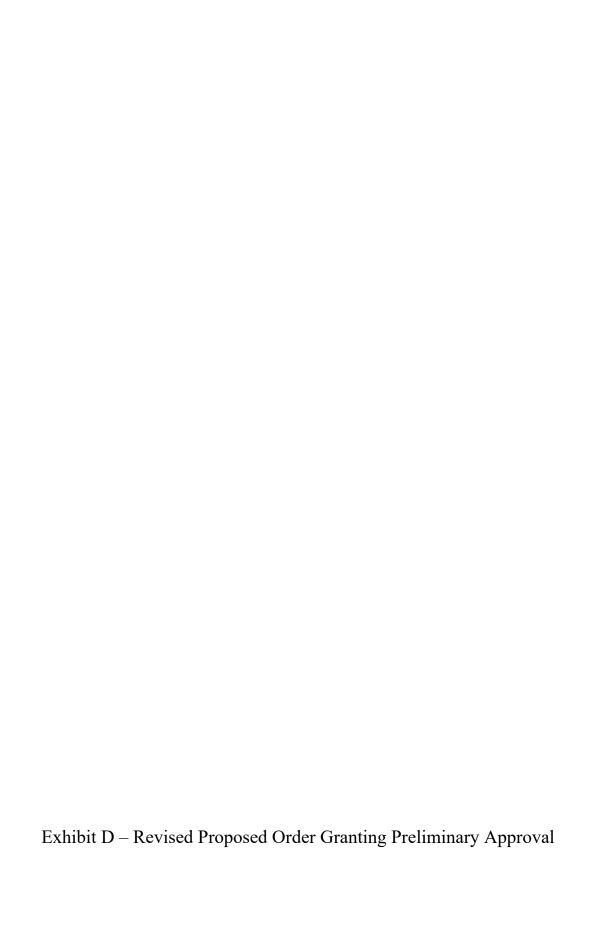
This notice is a summary of the settlement. For more information about this case, and to review key documents pertaining to the proposed settlement, you may visit the settlement website, contact the Settlement Administrator, or contact Class Counsel, all at no charge to you.

To Visit the Settlement Website:	
wwwcom	
To Contact the Settlement Administrator:	
Toll Free Number: (866) 826-2818 Email:  Contact the Attorneys for the Class:	
Richard K. Bridgford, Esq. Michael H. Artinian, Esq. Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian 26 Corporate Plaza, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 mike.artinian@bridgfordlaw.com	
Richard L. Kellner, Esq. Kabateck LLP 633 West Fifth Street, Suite 3200 Los Angeles, CA 90017 rlk@kbklawyers.com	

You may also visit the Court's website to obtain access to the documents that have been filed in this case at <a href="www.occourts.org/online-service">www.occourts.org/online-service</a> and then enter the case number (30-2013-0064338) and the year of filing (2013), and then select the document that you want to obtain. There is a fee to purchase a document for viewing.

# PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT DEFENDANTS OR THE COURT WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Dated:	, 2023	Honorable Peter Wilson
		JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT



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8	SUPERIOR COURT OF TH	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
9	COUNTY O	OF ORANGE	
10	ENRIQUE DEL RIVERO, an individual; ANA DEL RIVERO, an individual; GREG ESTES, an individual; CHERIE ESTES, an	CASE NO. 30-2013-00649338-CU-CD-CXC	
11	individual; on behalf of themselves and all	Assigned for all purposes to:	
12	others similarly situated,	Hon. Peter Wilson	
13	Plaintiffs, vs.	Dept: CX-101	
14	CENTEX HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, LLC., a Limited Liability Company;	[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF	
15	CENTEX HOMES REALTY COMPANY, a Corporation; PULTE HOME CORPORATION, a Corporation;	SETTLEMENT	
16	MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC., a Corporation; a Corporation; and DOES 1-100,	Hearing Date: March 30, 2023	
17	Defendants.	Time: 2:00 p.m. Dept.: CX-101	
18	D \$1\$mame.	<b>Бери.</b> СА-101	
19	AND RELATED CROSS-CLAIMS.	Complaint Filed: May 9, 2013	
20			
21	WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Class Repres	sentatives Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero	
22	Greg Estes and Cherie Estes ("Plaintiffs"), Defendants Centex Homes of California, LLC, Center		
23	Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation ("Defendants") have reached a propose		
24	settlement and compromise of the disputes between them in the above actions, which is embodie		
25	in the Settlement Agreement filed with the Court, including modifications thereto (collective)		
26	attached hereto as Exhibit A, and hereinafter referred to as the "Settlement Agreement");		
27	WHEDEAS the Court by Hon Thiorry Potrick Colony proviously granted Plaintiff		

WHEREAS, the Court by Hon. Thierry Patrick Colaw previously granted Plaintiff's

motion for class certification on August 7, 2017, and duly appointed Bridgford, Gleason &

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Artinian, Kabateck LLP, and McNicholas & McNicholas as Class Counsel, and duly appointed Enrique Del Rivero, Ana Del Rivero, Greg Estes and Cherie Estes as class representatives,

WHEREAS, the Parties have applied to the Court for preliminary approval of a proposed Settlement of the Action, the terms and conditions of which are set forth in the Settlement Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Court has preliminarily considered the Settlement to determine, among other things, whether the Settlement is sufficient to warrant the issuance of notice to members of the Class (as defined below);

AND NOW, the Court, having read and considered the Settlement Agreement and accompanying documents and the motion for preliminary settlement approval and supporting papers, and the Parties to the Settlement Agreement having appeared in this Court for hearings on Preliminary approval of the Settlement on March 30, 2023, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, the Class Representatives, Defendants, and all Class Members.
- 2. The Court grants preliminary approval of the terms and conditions contained in the Settlement Agreement. The Court preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement are within the range of possible approval at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 3. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement was the product of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations conducted at arms' length by the parties. In making this preliminary finding, the Court considered the nature of the claims, the amounts and kinds of benefits paid in settlement, the allocation of settlement proceeds among the class members, and the fact that a settlement represents a compromise of the Parties' respective positions rather than the result of a finding of liability at trial.
- 4. The Court further preliminarily finds that the terms of the Settlement Agreement have no obvious deficiencies and do not improperly grant preferential treatment to any individual class member.
  - 5. Subject to further consideration by the Court at the time of the Final

Approval Hearing, the Court preliminarily approves the Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class, as falling within the range of possible final approval, as being the product of informed, arm's length negotiation by counsel, as meriting submission to the Class for its consideration.

- 6. The parties have identified the homes included within the class definition certified by this Court on August 7, 2017, which are listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement (the "Class Area"). For purposes of the proposed Settlement, and conditioned upon the Agreement receiving final approval following the Final Approval hearing and that order becoming final, the certified class shall be further defined as follows:
  - (1) All present owners of residential homes in the Class Area whose copper pipe systems have not been replaced with PEX or epoxy coating by prior owners of the homes, or (2) prior owners of homes in the Ladera Ranch, California Class Area who replaced their copper pipe systems with PEX or epoxy coating, provided that: (a) the homes were constructed by Centex Homes of California, LLC, Centex Homes Realty Company, and Pulte Home Corporation and substantially completed within ten (10) years of the filing of the original complaint in this action, (b) the original purchase agreements were signed by the builder on or after January 1, 2003, and (c) their SB 800 claims were not released.
- 7. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Class, subject to final approval by this Court of the Settlement. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel are authorized to act on behalf of the Class with respect to all acts required by the Settlement Agreement or such other acts which are reasonably necessary to consummate the proposed Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement.
- 8. The Court approves ILYM Group Inc. ("ILYM") as Settlement Administrator to administer the notice and claims procedures of the Settlement for the purpose of administering the proposed Settlement and performing all other duties and obligations of the Settlement Administrator as defined in the Settlement, this Preliminary Approval Order, and/or as may otherwise be ordered by the Court, with the understanding that ILYM's compensation will be capped at \$19,550.00.
- 9. The Court approves, as to form and content, the two different Settlement Notices: (a) the first for the Original Class Members who were served with the Class Notice in

February 2018 (attached hereto as Exhibit "B"); and (b) the second for all subsequent purchasers of the homes listed on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement who were not sent Class Notice in February 2018 (attached hereto as Exhibit "C"). The Court hereby instructs the Settling Parties to proceed with Settlement Notice in the manner and on the schedule set forth in the Settlement Agreement as follows:

- a. The Settlement Administrator shall serve by U.S. Mail:
  - i. To those individuals who were mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "B" hereto; and
    - 2. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "D" hereto);
  - ii. To those individuals in the chain of title for the class homes listed in Exhibit "A" to the Settlement Agreement who were NOT mailed Class Notice in February 2018:
    - The Settlement Notice version attached as Exhibit "C" to the Settlement Agreement;
    - 2. The Request for Exclusion Form (Exhibit "E" hereto); and
    - 3. The Prior Owner Verification Form (Exhibit "F" hereto).
- b. For a Prior Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member, that Prior Owner must submit by mail or electronic means a Prior Owner Verification Form to the Settlement Administrator within sixty (60) days of mailing by the Settlement Administrator (Exhibit "F" to Settlement Agreement) that verifies that the Prior Owner replaced the copper pipes in the Class Home with PEX or epoxy coating of the pipes.
  - i. In the event a prior owner submits a Prior Owner Verification

Form stating that the prior owner has replaced the home's copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the Settlement Administrator shall provide the present owner with written notice: (a) that a prior owner has submitted a Prior Owner Verification stating that the prior owner replaced the homes' copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating; and (b) the present owner has 30 days within which to submit a written verification to the Settlement Administrator that the home had copper pipes (without any epoxy coating) at the time the present owner obtained title to the home. In the event that there is a dispute between a prior and present owner as to whether a prior owner had replaced the copper pipes with PEX or epoxy coating, then the two homeowners shall submit proof supporting their claims to the Settlement Administrator who will forward such documentation to Ross Feinberg, Esq. of JAMS who: (a) shall serve as arbitrator of the dispute; and (b) whose determination of those competing claims shall be binding. The costs for Mr. Feinberg's services shall be deemed a "cost" that shall be deductible from the Settlement Fund.

- c. For a Present Owner of a home in the Class List to be included as a Class Member:
  - i. With respect to those individuals who were served with Class Notice in February 2018, there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement.

- ii. With respect to those individuals who were NOT served with Class Notice in February 2018, that individual must not submit a Request for Exclusion Form and there must not be a Prior Owner Verification Form submitted by a Prior Owner for the subject Class Home unless that Prior Owner Verification Form was withdrawn or determined by Mr. Feinberg to be invalid for purposes of this settlement.
- d. For all Notice papers returned as undeliverable or changed address, the Settlement Administrator shall re-send the Notice documents after a skip-trace, and the time frame for a potential class member to return any forms shall re-commence from the date of that re-mailing.
- 10. In order to facilitate printing and dissemination of the Settlement Notice, the Settlement Administrator and Parties may change the format, but not the content, of the Settlement Notice, without further Court order, so long as the legibility is not adversely impacted. The Settlement Administrator and Parties may also, without further Court order, insert the information specified in the blank places provided in the Settlement Notice.
- 11. Within ten (10) business days of Preliminary Approval, the Parties shall provide the Settlement Administrator with the addresses of all homes that are included within the definition of the Class.
- 12. The Settlement Administrator must complete the notice mailing within thirty (30) calendar days of preliminary approval being granted, in envelopes marked "Personal and Confidential."
- 13. By the time of filing of the final settlement approval motion, the Settlement Administrator shall provide, and Plaintiff shall file proof, by affidavit or declaration, of the mailing of the Settlement Notice in the form and manner provided in the Agreement and in this Preliminary Approval Order.
- 14. The Settlement Administrator must also create a dedicated website for this Settlement, which will provide a portal for electronic submission of Request for Exclusion Forms,

Prior Owner Verification Forms and any Objections to the Settlement. The dedicated website shall also make available the Settlement Agreement, the operative complaint, the pleadings submitted in support of preliminary approval, approval of attorneys' fees, costs and class representative enhancements, and final approval, and all orders continuing or re-setting any hearing dates. The dedicated website shall also make available all Orders by this Court with respect to aforesaid motions.

- 15. The Court finds that the Parties' plan for providing notice to the Settlement Class described in the Settlement Agreement complies fully with the requirements of due process and all other applicable provisions of law, including *California Code of Civil Procedure* §382, *California Civil Code* §1781, *California Rules of Court*, Rules 3.766 and 3.769, the California and United States Constitutions, and all other applicable law., and any other applicable law and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to the Settlement Class, the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and the Final Approval Hearing.
- 16. All potential members of the Class who were sent Class Notice in February 2018 shall not have the right to be excluded from the Class because the time for such right to be excluded has expired. With respect to any potential member of the Settlement Class who was NOT sent Class Notice in February 2018 AND who desires to be excluded from the Class and therefore not be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement, he/she must submit to the Settlement Administrator, pursuant to the instructions set forth in the Notice, a timely and valid written Request for Exclusion (attached as Exhibit "E" hereto).
- Date to submit written objections and/or requests for exclusion. The Settlement Administrator shall prepare and deliver to Class Counsel, who shall file with the Court, a final report stating the total number of Class members who have submitted timely and valid Requests for Exclusion from the Class, and the names of such individuals. The final report regarding the Claims Period shall be filed with the Court within seven (7) business days of the expiration of the deadline to submit

objections and/or requests for exclusion.

- 18. The deadline to file the motion for final approval of the Settlement and Class Counsel's fee application shall be twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing date of **August 17, 2023**.
- 19. Responses to any objections received shall be filed with the Court no later than twenty-four (24) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, and Plaintiffs' responses may be included in their motion for final approval.
- 20. Any member of the Settlement Class who is eligible to (and so chooses) to be excluded shall not be entitled to receive any of the benefits of the Settlement Agreement, shall not be bound by the release of any claims pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, and shall not be entitled to object to the Settlement Agreement or appear at the Final Approval Hearing. The names of all persons timely submitting valid Requests for Exclusion shall be provided to the Court.
- 21. Any member of the Class may appear at the Final Approval Hearing, in person or by counsel, and may be heard to orally object to the settlement, or, to the extent allowed by the Court, to speak in support of or in opposition to, the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement, the application for an award of attorneys' fees, cost, and expenses to Class Counsel, and any compensation to be awarded to the Class Representatives.
- 22. Pending the final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, all pre-trial proceedings in the instant case are stayed. If the Settlement is terminated or final approval does not for any reason occur, the stay shall be immediately terminated.
- August 17, 2023 in Dept. CX-101 of the Orange County Superior Court, to address: (a) whether the proposed Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate, and whether the Final Approval Order and Judgment should be entered; and (b) whether Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses and incentive awards should be approved. The date and time of the Final Approval Hearing shall be set forth in the Class Notice. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of or in connection with the Settlement Agreement.

1	24. If the Settlement is finally approved by the Court, the Court shall retain				
2	jurisdiction over the Settling Parties, the Class Members, and this Action in accordance with CCP				
3	§ 664.6 and CRC Rule 3.769(h), with respect to matters arising out of, or in connection with, the				
4	Settlement, and may issue such orders as necessary to implement the terms of the Settlement. The				
5	Court may approve the Settlement, with such modifications as may be agreed to by the Class				
6	Representatives, Class Counsel, and Defendants, without further notice to the Class Members.				
7	IT IS SO ORDERED.				
8					
9	Dated:				
10	HONORABLE PETER J. WILSON				
11	JUDGE OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT				
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# REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FROM CLASS ACTION

# Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

DEADLINE FOR POSTMARK OF RETURN FORM:						
To: Settlement Ada	ministrator					
)))))						
Re: [ADD]	RESS OF CLASS HOME	]				
The undersigned, _	(Member Name)	, of,	(City)			
(State)	, requests to be excluded	d from the class in the above-e	entitled			
matter, as permitte	d by notice of the court to	class members dated	·			
Dated:						
Print name of mem	ber	Signature				

# PRIOR OWNER VERIFICATION FORM

# Enrique Del Rivero, et al. v. Centex Homes of California, LLC, et al. Case No. 30-2013-0064338-CU-CD-CXC

DEADLINE FOR POSTMARK OF RETU	JRN FORM:	
To: Settlement Administrator		
[Address. Etc.]		
The undersigned,	, of	, (C:t.)
do hereby certify that I was a prior owner of		and I had paid
	(address of home in class)	
for the replacement of the copper pipes of the proof of payment for replacement. In the even		
the foregoing, I can be contacted at (telephone number) (email of	address)	·
Dated:		
Print name	Signature	