

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF
NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

ALEX SHANKLIN, LOUISA
RASKE, MELISSA BAKER, ELENI
TZIMAS, MARCELLE ALMONTE,
GRECIA PALOMARES, CARINA
VRETMAN, MICHELLE GRIFFIN
TROTTER, VANESSA PERRON,
ROBERTA LITTLE, and TATIANA
ESMERALDA SEAY-REYNOLDS

Individually and as Class Representatives

Plaintiffs,

v.

WILHELMINA MODELS, INC.,
WILHELMINA INTERNATIONAL LTD.,
ELITE MODEL MANAGEMENT
CORPORATION, CLICK MODEL
MANAGEMENT, INC., MC2 MODEL AND
TALENT MIAMI LLC, NEXT
MANAGEMENT, LLC, MAJOR MODEL
MANAGEMENT INC.,

Defendants.

Index No. 653702/2013

Chan, J.

~~PROPOSED~~ Order Certifying Classes

~~CORRECTED COPY~~

Mot. Seq. 35

On May 1, 2019, plaintiffs Alex Shanklin, Marcelle Almonte, Grecia Palomares, Carina Vretman, Michelle Griffin Trotter, and Vanessa Perron (together, “Plaintiffs”) filed a motion for class certification (NYSCEF 837, the “Motion”). On July 12, 2019, defendants Next Management, LLC (“Next”); Wilhelmina Models, Inc.; and Wilhelmina International Ltd. (together “Wilhelmina,” and with Next, “Defendants”) filed oppositions to the Motion (NYSCEF 892; NYSCEF 952). On September 23, 2019, Plaintiffs filed a reply in further support of the Motion (NYSCEF 960).

The court heard oral argument on the Motion on December 4, 2019, and on May 8, 2020 issued a decision and order granting leave to form the proposed “Wilhelmina Class” and “Next

Class,” limited to New York Labor Law claims under Sections 193 and 195(3) that accrued on or after October 24, 2007 (NYSCEF 998).

On July 24, 2024, a Fourth Amended Complaint was filed for purposes of adding plaintiff Roberta Little as a representative of the Wilhelmina Class and plaintiff Tatiana Esmeralda Seay-Reynolds as a representative of the Next Class.

Per the Court’s direction, the parties have met and conferred, and agreed upon the form of the following order.

Accordingly, it is hereby:

ORDERED that this action is certified to proceed as a class action pursuant to CPLR Article 9; and it is further

ORDERED that the “Wilhelmina Class” is certified as to claims against Wilhelmina alleging (i) unlawful deductions in violation of New York Labor Law (“NYLL”) Section 193 and (ii) failure to furnish accurate wage statements in violation of NYLL Section 195(3); and it is further

ORDERED that the Wilhelmina Class shall include all persons who entered into model management contracts with Wilhelmina who were classified as independent contractors rather than employees and attended a casting, go see, meeting, check-in, or test shoot, or performed any other work or service booked by Wilhelmina’s New York Office on or after October 24, 2007; and (i) had deductions taken from their payments by Wilhelmina on or after October 24, 2007; and/or (ii) received or should have received a paycheck or wage statement from Wilhelmina on or after October 24, 2007; and it is further

ORDERED that Plaintiffs Palomares, Vretman, Griffin Trotter, and Little are appointed as representatives of the Wilhelmina Class; and it is further

ORDERED that the "Next Class" is certified as to claims against Next alleging (i) unlawful deductions in violation of NYLL Section 193 and (ii) failure to furnish accurate wage statements in violation of NYLL Section 195(3); and it is further

ORDERED that the Next Class shall include all persons who entered into model management contracts with Next who were classified as independent contractors rather than employees and attended a casting, go see, meeting, check-in, or test shoot, or performed any other work or service booked by Next's New York Office on or after October 24, 2007; and (i) had deductions taken from their payments by Next on or after October 24, 2007; and/or (ii) received or should have received a paycheck or wage statement from Next on or after October 24, 2007; and it is further

ORDERED that Plaintiffs Perron and Seay-Reynolds are appointed as the representatives of the Next Class; and it is further;

ORDERED that Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP is appointed class counsel for the Next and Wilhelmina Classes.

DATED: January 31, 2025

ENTER,



Margaret Pui Yee Chan, J.S.C.

MARGARET A. CHAN
J.S.C.