

## SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”) is entered into by and between JP Senior Management, LLC and JP Senior Healthcare, LLC dba’s Pioneer Valley Living and Rehab; Goldenrod Manor Care Center (jointly, “Respondent”) and the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (“IER”) (together, “the parties”).

### I. BACKGROUND

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2021, IER accepted as complete a charge filed pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(b)(1) by [REDACTED] (“Charging Party”) against Respondent, DJ# 197-27-35 (the “IER Charge”), alleging unfair documentary practices and citizenship status discrimination, in violation of the unfair immigration-related employment practices provisions of 8 U.S.C. § 1324b (“Act”);

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2021, IER notified Respondent that it had initiated an investigation (“IER Investigation”) based on the Charging Party’s allegations to determine whether Respondent had engaged in any discriminatory conduct in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1324b;

WHEREAS, the IER Investigation determined that there is reasonable cause to believe that in January 2021, Respondent rejected valid employment eligibility verification documents and requested more, different or specific documents for the Form I-9 processes based on the Charging Party’s perceived citizenship status, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(6). The IER Investigation further determined that Respondent refused to let the Charging Party continue to work because he could not meet Respondent’s demand for specific documentation, resulting in the end of his employment with Respondent;

WHEREAS, the parties wish to resolve the IER Investigation without further delay or expense and hereby acknowledge that they are voluntarily entering into this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained below and to fully and finally resolve the IER Investigation as of the date of the latest signature below, the parties agree as follows:

### II. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

1. This Agreement becomes effective as of the date of the latest signature on the dually-signed Agreement, which date is referenced herein as the “Effective Date.” The “term of this Agreement” shall be three years following the Effective Date.

2. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty to the United States Treasury in the amount of one thousand nine hundred and twenty eight dollars (\$1,928).
3. Respondent shall provide IER with the name, title, email address, and telephone number of the individual responsible for effectuating payment of the civil penalties described in paragraph 2 above no later than seven days from the Effective Date. Respondent shall pay the monies discussed in paragraph 2 via the FedWire electronic fund transfer system within 14 days of receiving fund transfer instructions from IER. On the day of payment, Respondent shall send confirmation of the payment to Pablo A. Godoy at [Pablo.Godoy@usdoj.gov](mailto:Pablo.Godoy@usdoj.gov) and [IER@usdoj.gov](mailto:IER@usdoj.gov). The email confirming payment shall have Respondent's name and the investigation number, DJ # 197-27-35, in the subject line.
4. Respondent shall, within 15 days from the Effective Date, send the Charging Party, by email and certified mail, a form permitting the Charging Party to elect a method of payment for the payment referenced in paragraph 5 and an IRS Form W-4 for the purpose of allowing him to change his withholdings.
5. Respondent shall pay the Charging Party, within 15 days from its receipt of the Charging Party's payment election form referenced in paragraph 4, the amount of \$1,789.32, less any withholding required by law, which constitutes back pay plus applicable interest. Respondent shall pay the Charging Party using the method of payment selected in the Charging Party's payment election form. On the day of payment, Respondent shall confirm via email to Pablo A. Godoy at [Pablo.Godoy@usdoj.gov](mailto:Pablo.Godoy@usdoj.gov) and [IER@usdoj.gov](mailto:IER@usdoj.gov) that payment was made and attach an image of the check or proof that payment was made by direct deposit.
6. Respondent shall not:
  - (a) discriminate on the basis of citizenship, immigration status or national origin in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1324b.
  - (b) discriminate in the employment eligibility verification and reverification process in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1324b; Respondent shall (i) honor documentation that on its face reasonably appears to be genuine, relates to the person, and satisfies the requirements of 8 U.S.C. § 1324a(b); (ii) not request more or different documents than are required by law; and (iii) permit all employees to present any document or combination of documents acceptable by law both at initial hire and during any lawful reverification of continued employment authorization.
  - (c) intimidate, threaten, coerce, or retaliate against any person for participating in this matter or the exercise of any right or privilege secured by 8 U.S.C. § 1324b.

7. Respondent shall comply with the E-Verify rules and responsibilities set forth under its Memorandum of Understanding with E-Verify and the M-775 E-Verify User Manual, and shall not prohibit employees from working because they received a Tentative Nonconfirmation result in E-Verify.
8. Respondent shall not disclose to any employer or prospective employer of the Charging Party any information or documentation related to the Charging Party's charge filed with IER.
9. Respondent shall, within 15 days from the Effective Date, remove all reference to the termination of the Charging Party, and within 3 days thereafter notify him in writing that this has been done. Respondent shall send a copy of the correspondence to the Charging Party to Pablo A. Godoy at [Pablo.Godoy@usdoj.gov](mailto:Pablo.Godoy@usdoj.gov) and [IER@usdoj.gov](mailto:IER@usdoj.gov).
10. Respondent shall post an English and Spanish version of the IER "If You Have The Right to Work" poster ("IER Poster"), in color and measuring no smaller than 8.5" x 11", an image of which is available at <https://www.justice.gov/crt/worker-information#poster>, in all places where notices to employees and job applicants are normally posted. Respondent shall post the IER Poster within 14 days from the Effective Date of this Agreement and it will remain posted for the term of the Agreement.
11. Throughout the term of this Agreement, Respondent shall provide a copy of the most current version of the Form I-9 Lists of Acceptable Documents ("Lists") to individuals at the same time and in the same manner as Respondent provides them with the Form I-9 to complete, and shall inform those individuals of their right to choose to present any documentation that is on the Lists or is otherwise acceptable for purposes of employment eligibility verification or reverification.
12. During the term of this Agreement, Respondent shall ensure that all individuals who are responsible for formulating, providing training on, or implementing Respondent's hiring, firing, equal employment, and employment eligibility verification policies, including all managers and employees who have any role in the employment eligibility verification process, such as completing the Form I-9 and/or using the E-Verify program ("Human Resources Personnel"), have readily available the most current version of the Form I-9, USCIS Employment Eligibility Verification Handbook for Employers (M-274) ("Handbook"), available at [www.uscis.gov/I-9](http://www.uscis.gov/I-9), and the most current USCIS E-Verify Manual (M-775) ("Manual"), available at [www.e-verify.gov/e-verify-user-manual](http://www.e-verify.gov/e-verify-user-manual). Copies of these documents and future revisions of the Form I-9, Handbook, and Manual can be obtained from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).
13. Within 60 days of the Effective Date, Respondent shall review any existing employment policies and revise such policies, or develop and propose new

policies, that relate to nondiscrimination in hiring, employment eligibility verification and reverification, including completion of the Form I-9, and provide them to IER for approval. IER shall review such policies and provide modifications as it deems necessary to promote compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1324b, and Respondent shall implement the IER-approved policies within 30 days of IER approval. These revised or new employment policies shall:

- (a) prohibit discrimination on the basis of citizenship, immigration status, and national origin (1) in the hiring and firing process; (2) during the Form I-9 employment eligibility verification and reverification process; and (3) in the E-Verify process, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1324b;
- (b) include citizenship, immigration status, and national origin as prohibited bases of discrimination; any Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) statements Respondent includes in printed or electronic materials available to the public or employees shall also include these prohibited bases of discrimination;
- (c) refer applicants and employees who complain, formally or informally, of discrimination in the hiring, firing, or Form I-9 employment eligibility verification and reverification process immediately to the Immigrant and Employee Rights Section by directing the affected individual to the IER Poster and IER's worker hotline and website, and advise the affected individual of his or her right to file a charge of discrimination with the Immigrant and Employee Rights Section; and
- (d) prohibit any reprisal action against an employee for having opposed any employment practice made unlawful by 8 U.S.C. § 1324b, or for filing any charge, or participating in a lawful manner in any investigation or action under 8 U.S.C. § 1324b.

During the term of this Agreement, Respondent shall provide any revisions to employment policies or practices relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of citizenship, immigration status or national origin to IER for approval at least 30 days prior to the proposed effective date of such new or revised policies.

14. Within sixty (60) days of the Effective Date, Respondent shall review all procedures its E-Verify designated agent uses to create E-Verify cases on Respondent's behalf, and all written documentation that its E-Verify Employer Agent disseminates to Respondent's employees regarding the E-Verify process, to ensure compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(6), the provisions of this Agreement, and E-Verify rules.

15. Within ninety (90) days of the Effective Date, Respondent shall ensure that all Human Resources Personnel are trained on their obligation to comply with 8 U.S.C. § 1324b.
  - (a) The training will consist of viewing a free online Employer/HR webinar presentation.
  - (b) All employees will be paid their normal rate of pay, and the training will occur during their normally scheduled workdays and work hours. Respondent shall bear all of its costs associated with these training sessions.
  - (c) During the term of the Agreement, all new Human Resources Personnel who are hired in or promoted to a Human Resources Personnel position after the training described in this paragraph has been conducted shall attend an IER Employer/HR webinar training within 60 days of hire or promotion.
  - (d) Respondent shall compile attendance records listing the individuals who comply with the training as described in this paragraph, including each individual's full name, job title, signature, and the date of the training, and send the records via email to Pablo A. Godoy at [Pablo.Godoy@usdoj.gov](mailto:Pablo.Godoy@usdoj.gov) and [IER@usdoj.gov](mailto:IER@usdoj.gov) within 10 days of each training session. The emails transmitting attendance records shall have Respondent's name and the investigation number, DJ # 197-27-35, in the subject line.
16. Within 90 days of the Effective Date, all Human Resources Personnel and any authorized individuals who transmit Form I-9 information to E-Verify shall register for email updates from USCIS on the following topics by visiting <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCIS/subscriber/new>:
  - (a) Federal Register Announcements;
  - (b) Temporary Protected Status; and
  - (c) I-9 Central.
17. During the term of this Agreement, IER reserves the right to make such reasonable inquiries as it, in its discretion, believes necessary or appropriate to assess Respondent's compliance with this Agreement, including but not limited to, requiring written reports from Respondent concerning its compliance; inspecting Respondent's premises; interviewing Respondent's employees, officials or other persons; and requesting copies of Respondent's documents.
18. Nothing in this Agreement limits IER's right to inspect Respondent's Forms I-9 within three business days pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 274a.2(b)(2)ii.

19. If IER has reason to believe that Respondent is in violation of any provision of this Agreement, IER may, in its sole discretion, notify Respondent of the purported violation rather than initiate a new discrimination investigation or seek to judicially enforce the Agreement. If IER has exercised its discretion to notify Respondent of the purported violation, Respondent shall have 30 days from the date IER notifies it of the purported violation(s) to cure the violation(s) to IER's satisfaction.
20. This Agreement resolves any and all differences under 8 U.S.C. § 1324b between the parties relating to the IER Investigation through the Effective Date. The provisions of paragraph 2 notwithstanding, IER shall not seek from Respondent any additional civil penalty for the unfair documentary practice in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1324b, that is the subject of the IER Investigation, through the Effective Date.
21. This Agreement does not affect the right of any individual to file a charge under the Act alleging an unfair immigration-related employment practice against Respondent, IER's authority to investigate Respondent or file a complaint on behalf of any such individual, or IER's authority to conduct an independent investigation of Respondent's employment practices occurring after the Effective Date or outside of the scope of the Investigation.

### **III. ADDITIONAL TERMS OF SETTLEMENT**

22. This Agreement sets forth the entire agreement between the parties and fully supersedes any and all prior agreements or understandings between the parties pertaining to the IER Investigation, DJ # 197-27-35. This Agreement is governed by the laws of the United States. This Agreement shall be deemed to have been drafted by both parties and shall not be construed against any one party in the event of a subsequent dispute concerning the terms of the Agreement. The parties agree that the paragraphs set forth in Part II of this Agreement (entitled "Terms of Settlement") are material terms.
23. This Agreement may be enforced in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Iowa. This paragraph, or the initiation of a lawsuit to enforce the Agreement under this paragraph, including any counterclaims asserted, does not constitute and should not be construed as a waiver of sovereign immunity or any other defense the United States might have against a claim for enforcement.
24. Should any provision of this Agreement be declared or determined by any court to be illegal or invalid, the validity of the remaining parts, terms or provisions shall not be affected and the term or provision shall be deemed not to be a part of this Agreement. The parties agree that they will not, individually or in combination with another, seek to have any court declare or determine that any provision of this Agreement invalid.

25. The parties agree that, as of the Effective Date of this Agreement, litigation concerning the violations of 8 U.S.C. § 1324b that IER has reasonable cause to believe that Respondent committed is not reasonably foreseeable. To the extent that either party previously implemented a litigation hold to preserve documents, electronically stored information, or things related to this matter, the party is no longer required to maintain such a litigation hold. Nothing in this paragraph relieves either party of any other obligations imposed by this Agreement.
26. The parties agree to bear their own costs, attorneys' fees and other expenses incurred in this investigation.
27. This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which together shall be considered an original but all of which shall constitute one agreement. The parties agree to be bound by facsimile signatures.

**JP Senior Management, LLC**  
**JP Senior Healthcare, LLC dba's Pioneer Valley Living and Rehab; Goldenrod**  
**Manor Care Center**

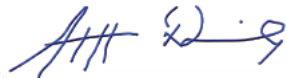
By:

  
Joseph DeWitt  
Chief Financial Officer

Dated: 8/10/2021

**Immigrant and Employee Rights Section**

By:



Alberto Ruisanchez  
Deputy Special Counsel

Dated: 8/13/2021

Sebastian Aloat  
Special Litigation Counsel

Pablo A. Godoy  
Trial Attorney