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11 Attorneys for Plaintiff
YOUNES YOUNES
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13 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
14 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL DISTRICT

15 YOUNES YOUNES, on behalf of himself and
all others similarly situated,
16

17 Plaintiff,

18 v.

19 ELVIRA TAYLOR and DOES 1 through 200
inclusive,
20

21 Defendants.
22

Case No. 24STCV12520

**DECLARATION OF NICOLE G.
MALICK IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S
REQUEST FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT
AND REQUEST FOR DISMISSAL OF
CLASS CLAIMS WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

*Request for Court Judgment, Declaration of
Younes Younes, Request for Dismissal of Class
Claims, Proposed Form of Judgment, and
Request for Dismissal as to Does 1-200 Filed
Concurrently Herewith*

Assigned for All Purposes to Hon. Elihu Berle

Date: January 29, 2026
Time: 8:30 A.M.
Place: 312 N. Spring Street,
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Dept. 6

Action Filed: May 17, 2024
Trial Date: None

1 I, Nicole G. Malick, hereby declare and state as follows:

2 1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of California and
3 admitted to practice before this Court. I am an associate at the law firm of DTO Law, counsel of
4 record for Plaintiff Younes Younes. Based on my personal knowledge, I assert the facts set forth
5 herein and, if called upon as a witness, I could and would competently testify thereto.

6 **Brief Summary of the Case Pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 3.1800(a)(1)**

7 2. Plaintiff in this matter is Younes Younes, a victim of a “pig butchering” scheme.

8 3. In January 2024, Defendant, an individual identifying herself as “Elvira Taylor,”
9 contacted Plaintiff, claiming to offer him a part-time online job opportunity that promised
10 substantial cryptocurrency earnings. Taylor directed Plaintiff to a fake online platform where he
11 completed various tasks, believing that he was accumulating substantial earnings based on
12 Taylor’s representations. After Plaintiff purportedly earned funds through the platform, Defendant
13 and/or her associates falsely claimed that Plaintiff had to make additional “recharge” payments to
14 “validate” his account and maintain his “eligibility” to withdraw his accumulated earnings.
15 Relying on Defendant and/or her associates’ representations, Plaintiff ultimately transferred over
16 \$400,000 in cryptocurrency into wallets controlled by Defendant and/or her associates.

17 4. Unbeknownst to Plaintiff at the time, this platform was part of a coordinated
18 scheme to defraud victims through calculated deception and misrepresentation. No matter how
19 much Plaintiff paid Defendant and/or her associates, and no matter how many times he attempted
20 to withdraw his so-called “earnings,” Plaintiff was never able to recover either the funds he had
21 transferred or the promised returns.

22 5. Plaintiff accordingly asserted causes of action for Conversion and Money Had and
23 Received. He filed his Verified Complaint on May 17, 2024.

24 6. On June 27, 2024, the Court ordered that Taylor and/or any of her agents, servants,
25 employees, attorneys, affiliates, partners, successors, assigns, subsidiaries, or any other persons
26 through which she acts to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not be ordered. The
27 Court also entered a temporary restraining order against Taylor, temporarily restraining her from
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1 withdrawing, transferring, selling, encumbering, or otherwise altering any of the cryptocurrency or
2 assets held certain cryptocurrency wallets.

3 7. On July 2, 2024, an employee of Inca Digital, a cryptocurrency investigation firm,
4 served all documents filed in this action as of that date, including the Summons and Verified
5 Complaint, using a special purpose token delivered to cryptocurrency wallet addresses pursuant to
6 the method of service approved by the Court on June 27, 2024. The special purpose token
7 contained a hyperlink to a website where the documents could be accessed.

8 8. On April 7, 2025, Plaintiff moved for certification of a class. On May 7, 2025, the
9 Court denied Plaintiff's motion for class certification without prejudice.

10 9. On August 25, 2025, Plaintiff sought entry of a default on his Verified Complaint
11 on an individual basis, which was entered on August 29, 2025.

12 **Request for Dismissal of Class Claims Pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 3.770**

13 10. At the hearing on Plaintiff's motion for class certification, I understand the Court
14 discussed with counsel its desire for additional information about the specific identities (i.e.,
15 names and addresses) of the members of the putative class before any class could be certified.

16 11. Consistent with that conversation, counsel endeavored to discover individualized
17 contact information for the putative class members. Unfortunately, that information was not
18 available. The individual cryptocurrency exchanges that possess this information—e.g., Binance,
19 Robinhood, Uphold, ZeroHash, Crypto.com, Gemini, Coinbase, Kraken, Mercury, and Paxos—
20 were not willing to produce such individualized data, on the belief that such information is
21 confidential.

22 12. Given the complexity of discovering individualized contact information, Plaintiff
23 decided to proceed with his claims on an individual basis. No putative class members were
24 notified of the preparation, filing, or pendency of this action.

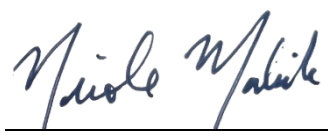
25 13. No consideration, direct or indirect, was given for the dismissal of Plaintiff's class
26 claims.

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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on January 13, 2026.



Nicole G. Malick