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**ALRB, UFW, AND ACE TOMATO REACH
MILLION-DOLLAR SETTLEMENT TO BENEFIT FARM WORKERS AND THEIR
CHILDREN**

SACRAMENTO, CA (September 11, 2013) – The General Counsel of California’s Agricultural Labor Relations Board (“ALRB”), the United Farm Workers of America (“UFW”), and Ace Tomato Company, Inc. (“Ace”) reached a \$1.05 million dollar global settlement agreement today, ending nearly 20 years of litigation. The settlement resolves more than a dozen cases pending before the ALRB and in California’s courts.

“The ALRB’s mission is to bring peace and justice to the fields and stability in agricultural labor relations,” said Sylvia Torres-Guillén, the General Counsel of the ALRB. “True to that mission, the settlement announced today ends decades of discord by bringing together Ace and the UFW to provide more than \$1 million in benefits to farm workers and their children.”

The agreement resolves a 1993 failure to bargain in good faith charge and several 2012 charges of failure to implement a collective bargaining agreement. After extensive litigation this past year, the parties engaged in settlement discussions and reached an agreement that will benefit the agricultural employees of Ace and improve services and opportunities for the children of farm workers in San Joaquin County.

The agreement is subject to approval by the Board of the ALRB. The General Counsel will engage in a broad outreach project to identify workers who are entitled to a share of the settlement funds. As part of the global settlement, Ace will donate a total of \$300,000 to the following not-for-profit organizations: Jose M. Hernandez Reaching for the Stars Foundation, the University of the Pacific’s Tomorrow Project Academies and the United Farm Workers Foundation. These funds will be used for programs which benefit the children of farm workers and promote their education, leadership and improved opportunities. The remaining amount of the settlement will go to former Ace employees.

For more information, please contact the ALRB General Counsel’s Office at (916) 653-2690. Find out more about the ALRB and learn more about laws to protect farm workers at www.alrb.ca.gov.

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