

FILED IN CHAMBERS
THOMAS W. THRASH JR.
U.S.D.C. Atlanta

JUN 26 2020

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA DIVISION

JAMES N. HATTEN, Clerk
By: *[Signature]* Deputy Clerk

IN RE EQUIFAX INC. SECURITIES
LITIGATION

Consolidated Case No.
1:17-cv-03463-TWT

**ORDER AWARDING
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND LITIGATION EXPENSES**

This matter came on for hearing on June 26, 2020 (the "Settlement Fairness Hearing") on Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses. The Court having considered all matters submitted to it at the Settlement Fairness Hearing and otherwise; and it appearing that notice of the Settlement Fairness Hearing substantially in the form approved by the Court was mailed to all Settlement Class Members who or which could be identified with reasonable effort, and that a summary notice of the hearing substantially in the form approved by the Court was published in the *Wall Street Journal* and was transmitted over the *PR Newswire* pursuant to the specifications of the Court; and the Court having considered and determined the fairness and reasonableness of the award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses requested;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated February 12, 2020 (ECF No. 159-2) (the “Stipulation”) and all capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation.

2. The Court has jurisdiction to enter this Order and over the subject matter of the Action and all parties to the Action, including all Settlement Class Members.

3. Notice of Lead Counsel’s motion for an award of attorneys’ fees and Litigation Expenses was given to all Settlement Class Members who could be identified with reasonable effort. The form and method of notifying the Settlement Class of the motion for an award of attorneys’ fees and expenses satisfied the requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. § 78u-4(a)(7)), due process, and all other applicable law and rules, constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constituted due and sufficient notice to all persons and entities entitled thereto.

4. Plaintiff’s Counsel are hereby awarded attorneys’ fees in the amount of 20% of the Settlement Fund, net of total Court-awarded Litigation Expenses, which sum the Court finds to be fair and reasonable. Plaintiff’s Counsel are also

hereby awarded \$659,925.13 in payment of litigation expenses to be paid from the Settlement Fund, which sum the Court finds to be fair and reasonable. Lead Counsel shall allocate the attorneys' fees awarded amongst Plaintiff's Counsel in a manner which it, in good faith, believes reflects the contributions of such counsel to the institution, prosecution, and settlement of the Action.

5. In making this award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses to be paid from the Settlement Fund, the Court has considered and found that:

(a) The Settlement has created a fund of \$149,000,000 in cash that has been funded into escrow pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and that numerous Settlement Class Members who submit acceptable Claim Forms will benefit from the Settlement that occurred because of the efforts of Plaintiff's Counsel;

(b) The fee sought is based on a retainer agreement entered into between Lead Plaintiff, a sophisticated institutional investor that actively supervised the Action, and Lead Counsel at the outset of the Action; and the requested fee has been reviewed and approved as reasonable by Lead Plaintiff;

(c) Over 185,000 copies of the Notice were mailed to potential Settlement Class Members and nominees stating that Lead Counsel would apply for an award of attorneys' fees in an amount not exceed 20% of the

Settlement Fund and for payment of Litigation Expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, and no objections to the requested attorneys' fees and expenses were received;

(d) Lead Counsel conducted the litigation and achieved the Settlement with skill, perseverance, and diligent advocacy;

(e) The Action raised a number of complex issues;

(f) Had Lead Counsel not achieved the Settlement there would remain a significant risk that Lead Plaintiff and the other members of the Settlement Class may have recovered less or nothing from Defendants;

(g) Plaintiff's Counsel devoted over 42,200 hours, with a lodestar value of over \$18.6 million, to achieve the Settlement; and

(h) The amount of attorneys' fees awarded and expenses to be paid from the Settlement Fund are fair and reasonable and consistent with awards in similar cases.

6. Lead Plaintiff Union Asset Management Holding AG is hereby awarded \$ 121,375.00 from the Settlement Fund as reimbursement for its reasonable costs and expenses directly related to its representation of the Settlement Class.

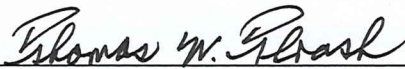
7. Any appeal or any challenge affecting this Court's approval regarding any attorneys' fees and expense application shall in no way disturb or affect the finality of the Judgment.

8. Exclusive jurisdiction is hereby retained over the parties and the Settlement Class Members for all matters relating to this Action, including the administration, interpretation, effectuation or enforcement of the Stipulation and this Order.

9. In the event that the Settlement is terminated or the Effective Date of the Settlement otherwise fails to occur, this Order shall be rendered null and void to the extent provided by the Stipulation.

10. There is no just reason for delay in the entry of this Order, and immediate entry by the Clerk of the Court is expressly directed.

SO ORDERED this 26 day of June, 2020.



The Honorable Thomas W. Thrash, Jr.
United States District Judge