

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA DIVISION**

**IN RE EQUIFAX INC.  
SECURITIES LITIGATION**

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

**DECLARATION OF LUIGGY SEGURA IN SUPPORT OF  
LEAD PLAINTIFF'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR  
APPROVAL OF DISTRIBUTION PLAN**

I, LUIGGY SEGURA, hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am the Senior Director of Securities Class Actions at JND Legal Administration (“JND”). I am over 21 years of age and am not a party to this action. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this declaration and, if called as a witness, could and would testify competently thereto.

2. JND was retained by Lead Counsel to serve as the Claims Administrator in connection with the Settlement of the above-captioned action (the “Action”).<sup>1</sup> In its Order Preliminarily Approving Settlement and Authorizing

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<sup>1</sup> All terms with initial capitalization not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated February 12, 2020 (ECF No. 159-2) (the “Stipulation”). The Settlement is contained in the Stipulation.

Dissemination of Notice of Settlement (ECF No. 163) (the “Preliminary Approval Order”), the Court approved the retention of JND as the Claims Administrator. As Claims Administrator, JND has, among other things: (i) mailed the Notice of (I) Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; (II) Settlement Fairness Hearing; and (III) Motion for an Award of Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Expenses (the “Notice”) and the Proof of Claim and Release (the “Claim Form” or “Proof of Claim Form” and, together with the Notice, the “Notice Packet”) to potential Settlement Class Members and brokers and other nominees; (ii) created and continues to maintain a toll-free helpline for inquiries during the course of the administration; (iii) created and continues to maintain a Settlement website and posted case-specific documents on it; (iv) caused the Summary Notice to be published; (v) provided, upon request, additional copies of the Notice Packet to potential Settlement Class Members, brokers, and other nominees; and (vi) received and processed each Claim Form submitted to the Claims Administrator (a “Claim”).

3. On June 26, 2020, the Court granted final approval in its Order Approving Plan of Allocation of Net Settlement Fund (ECF No. 181) (the “Final Approval Order”) and entered the Judgment Approving Class Action Settlement (ECF No. 182) (the “Judgment”). JND has completed processing all Claims received through January 20, 2021, in accordance with the terms of the Stipulation and the

Court-approved Plan of Allocation set forth in the Notice, and hereby submits its administrative determinations accepting and rejecting the Claims in preparation for a distribution of the Net Settlement Fund to Authorized Claimants. JND also presents this declaration in support of Lead Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Approval of Distribution Plan.

### **DISSEMINATION OF NOTICE**

4. As more fully described in the Declaration of Luiggy Segura Regarding (A) Mailing of the Notice and Claim Form; (B) Publication of the Summary Notice; and (C) Report on Requests for Exclusion Received to Date (ECF No. 176-2) (the "Mailing Decl."), as of May 20, 2020, JND had mailed 183,870 Notice Packets to potential Settlement Class Members and their nominees. Mailing Decl., ECF No. 176-2, ¶ 7. Since that date, 1,747 additional Notice Packets have been disseminated. In total, JND has disseminated 185,617 Notice Packets to potential Settlement Class Members, brokers, and other nominees.

5. JND established and continues to maintain a website ([www.EquifaxSecuritiesLitigation.com](http://www.EquifaxSecuritiesLitigation.com)) and a toll-free telephone helpline (1-844-975-1781) to assist potential Settlement Class Members. The Settlement website, which provides access to important documents relevant to the Settlement, and the telephone helpline enable Settlement Class Members to obtain information about the

Settlement. In connection with establishing and maintaining the Settlement website and toll-free telephone hotline, JND, among other things, formulated a system to ensure that proper responses were provided to all telephone and electronic inquiries. That work included training telephone agents to respond to inquiries specific to the Settlement; developing a series of common questions and the answers thereto, known as Frequently Asked Questions, or FAQs; loading key documents onto the Settlement website; and programming the Settlement website to permit the viewing and downloading of those documents.

6. In accordance with Paragraph 7(d) of the Preliminary Approval Order, on April 2, 2020, JND caused the Summary Notice to be published in *The Wall Street Journal* and released via *PR Newswire*. Mailing Decl., ECF No. 176-2, ¶ 8.

#### **PROCEDURES FOLLOWED IN PROCESSING CLAIMS**

7. Under the terms of the Preliminary Approval Order and as set forth in the Notice, each Settlement Class Member who wished to be eligible to receive a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund was required to complete and submit to JND a properly executed Claim Form postmarked no later than July 22, 2020, together with adequate supporting documentation for the transactions and holdings reported in the Claim. Through January 20, 2021, JND has received and fully processed 64,019 Claims (the “Presented Claims”).

8. In preparation for receiving and processing Claims, JND: (i) conferred with Lead Counsel to define the guidelines for processing Claims; (ii) created a unique database to store Claim details, images of Claims, and supporting documentation (the “Settlement Database”); (iii) trained staff in the specifics of the Settlement so that Claims would be properly processed; (iv) formulated a system so that telephone and email inquiries would be properly responded to; (v) developed various computer programs and screens for entry of Settlement Class Members’ identifying information and their transactional information; and (vi) developed a proprietary “calculation module” that would calculate Recognized Claims pursuant to the Court-approved Plan of Allocation of the Net Settlement Fund stated in the Notice.

9. Settlement Class Members seeking to share in the Net Settlement Fund were directed in the Notice to submit their Claims to a post office box address specifically designated for the Settlement. Notice Packets returned by the United States Postal Service as undeliverable were reviewed for updated addresses and, where available, updated addresses were entered into the database and Notice Packets were mailed to the updated addresses. Any correspondence received at the post office box was reviewed and, when necessary, appropriate responses were provided to the senders.

## **PROCESSING CLAIMS**

### **A. Paper Claims**

10. Of the 64,019 Presented Claims, 4,064 are paper Claims. Once received, the paper Claims were opened and prepared for scanning. This process included unfolding documents, removing staples, copying nonconforming-sized documents, and sorting documents. This manual task of preparing the paper Claims is very laborious and time-intensive. Once prepared, paper Claims were scanned into the Settlement Database together with all submitted documentation. Subsequently, each Claim was assigned a unique Claim number. Once scanned, the information from each Claim, including the Claimant's name, address, account number/information from his, her, or its supporting documentation, and the Claimant's purchase/acquisition transactions, sale transactions, and holdings listed on the Claim, was entered into the Settlement Database. Once entered into the Settlement Database, each Claim was reviewed to verify that all required information had been provided. The documentation provided by the Claimant in support of the Claim was reviewed for authenticity and compared to the information provided in the Claim to verify the Claimant's identity and the purchase/acquisition transactions, sale transactions, and holdings listed on the Claim.

11. To process the transactions detailed in the Claims, JND utilized internal messages to identify and classify deficiency or ineligibility conditions existing within those Claims. Appropriate messages were assigned to the Claims as they were processed. For example, where a Claim was submitted by a Claimant who did not have any eligible transactions in Equifax common stock during the Settlement Class Period (e.g., the Claimant purchased Equifax common stock only before or after the Settlement Class Period), that Claim would receive a “Claim-level” message that denoted ineligibility. Similar Claim-level ineligible messages were used to denote other ineligible conditions, such as duplicate Claims. These messages would indicate to JND that the Claimant was not eligible to receive any payment from the Net Settlement Fund with respect to that Claim unless the deficiency was cured in its entirety. Examples of Claim-level messages are as follows:

- Inadequate Documentation Submitted for Entire Claim
- No Supporting Documentation Submitted for Entire Claim
- No Purchase Transaction in the Class Period

12. Because a Claim may be deficient only in part, but otherwise acceptable, JND utilized messages that were applied only to specific transactions within a Claim. For example, if a Claimant submitted a Claim with supporting documentation for all but one purchase transaction, that one transaction would

receive a “transaction-level” message. The message indicated that although the transaction was deficient, the Claim was otherwise eligible for payment if other transactions in the Claim calculated to a Recognized Claim according to the Court-approved Plan of Allocation. Thus, even if the transaction-level deficiency was never cured, the Claim could still be partially accepted. Examples of transaction-level messages are as follows:

- No Supporting Documentation for Specific Transaction/Position
- Inadequate Documentation for Specific Transaction/Position
- Illegible Documentation for Specific Transaction/Position

**B. Electronic Claims**

13. Of the 64,019 Presented Claims, 59,955 were filed electronically (“Electronic Claims”). Electronic Claims are typically submitted by institutional investors (“Electronic Claim Filers” or “E-Claim Filers”) who may have hundreds or thousands of transactions during the Settlement Class Period. Rather than provide reams of paper requiring data entry, the E-Claim Filers submitting Electronic Claims either mail a computer disc or electronically submit a file to JND so that JND can upload all transactions to the Settlement Database.

14. JND maintains an electronic filing operations team (the “Electronic Filing Team”) to coordinate and supervise the receipt and handling of all Electronic

Claims. In this case, the Electronic Filing Team reviewed and analyzed each electronic file to ensure that it was formatted in accordance with JND's required format and to identify any potential data issues or inconsistencies within the file. If any issues or inconsistencies arose, JND notified the filer. If the electronic file was deemed to be in an acceptable format, it was then loaded to the Settlement Database.

15. Once each electronic file was loaded, the Electronic Claims were coded with messages to denote any deficient or ineligible conditions that existed within them. These messages are similar to those applied to paper Claims. In lieu of manually applying messages, the Electronic Filing Team performed programmatic reviews on Electronic Claims to identify deficient and ineligible conditions (such as, but not limited to, price out-of-range issues, out-of-balance conditions, transactions outside the Settlement Class Period, etc.). The output was thoroughly verified and confirmed as accurate.

16. The review process also included message coding any Electronic Claims that were not accompanied by a signed Claim Form, which serves as a "Master Proof of Claim Form" for all Claims referenced on the electronic file submitted. This process was reviewed by JND's Electronic Filing Team and, when appropriate, JND contacted the E-Claim Filers whose submissions were missing information. This ensured that only fully completed Claims, submitted by properly

authorized representatives of the Claimants, were considered eligible for payment from the Net Settlement Fund.

17. Finally, at the end of the process, JND performed various targeted reviews of Electronic Claims. Specifically, JND used criteria such as the calculated Recognized Claims and other identified criteria to message code and reach out to a number of E-Claim Filers and request that various sample purchases, sales, and holdings selected by JND be documented by providing confirmation slips or other transaction-specific supporting documentation. These targeted reviews help to ensure that electronic data supplied by Claimants does not contain inaccurate information.

### **EXCLUDED PERSONS**

18. JND also reviewed all Claims to ensure that they were not submitted by or on behalf of “Excluded Persons” to the extent that the identities of such persons or entities were known to JND through the list of Defendants and other excluded persons and entities set forth in the Stipulation and the Notice and from the Claimants’ certifications on the Claim Forms. JND also reviewed all Claims against the list of persons who were excluded from the Settlement Class pursuant to request.

## **THE DEFICIENCY PROCESS**

### **A. Paper Claims**

19. Approximately 43% of the paper Claims, i.e., 1,762 of the 4,064 paper Claims, were incomplete or had one or more defects or conditions of ineligibility, such as the Claim not being signed, not being properly documented, or indicating no eligible transactions in Equifax common stock during the Settlement Class Period. The “Deficiency Process,” which primarily involved mailing letters to Claimants and responding to communications from Claimants by email and/or telephone, was intended to assist Claimants in properly completing their otherwise deficient submissions so that they could be eligible to participate in the Settlement.

20. If paper Claims were determined to be defective, a Notice of Deficient/Ineligible Claim Submission (“Deficiency Notice”) was sent to the Claimants describing the defect(s) in the Claims and what, if anything, was necessary to cure the defect(s) in these Claims. The Deficiency Notice advised Claimants that submission of appropriate information and/or documentary evidence to complete the Claim had to be sent within twenty (20) days from the date of the Deficiency Notice or the Claim would be recommended for rejection to the extent that the deficiency or condition of ineligibility was not cured. The Deficiency Notice also advised Claimants that to contest these administrative determinations, they were

required to submit written statements to JND requesting Court review of their Claims and setting forth the basis for such requests. JND sent a total of 1,762 Deficiency Notices to Claimants who filed paper Claims that JND determined to be defective. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is an example of a Deficiency Notice.

21. Claimants' responses to Deficiency Notices were scanned into the Settlement Database and associated with the corresponding Claims. The responses were then carefully reviewed and evaluated by JND's team of processors. If a Claimant's response corrected the defect(s), JND manually updated the Settlement Database to reflect the changes in the status of the Claim.

**B. Electronic Claims**

22. In addition, for Electronic Claims, JND used the following process to contact the banks, brokers, nominees, and other filers who submitted their data electronically to confirm receipt of their submissions and to notify the filers of any deficiencies or Electronic Claims that were ineligible. These filers were sent an email to the email address included with their Claim Form ("Deficiency Email") with an attached report containing detailed information associated with the Claims and indicating which of those Claims within the filing were deficient and/or rejected ("Deficiency Spreadsheet").

23. The Deficiency Email sent to the email address of record provided with the Claim Form:

- (a) Notified the filer that any Claims with deficiencies not corrected within twenty (20) days from the date of the email may be rejected;
- (b) Advised the filer of his, her, or its right to contest the rejection of the Claim(s) and request this Court's review of JND's administrative determination within twenty (20) days from the date of the Deficiency Email; and
- (c) Provided instructions for how to submit corrections.

24. The Deficiency Spreadsheet attached to the Deficiency Email identified each of the individual Claims that were found to be deficient or ineligible and the basis for that deficiency or condition of ineligibility.

25. JND has mailed a Deficiency Email and Deficiency Spreadsheet to 184 unique loads submitted by 62 E-Claim Filers. Samples of a Deficiency Email and Deficiency Spreadsheet are attached hereto as Exhibits B and C, respectively.

26. The E-Claim Filers' responses were reviewed by the Electronic Filing Team, scanned and/or loaded into JND's database, and associated with the corresponding Electronic Claims. If a response corrected the defect(s) or affected an

Electronic Claim's status, JND manually and/or programmatically updated the database to reflect such change in status of the Electronic Claim.

**C. Calling Campaign to Claimants Who Did Not Cure Deficiencies**

27. After responses to the Deficiency Notices were received and evaluated, and the Claims updated, JND called Claimants with still-deficient Claims to provide them with a final opportunity to cure the deficiencies in their Claims.

28. During this calling campaign, JND agents explained to contacted Claimants that their Claims were still deficient and advised the Claimant of the steps required to cure the deficiencies. JND provided assistance to Claimants where possible, depending on the nature of the deficiency. For example, if a Claimant needed additional supporting documentation, JND explained the types of documentation that would render the Claim eligible and how the Claimant could obtain the necessary documentation. JND also provided some Claimants with direct phone numbers and email addresses so that Claimants could receive continued personalized attention and assistance.

29. If JND could not reach a Claimant to speak one-on-one, JND left a voice message, when possible, requesting a return call. JND explained in the voice message it was calling to assist the Claimant in remedying outstanding deficiencies

in his, her, or its Claim. JND also reached out to Claimants via email if a valid email address was provided in their Claim submission.

30. If, in response to a telephone call or email, a Claimant cured the deficiency in a Claim by providing the appropriate information and/or supporting documentation, JND updated the Settlement Database to reflect the change in the status of the Claim.

### **NO DISPUTED CLAIMS**

31. As noted above, Claimants were advised they had the right to contest JND's administrative determination of deficiencies or ineligibility within twenty (20) days from the date of notification and that they could request that the dispute be submitted to the Court for review. More specifically, Claimants were advised in the Deficiency Notice that, if they disputed JND's determination, they had to provide a statement of reasons indicating the grounds for contesting the determination, along with supporting documentation, and if the dispute concerning the Claim could not otherwise be resolved, Lead Counsel would thereafter present the request for review to the Court for a final determination.

32. JND received six (6) requests for court review. To resolve these disputes without necessitating the Court's intervention, JND reached out to each Claimant to fully explain JND's administrative determination with respect to each

Claim and any additional documentation that had been submitted. As a result of these efforts, two (2) of the Claimants resolved their deficiencies, withdrew their requests for court review, and their Claims are recommended for approval; four (4) Claimants understood the reason for JND's determination and are no longer requesting court review. There are, therefore, no disputed Claims requiring Court review.

**LATE BUT OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE CLAIMS**

33. Of the Presented Claims, 2,202 were received or postmarked after the July 22, 2020 Claim submission deadline established by the Court. JND processed all late Claims received through January 20, 2021, and 1,222 have been found to be otherwise eligible in whole or in part (the "Late But Otherwise Eligible Claims"). JND has not rejected any Claim received through January 20, 2021, solely based on its late submission, and JND believes no delay has resulted from the provisional acceptance of these Late But Otherwise Eligible Claims. To the extent they are eligible but for the fact that they were late, they are recommended for payment.

34. However, there must be a final cut-off date after which no more Claims will be accepted so that there may be a proportional allocation of the Net Settlement Fund and the distribution may be accomplished. Acceptance of additional Claims or responses to notices of deficiency received during the finalization of the

administration and the preparation of this application would necessarily require a delay in the distribution. Accordingly, JND also respectfully requests that this Court order that no received or rejected Claim adjusted after January 20, 2021, be eligible for payment for any reason whatsoever subject only to the provision of paragraph 45(f) of the proposed distribution plan discussed below. If the Court adopts the proposed distribution plan, then, after Lead Counsel has determined that further distributions are not cost-effective and before any contribution of the residual funds to charity, if sufficient funds remain to warrant the processing of Claims received after January 20, 2021, these Claims will be processed and, if any would have been eligible if timely received, these Claimants may be paid the distribution amounts on a pro rata basis that would bring them into parity with other Authorized Claimants who have cashed all their prior distribution checks to the extent permitted by the amount of remaining funds. *See* ¶ 45(f) below. With respect to previously filed Claims that are cured or adjusted after January 20, 2021, such Claims will be reevaluated upon receipt of the adjustment and, to the extent that they are found eligible for a distribution or additional distribution, they will be treated in the same manner as Claims received after January 20, 2021. However, should an adjustment be received that results in a lower Recognized Claim amount, that adjustment will

be made and the Recognized Claim amount will be reduced accordingly prior to a distribution to that Claimant.

### **QUALITY ASSURANCE**

35. An integral part of the claims administration process is the Quality Assurance review. Throughout the administration process, JND's Quality Assurance personnel worked to verify that Claims were processed properly by ensuring that information was entered correctly into the database, deficiency and/or rejection message codes were assigned accurately, and deficiency and/or rejection notification letters were sent appropriately. After all Claims were processed, deficiency and/or rejection letters were mailed, and Claimants' responses to the deficiency and/or rejection letters were reviewed and processed, JND's Quality Assurance personnel performed additional Quality Assurance reviews. These final Quality Assurance reviews further ensured the correctness and completeness of all Claims processed prior to preparing this declaration and all JND's final documents in support of distribution of the Net Settlement Fund. As part of the Quality Assurance reviews, JND:

- (a) Verified that all Claim Forms had signatures of authorized individuals;

- (b) Verified that true duplicate Claims were identified, verified, and rejected;
- (c) Verified that persons and entities excluded from the Settlement Class did not file Claims or their Claims were rejected upon review;
- (d) Performed a final Quality Assurance audit of Claims and all supporting documentation to ensure completeness of Claims;
- (e) Determined that all Claimants requiring deficiency and/or rejection letters were sent such letters;
- (f) Performed an audit of deficient Claims;
- (g) Performed additional review of Claims with high Recognized Claim amounts;
- (h) Audited Claims that were designated invalid;
- (i) Audited Claims with a Recognized Claim amount equal to zero;
- (j) Performed other auditing based on Claims completion requirements and the approved calculation specifications based on the Court-approved Plan of Allocation; and
- (k) Re-tested the accuracy of the Recognized Claim amount calculation program.

36. In support of the work described above, JND's computer staff designed and implemented, and the project team tested, the following programs for this administration: (i) data entry screens that store Claim information, including all transactional data included on each Claim, and attach messages and, where necessary, text to denote conditions existing within the Claim; (ii) programs to load and analyze transactional data submitted electronically for all Electronic Claims; (iii) a program to compare the claimed transaction prices against the reported market prices to confirm that the claimed transactions were within an acceptable range of the reported market prices; (iv) a calculation program to analyze the transactional data for all Claims, and calculate each Claimant's Recognized Claim based on the Court-approved Plan of Allocation; and (v) programs to generate various reports throughout and at the conclusion of the administration, including lists of all eligible and ineligible Claims.

37. JND also used a variety of fraud protection controls throughout the administration process to identify potential fraudulent Claims. Duplicate Claim searches, high value reviews, spot reviews, and other standard audit reports that examined the information in a variety of ways were used during the Claim review process.

38. As part of its due diligence in processing the Claims, JND reviewed and compared the entire database for the Settlement against the “watch list” of known questionable filers that JND has developed throughout its years of experiences as a claims administrator. JND has worked closely with Law Enforcement to update that watch list with the latest information available. JND performs searches based on names, aliases, addresses, and city/zip codes. In addition, JND’s claim processors are trained to identify any potentially inauthentic documentation when processing claims, including claims submitted by Claimants not previously captured in the “watch list.” Processors are instructed to message code any claim that matches to a record on the “watch list” and escalate them to management for review. JND’s Fraud Protection procedures identified one (1) potentially fraudulent Claim necessitating further review and verification that is now recommended for rejection.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL AND REJECTION**

39. As noted above, the number of Claims on this motion is 64,019.

**A. Timely Submitted and Valid Claims**

40. A total of 61,817 Claims were received or postmarked on or before the Court-approved Claim submission deadline of July 22, 2020, of which 29,050 were determined by JND to be eligible and are recommended for approval (“Timely

Eligible Claims”). The total Recognized Claim amount for these Claims is \$755,578,677.42.

**B. Late But Otherwise Eligible Claims**

41. A total of 2,202 Claims were received or postmarked after the Court-approved Claim submission deadline of July 22, 2020, but received on or before January 20, 2021. Of those, 1,222 were determined by JND to be otherwise eligible and are recommended for approval (“Late But Otherwise Eligible Claims”). The total Recognized Claim amount for these Claims is \$4,212,908.96.

**C. Rejected Claims**

42. After the responses to notices of deficiencies were processed, a total of 33,747 Claims (including the Disputed Claims discussed above) remain recommended for rejection by the Court (“Rejected Claims”) for the following reasons:

- (a) 16,308 Claims Did Not Result in a Recognized Claim;
- (b) 13,536 Claims Did Not Fit Definition of the Class;
- (c) 3,822 Deficient Claims Never Cured;
- (d) 67 Duplicate Claims; and
- (e) 14 Claims Withdrawn.

**D. Lists of All Presented Claims**

43. Attached hereto as Exhibits D through F are listings of all the Presented Claims:

- (a) Exhibit D lists Timely Eligible Claims and shows each Claimant's Recognized Claim;
- (b) Exhibit E lists the Late But Otherwise Eligible Claims and shows each Claimant's Recognized Claim; and
- (c) Exhibit F lists the Rejected Claims and the reasons for rejection.

**FEES AND DISBURSEMENTS**

44. JND has agreed to be the Claims Administrator in exchange for payment of its fees and out-of-pocket expenses. Nevertheless, JND has done its best to keep the cost as low as possible considering the very high claims filing rate in this case. JND's total fees and expenses for this matter through December 31, 2020, are \$663,509.44. The brokerage firms and nominees charged JND another \$99,148.83 for their work. To date, JND has been reimbursed in the amount of \$410,723.90. JND respectfully requests payment of \$351,934.37 for unreimbursed fees, expenses, and broker fees, and \$88,553.63 in anticipation of the work that will be performed in conjunction with an initial distribution.<sup>2</sup> Including the amount for

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<sup>2</sup> Should the estimate of fees and expenses to conduct an initial distribution of the

the estimate to complete an initial distribution, there is an outstanding balance of \$440,488.00 payable to JND. Attached as Exhibit G are copies of all JND invoices for this matter.

**DISTRIBUTION PLAN FOR THE NET SETTLEMENT FUND**

45. Should the Court concur with JND's determinations concerning the provisionally accepted and rejected Claims, including the Late But Otherwise Eligible Claims, JND recommends the following distribution plan (the "Distribution Plan"):

- (a) JND will conduct an initial distribution (the "Initial Distribution") of the Net Settlement Fund, after deducting all payments approved by the Court, and after payment of any estimated taxes, the costs of preparing appropriate tax returns, and any escrow fees, while maintaining a 10% reserve to address any tax liability and claims administration-related contingencies that may arise, as follows:

- (1) JND will calculate award amounts for all Authorized Claimants as if the entire Net Settlement Fund were to be

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Net Settlement Fund exceed the actual cost to conduct the distribution, the excess will be returned to the Net Settlement Fund and will be available for subsequent distribution to Authorized Claimants.

distributed now. In accordance with the Court-approved Plan of Allocation, JND will calculate each Authorized Claimant's pro rata share of the Net Settlement Fund based on the amount of the Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim in comparison to the total Recognized Claims of all Authorized Claimants.

- (2) JND will, pursuant to the terms of the Plan of Allocation, eliminate from the Initial Distribution any Authorized Claimant whose pro rata share calculates to less than \$10.00. These Claimants will not receive any payment from the Net Settlement Fund, and JND will send notifications to those Authorized Claimants advising them of that fact.
- (3) After eliminating Claimants who would have received less than \$10.00, JND will recalculate the pro rata share of the Net Settlement Fund for Authorized Claimants who would have received \$10.00 or more pursuant to the calculations described in subparagraph (a)(1) above. This pro rata share is the Authorized Claimant's "Distribution Amount."

(4) Authorized Claimants whose Distribution Amount calculates to less than \$100.00 will be paid their full Distribution Amount in the Initial Distribution (“Claims Paid in Full”). These Authorized Claimants will receive no additional funds in subsequent distributions.

(5) After deducting the payments to the Claims Paid in Full, 90% of the remaining balance of the Net Settlement Fund will be distributed pro rata to Authorized Claimants whose Distribution Amount calculates to \$100.00 or more. The remaining 10% of the Net Settlement Fund will be held in reserve (the “Reserve”) to address any tax liability and claims administration-related contingencies that may arise. To the extent the Reserve is not depleted, the remainder will be distributed in the “Second Distribution” described in subparagraph (d) below.

(b) In order to encourage Authorized Claimants to deposit their payments promptly, all distribution checks will bear a notation: “CASH PROMPTLY. VOID AND SUBJECT TO REDISTRIBUTION IF NOT CASHED BY [DATE 90 DAYS

AFTER ISSUE DATE].”<sup>3</sup>

- (c) Authorized Claimants who do not cash their Initial Distribution checks within the time allotted or on the conditions set forth in footnote 3 will irrevocably forfeit all recovery from the Settlement. The funds allocated to all such stale-dated checks will be available to be redistributed to other Authorized Claimants in the second distribution. Similarly, Authorized Claimants who do not cash their second or subsequent

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<sup>3</sup> For Authorized Claimants whose checks are returned as undeliverable, JND will endeavor to locate new addresses by running the undeliverable addresses through address-lookup services. Where a new address is located, JND will update the database accordingly and reissue a distribution check to the Authorized Claimant at the new address. In the event an Authorized Claimant loses or damages a check, or otherwise requires a new check, JND will issue replacements. Distribution reissues will be undertaken only upon written instructions from the Authorized Claimant, provided that the Authorized Claimant returns the previous check where appropriate. For all checks, JND will void the initial payment prior to reissuing a payment. In order not to delay further distributions to Authorized Claimants who have timely cashed their checks, JND’s outreach program, described in the preceding sentences, shall end 30 days after the initial void date. Authorized Claimants will be informed that, if they do not cash their Initial Distribution checks within 90 days of the mail date, or they do not cash check reissues within 30 days of the mailing of such reissued check, their check will lapse, their entitlement to recovery will be irrevocably forfeited, and the funds will be reallocated to other Authorized Claimants. Reissue requests for lost or damaged checks will be granted after the void date on the checks as long as the request for the reissue is received no later than 45 days prior to the next planned distribution. Requests for reissued checks in connection with any subsequent distributions, should such distributions occur, will be handled in the same manner.

distribution checks, should such distributions occur, within the time allotted or on the conditions set forth in footnote 3 will irrevocably forfeit any further recovery from the Net Settlement Fund.

- (d) Consistent with the Court-approved Plan of Allocation, after JND has made reasonable and diligent efforts to have Authorized Claimants cash their Initial Distribution checks, which efforts shall consist of the follow-up efforts described in footnote 3, but not earlier than nine (9) months after the Initial Distribution, JND will, after consulting with Lead Counsel, conduct a second distribution of the Net Settlement Fund (the “Second Distribution”). Any amounts remaining in the Net Settlement Fund after the Initial Distribution, including from the Reserve and the funds for all void stale-dated checks, after deducting JND’s unpaid fees and expenses incurred in connection with administering the Settlement, including JND’s estimated costs of the Second Distribution, and after deducting the payment of any estimated taxes, the costs of preparing appropriate tax returns, and any escrow fees, will be distributed to all Authorized

Claimants in the Initial Distribution who cashed their first distribution check and who would receive at least \$10.00 from such distribution based on their pro rata share of the remaining funds. Additional distributions, after deduction of costs and expenses as described above and subject to the same conditions, may occur thereafter in six-month intervals until Lead Counsel, in consultation with JND, determines that further distribution is not cost-effective.

- (e) At such time as Lead Counsel, in consultation with JND, determines that further distribution of the funds remaining in the Net Settlement Fund is not cost-effective, if sufficient funds remain to warrant the processing of Claims received after January 20, 2021, such Claims will be processed, and any such Claims that are otherwise valid as well as any earlier received Claims for which an adjustment was received after January 20, 2021, which resulted in an increased Recognized Claim, will be paid in accordance with subparagraph (f) below. If any funds remain in the Net Settlement Fund after payment of such late or late-adjusted Claims, the remaining balance of the Net

Settlement Fund, after payment of any unpaid fees or expenses incurred in connection with administering the Net Settlement Fund and after the payment of any estimated taxes, the costs of preparing appropriate tax returns, and any escrow fees, will be contributed to the National Consumer Law Center, a non-sectarian, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization(s), as recommended by Lead Counsel upon the Court's approval.

- (f) No new Claims may be accepted after January 20, 2021, and no further adjustments to Claims received on or before January 20, 2021, that would result in an increased Recognized Claim amount may be made for any reason after January 20, 2021, subject to the following exception. If Claims are received or modified after January 20, 2021, that would have been eligible for payment or additional payment under the Plan of Allocation if timely received, then, at the time that Lead Counsel, in consultation with JND, determines that a redistribution is not cost-effective as provided in subparagraph (e) above, and after payment of any unpaid fees or expenses incurred in connection with administering the Net Settlement Fund and after deducting

the payment of any estimated taxes, the costs of preparing appropriate tax returns, and any escrow fees, such Claimants, at the discretion of Lead Counsel, may be paid the distribution amounts or additional distribution amounts on a pro rata basis that would bring them into parity with other Authorized Claimants who have cashed all their prior distribution checks to the extent possible.

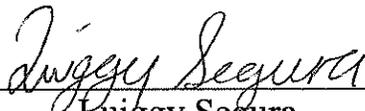
- (g) Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, JND may destroy the paper copies of the Claims and all supporting documentation one year after the Initial Distribution, and one year after all funds have been distributed may destroy electronic copies of the same.

### **CONCLUSION**

46. JND respectfully requests that the Court enter an Order approving its administrative determinations accepting and rejecting the Claims submitted herein and approving the proposed Distribution Plan. JND further respectfully submits that its fees and expenses, as reflected on the invoices attached hereto as Exhibit G, should be approved for payment from the Settlement Fund.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February 2021.

  
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Luigy Segura