# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI WESTERN DIVISION

ELLEN ALLICKS, et al., on behalf of	)
themselves and others similarly situated;	
Plaintiffs,	
	)
VS.	) Case No.: 4:19-cv-1038-DGK
	)
OMNI SPECIALTY PACKAGING, LLC,	)
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORES, INC.,	)
d/b/a O'REILLY AUTO PARTS, and	)
OZARK AUTOMOTIVE	)
DISTRIBUTORS, INC.	
Defendants.	)

# JOINT RESPONSE TO ORDER REQUESTING SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEFING

COME NOW Plaintiffs, by and through Class Counsel, and Defendants, by and through their undersigned counsel, and respectfully submit the following Joint Response to Order Requesting Supplemental Briefing:

- 1. On May 28, 2021, the Court entered its Final Approval Order and Judgment in this matter (the "Final Approval Order"), fully and finally approving the terms and provisions of the Amended Settlement Agreement and Release (the "Settlement Agreement") as fair, reasonable, and adequate, and incorporating the Settlement Agreement into the Court's Final Approval Order. (See Final Approval Order (Doc. #: 46) at ¶¶ 1, 7; Settlement Agreement (Doc. #: 34-1).)¹
- 2. On May 12, 2022, the Parties submitted a Joint Status Report Regarding Settlement Administration and Motion to Approve *Cy Pres* Distribution, demonstrating that RG/2 Claims Administrations LLC ("RG/2"), the Court-approved Settlement Administrator, had completed administration of the Class Settlement Fund pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and the Court's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used herein that are not otherwise defined have the meaning given them in the Settlement Agreement.

Final Approval Order, and requesting the Court's approval for RG/2 to distribute the approximately \$1,322,024.38 remaining in the Class Settlement Fund to Legal Aid of Western Missouri ("Legal Aid"), the *cy pres* recipient designated in the Settlement Agreement incorporated into the Final Approval Order. (*See generally* Joint Status Report Regarding Settlement Administration and Motion to Approve *Cy Pres* Distribution (Doc. #: 47).)

- 3. On December 5, 2022, the Court entered an Order Requesting Supplemental Briefing (the "Order"), directing the parties to provide supplemental briefing to demonstrate that the standard for making a *cy pres* distribution to Legal Aid has been satisfied. (*See* Order (Doc. #: 48) at 2.)
- 4. Counsel for the parties have reviewed the Court's Order and the case law cited therein, including *In re BankAmerica Corp. Secs. Litig.*, 775 F.3d 1060 (8th Cir. 2015) and *Jones v. Monsanto Co.*, 38 F.4th 693 (8th Cir. 2022). Counsel have also reviewed and considered information related to distribution of the Class Settlement Fund to Qualified Settlement Class Members.
- 5. In consideration of the foregoing authorities and information, and having conferred on this matter, the Parties have agreed, and believe it to be appropriate under the circumstances, to propose a second distribution to Qualified Settlement Class Members before making any *cy pres* distribution, should any such distribution ultimately be necessary.
- 6. Accordingly, counsel for the Parties are currently conferring and working with RG/2 to develop a plan for making an additional distribution to certain Qualified Settlement Class Members from the Class Settlement Fund, which the Parties intend to present to the Court for review and approval. The Parties anticipate that they we will be able to submit a proposed distribution plan to the Court on or before December 30, 2022.

7. If the Court approves a second distribution to Qualified Settlement Class Members and, after making that distribution, there are any remaining funds in the Class Settlement Fund, the Parties can then provide the Court with supplemental briefing, as appropriate, addressing any potential distribution to Legal Aid as the *cy pres* recipient, or at any other such time as the Court may direct that briefing be submitted.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request that the Court accept this Joint Response as the Parties' response to the Court's Order Requesting Supplemental Briefing, allow the Parties until December 30, 2022 to submit to the Court a proposed plan for making an additional distribution to Qualified Settlement Class Members from the Class Settlement Fund, and awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

Dated: December 16, 2022 Respectfully Submitted,

#### HORN AYLWARD & BANDY, LLC

BY: /s/ Thomas V. Bender

Thomas V. Bender MO 28099
Dirk Hubbard MO 37936
2600 Grand, Ste. 1100
Kansas City, MO 64108
(816) 421-0700
(816) 421-0899 (Fax)
tbender@hab-law.com

WHITE, GRAHAM, BUCKLEY, & CARR, L.L.C

dhubbard@hab-law.com

BY: /s/ Gene P. Graham

Gene P. Graham, Jr. MO 34950

William Carr MO 40091

Bryan T. White MO 58805

19049 East Valley View Parkway
Independence, Missouri 64055

(816) 373-9080

Fax: (816) 373-9319 bcarr@wagblaw.com bwhite@wagblaw.com

#### **CLAYTON JONES, ATTORNEY AT LAW**

BY: /s/ Clayton A. Jones

Clayton Jones MO 51802

P.O. Box 257 405 W. 58 Hwy.

Raymore, MO 64083 Office: (816) 318-4266 Fax: (816) 318-4267

clayton@claytonjoneslaw.com

### **LUNDBERG LAW FIRM, P.L.C.**

BY: /s/Paul D. Lundberg

Paul D. Lundberg, IA Bar #W00003339

600 Fourth St., Suite 906 Sioux City, Iowa 51101

Tel: 712-234-3030

paul@lundberglawfirm.com

# **BEASLEY, ALLEN, CROW** METHVIN, PORTIS & MILES, P.C.

BY: /s/ Rhon E. Jones

Rhon E. Jones, AL Tucker Osborne, AL 218 Commerce St. Montgomery, AL 36104

Rhon.Jones@BeasleyAllen.com

### **EMERSON FIRM, PLLC**

BY: /s/ John G. Emerson

John G. Emerson, TX Bar No. 06602600

830 Apollo St.

Houston, TX 77058 Tel: (800) 551-8649

Fax: (501) 286-4659

Email: jemerson@emersonfirm.com

### **BOLEN ROBINSON & ELLIS, LLP**

BY: /s/ Shane M. Mendenhall

Jon D. Robinson

Joshua Rohrscheib

Shane M. Mendenhall—ARDC No. 6297182 Zachary T. Anderson-ARDC No. 6329384

202 S. Franklin St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Decatur, IL 62523 Phone: 217-429-4296 Fax: 217-329-0034

Email: smendenhall@brelaw.com Email: zanderson@brelaw.

## **BRYANT LAW CENTER, P.S.C.**

BY: /s/ Mark P. Bryant

Mark. P. Bryant KY Bar #08755

P.O. Box 1876

Paducah, KY 42002-1876

Phone: (270) 442-1422 Fax: (270) 443-8788

Mark.bryant@bryantpsc.com
Austin.kennady@bryantpsc.com

## **GRIFFITH LAW CENTER, PLLC**

BY: /s/ Travis A. Griffith

Travis A. Griffith, WVSB No. 9343

One Bridge Place

10 Hale Street, Suite 203

Charleston, WV 25301

T: (304) 345-8999

F: (304) 345-7638

E: <u>travis@protectingwv.com</u>

# ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS AND SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBERS

## **LEWIS RICE LLC**

By: /s/ Thomas P. Berra, Jr.

Thomas P. Berra, Jr., #43399MO Edward T. Pivin, #64086MO

600 Washington Avenue, Suite 2500

St. Louis, Missouri 63101 Telephone: (314) 444-1352 Facsimile: (314) 612-1352

tberra@lewisrice.com epivin@lewisrice.com

Robert W. Tormohlen, #40024MO Scott A. Wissel, #49085MO 1010 Walnut St., Suite 500 Kansas City, Missouri 64106 Telephone: (816) 472-2507 Facsimile: (816) 472-2500 rwtormohlen@lewisricekc.com

sawissel@lewisricekc.com

#### ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document was filed electronically with the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri, with notice of case activity to be generated and sent electronically by the Clerk of the Court to all designated persons this 16th day of December 2022.

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