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

)
)
) Case No.: 4:19-cv-1038-DGK
))))
)

JOINT STATUS REPORT FOR JULY 14, 2023 AND MOTION TO APPROVE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR ACTIVITY REGARDING STALE CHECKS AND REISSUANCE REQUESTS

COME NOW Plaintiffs, by and through Class Counsel, and Defendants, by and through their undersigned counsel, and respectfully state as follows for their Joint Status Report for July 14, 2023 and Motion to Approve Settlement Administrator Activity Regarding Stale Checks and Reissuance Requests:

- 1. <u>Summary of Checks Issued to Date as Part of the Second Distribution</u>: A total of 120,090 checks have now been issued and mailed as part of the second distribution, including the second distribution checks themselves, reissued checks, and backup withholding checks. Of that total amount, 77,253 have now cleared totaling \$929,209.60, and 42,837 checks totaling \$256,300.84 are currently outstanding.
- 2. <u>Class Member Checks Returned as Undeliverable</u>: As part of the second distribution process, the Settlement Administrator received 2,872 checks returned as undeliverable. 180 of these returns had forwarding addresses provided by the post office, and

those were remailed immediately. Of the 2,692 remaining checks that were returned with no forwarding addresses, 1,007 were for \$5.00 or more and were sent for skip tracing and remailing if a new address is located. Of the 1,007 sent for skip tracing, 347 came back with a new address, and the Settlement Administrator has reissued and mailed those checks. All of the checks referenced in this paragraph are included in the total numbers reported in the preceding paragraph.

3. **Dates On Which All Second Distribution Checks Become Stale:**

All of the checks issued as part of the second distribution remain valid for 90 days from the date of issuance. The Settlement Administrator has indicated that all second distribution checks, including those re-mailed after locating new addresses, were no longer valid as of June 21, 2023 or earlier.

4. Additional Requests to Reissue Checks: Further, the Settlement Administrator recently received an additional set of requests from Settlement Class Members to reissue seven first distribution checks totaling \$3,169.15 and nine second distribution checks totaling \$282.08. With the Court's approval, the Settlement Administrator will reissue those checks, as well as any other valid requests for reissuance received on or before August 15, 2023.

5. **Last Date for Honoring Distribution Checks:**

Since banks often will honor stale checks unless specifically directed not to do so, the Parties request the Court's approval for the Settlement Administrator to direct the bank to cease honoring any and all distribution checks as of November 20, 2023, which is 95 days after the proposed August 15, 2023 cut-off date for honoring any additional reissuance requests and well beyond 90 days after the dates on which any currently outstanding checks became void (see paragraph 3, supra).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs and Defendants respectfully request that the Court enter an order accepting this Joint Status Report, setting August 15, 2023 as the final date by which the Settlement Administrator will accept any requests to reissue distribution checks, setting November 20, 2023 as the last date on which any and all distribution checks will be honored, and awarding such additional and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: July 14, 2023

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
dhubbard@hab-law.com

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

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: <u>/s/ Rhon E. J</u>ones

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., 2nd 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: travis@protectingwv.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS AND SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBERS

LEWIS RICE LLC

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

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 14th day of July, 2023.

/s/ Dirk Hubbard