

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

WAYSIDE CHURCH, et al.,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. 1:14-cv-01274-PLM
)	
VAN BUREN COUNTY, et al.,)	Hon. Paul L. Maloney
)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	

**ORDER PRELIMINARILY APPROVING SETTLEMENT, CONDITIONALLY
CERTIFYING CLASS FOR SETTLEMENT PURPOSES, APPROVING FORM AND
MANNER OF CLASS NOTICE, AND
SETTING DATE FOR FINAL APPROVAL HEARING**

Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the proposed Settlement Class and Sub-Classes, seek preliminary approval of the Settlement Agreement in its entirety and approval of the notice procedure, including without limitation conditional certification of the proposed Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes, the proposed Notice (Exhibit 2 to Plaintiffs’ Motion for Preliminary Approval), the proposed Claim Form (Exhibit 3 to Plaintiffs’ Motion for Preliminary Approval), and all of the requirements for potential Class Members to either opt-out or object.

This Court, having reviewed the pleadings in the case and the submissions of the parties with respect to preliminary approval of the proposed Settlement Agreement, and for good cause shown;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, this 24th day of March, 2023, that pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e):

1. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement (a copy of which is attached to as Exhibit 1 to Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval), and all capitalized terms used in this Order will have the same meanings as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, unless otherwise defined in this Order.

2. The Settlement Agreement, together with its attached exhibits and/or referenced documents, sets forth the terms and conditions for the proposed settlement and dismissal with prejudice of the Action. The Settlement Agreement was the result of an extensive, arm's length negotiation conducted under the guidance of and with assistance from the Sixth Circuit Mediation Office over a period of almost two years.

3. The Court will direct notice to the Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes because giving notice is justified by Plaintiffs' showing that the Court will likely be able to approve the Settlement Agreement under Rule 23(e)(2) and certify the class for purposes of judgment on the proposed Settlement Agreement. Specifically, the Settlement Agreement preliminarily appears to be (a) fair, reasonable, and adequate considering the relevant factual, legal, practical, and procedural considerations of the Action, (b) free of collusion to the detriment of putative Class Members, and (c) within the range of possible final judicial approval, subject to further consideration thereof at the Final Approval Hearing as described below. The Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes appear likely to satisfy the prerequisites of Rule 23(a) and Rule 23(b)(3). Accordingly, the Settlement Agreement and the settlement are sufficient to warrant notice thereof and a full hearing on the settlement.

4. If, for any reason, the Settlement Agreement is not finally approved or does not become effective, this Order, including but not limited to the conditional Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes certification, shall be null and void and automatically deemed vacated.

Neither the Settlement Agreement nor anything related to the negotiation, consideration, or approval of it shall be used, referred to, proffered, or admissible for any purpose in this Action or any other action or proceeding. In such event, the parties and the putative Class Members shall be returned to the same litigation position that they were in prior to seeking preliminary approval of the Settlement Agreement, and they shall be free to raise all claims, defenses, and arguments as they would have been able to had they never negotiated or sought approval of the Settlement, including opposing class certification on any and all grounds (including but not limited to Rule 23(a) and (b)(3)). The parties must also promptly schedule a status conference to establish a new scheduling order for the continuation of the Action.

5. Solely for the purpose of settlement in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, and pursuant to Rule 23(a) and (b)(3), this Court hereby conditionally certifies the following class (the “Settlement Class”):

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by a County and which was sold during the Class Period by that County.

As the Settlement Agreement explains, “Eligible Property” means a parcel of real property foreclosed by a County for the non-payment of real-property taxes, and which was sold during the Class Period by a County for an amount in excess of the Minimum Sale Price. And the Class Period refers to the time for each County during which that County acted as a foreclosing governmental unit, beginning no earlier than January 1, 2013 and ending on December 31, 2020, inclusive.

6. In addition, solely for the purpose of settlement in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, and pursuant to Rule 23(a) and (b)(3), this Court hereby conditionally certifies Settlement Sub-Classes as to each County, with a sub-class definition tied to each County, as described below:

(i) *Alger County*: The Alger County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Alger County and which was sold during the Class Period by Alger County.

(ii) *Allegan County*: The Allegan County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Allegan County and which was sold during the Class Period by Allegan County.

(iii) *Antrim County*: The Antrim County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Antrim County and which was sold during the Class Period by Antrim County.

(iv) *Baraga County*: The Baraga County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Baraga County and which was sold during the Class Period by Baraga County.

(v) *Barry County*: The Barry County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Barry County and which was sold during the Class Period by Barry County.

(vi) *Benzie County*: The Benzie County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Benzie County and which was sold during the Class Period by Benzie County.

(vii) *Berrien County*: The Berrien County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Berrien County and which was sold during the Class Period by Berrien County.

(viii) *Calhoun County*: The Calhoun County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Calhoun County and which was sold during the Class Period by Calhoun County.

(ix) *Cass County*: The Cass County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Cass County and which was sold during the Class Period by Cass County.

(x) *Chippewa County*: The Chippewa County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Chippewa County and which was sold during the Class Period by Chippewa County.

(xi) *Delta County*: The Delta County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Delta County and which was sold during the Class Period by Delta County.

(xii) *Dickinson County*: The Dickinson County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Dickinson County and which was sold during the Class Period by Dickinson County.

(xiii) *Eaton County*: The Eaton County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Eaton County and which was sold during the Class Period by Eaton County.

(xiv) *Emmet County*: The Emmet County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Emmet County and which was sold during the Class Period by Emmet County.

(xv) *Gogebic County*: The Gogebic County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Gogebic County and which was sold during the Class Period by Gogebic County.

(xvi) *Grand Traverse County*: The Grand Traverse County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Grand Traverse County and which was sold during the Class Period by Grand Traverse County.

(xvii) *Hillsdale County*: The Hillsdale County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Hillsdale County and which was sold during the Class Period by Hillsdale County.

(xviii) *Houghton County*: The Houghton County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Houghton County and which was sold during the Class Period by Houghton County.

(xix) *Ingham County*: The Ingham County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Ingham County and which was sold during the Class Period by Ingham County.

(xx) *Ionia County*: The Ionia County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Ionia County and which was sold during the Class Period by Ionia County.

(xxi) *Iron County*: The Iron County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Iron County and which was sold during the Class Period by Iron County.

(xxii) *Kalamazoo County*: The Kalamazoo County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Kalamazoo County and which was sold during the Class Period by Kalamazoo County.

(xxiii) *Kalkaska County*: The Kalkaska County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Kalkaska County and which was sold during the Class Period by Kalkaska County.

(xxiv) *Kent County*: The Kent County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Kent County and which was sold during the Class Period by Kent County.

(xxv) *Lake County*: The Lake County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Lake County and which was sold during the Class Period by Lake County.

(xxvi) *Leelanau County*: The Leelanau County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Leelanau County and which was sold during the Class Period by Leelanau County.

(xxvii) *Mackinac County*: The Mackinac County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Mackinac County and which was sold during the Class Period by Mackinac County.

(xxviii) *Manistee County*: The Manistee County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Manistee County and which was sold during the Class Period by Manistee County.

(xxix) *Marquette County*: The Marquette County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Marquette County and which was sold during the Class Period by Marquette County.

(xxx) *Mason County*: The Mason County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Mason County and which was sold during the Class Period by Mason County.

(xxxii) *Menominee County*: The Menominee County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Menominee County and which was sold during the Class Period by Menominee County.

(xxxii) *Missaukee County*: The Missaukee County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Missaukee County and which was sold during the Class Period by Missaukee County.

(xxxiii) *Montcalm County*: The Montcalm County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Montcalm County and which was sold during the Class Period by Montcalm County.

(xxxiv) *Muskegon County*: The Muskegon County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Muskegon County and which was sold during the Class Period by Muskegon County.

(xxxv) *Newaygo County*: The Newaygo County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Newaygo County and which was sold during the Class Period by Newaygo County.

(xxxvi) *Oceana County*: The Oceana County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Oceana County and which was sold during the Class Period by Oceana County.

(xxxvii) *Ontonagon County*: The Ontonagon County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Ontonagon County and which was sold during the Class Period by Ontonagon County.

(xxxviii) *Osceola County*: The Osceola County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Osceola County and which was sold during the Class Period by Osceola County.

(xxxix) *Ottawa County*: The Ottawa County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Ottawa County and which was sold during the Class Period by Ottawa County.

(xl) *Saint Joseph County*: The St. Joseph County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Saint Joseph County and which was sold during the Class Period by Saint Joseph County.

(xli) *Schoolcraft County*: The Schoolcraft County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Schoolcraft County and which was sold during the Class Period by Schoolcraft County.

(xlii) *Van Buren County*: The Van Buren County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Van Buren County and which was sold during the Class Period by Van Buren County.

(xliii) *Wexford County*: The Wexford County Settlement Sub-Class means:

All Persons, their heirs and successors, who held a non-contingent interest in an Eligible Property at the time that property was foreclosed by Wexford County and which was sold during the Class Period by Wexford County.

7. Consistent with the Settlement Agreement, the following are excluded from the Settlement Class and each Settlement Sub-Class:

(i) All governmental units and entities of any type whatsoever including, but not limited to, U.S. Department of Treasury, the Internal Revenue Service, the State of Michigan, and the Michigan Department of Treasury, albeit this provision does not apply to county public administrators appointed in accordance with Mich. Comp. Laws § 720.202 and who are pursuing claims on behalf of a deceased Eligible Claimant's estate;

(ii) All former holders of an interest in an Eligible Property as to which any Eligible Claimant has submitted a request to be excluded that is accepted by the Court and which is not timely revoked;

(iii) All Potential Claimants who have released their claim for Surplus Proceeds against a County;

(iv) All former holders of an interest in an Eligible Property by reason of a lien to secure payment of a debt or judgment which debt or judgment has since been satisfied or released;

(v) All Potential Claimants who have already resolved their claim for Surplus Proceeds against a County through a settlement agreement or a final judicial judgment as to which there is no appeal pending and/or the time to appeal has expired; and

(vi) As to Cass County only, any former holders of an interest in an Eligible Property who assert any claims for surplus proceeds that are greater than \$300,000.

8. The Court preliminarily appoints Wayside Church and Henderson Hodgens as the representatives of the Settlement Class, and the individuals listed below as the class representative for each Settlement Sub-Class.

Alger County: John G. Rieckman.

Allegan County: Richard E. Jones.

Antrim County: Ronald Dubois and Carol Dubois.

Baraga County: Diane Kay Speas.

Barry County: Randy Martin.

Benzie County: Arlene M. Schultz, as personal representative of the Estate of Abraham Olshansky.

Berrien County: Michael J. Cap.

Calhoun County: Jeremy T. DeShong and Bonita Hightower.

Cass County: Chad A. Pence, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Debra Jean Pence.

Chippewa County: Carol V. Ballweg.

Delta County: Francine K. Baker.

Dickinson County: Carl Waite.

Eaton County: Brandy Lee Martin.

Emmet County: Charles G. Parks, Jr.

Gogebic County: Crystal A. Raatz Wuethrich.

Grand Traverse County: Ronald Hardman and Julie Hardman.

Hillsdale County: Diane L. Baker.

Houghton County: Dustin Burdett.

Ingham County: Danny Butler.

Ionia County: Collene C. Northrup.

Iron County: Randall Becker.

Kalamazoo County: Craig Sloan.

Kalkaska County: Max Tracey.

Kent County: Timothy Fron.

Lake County: Paul Biniak.

Leelanau County: William R. Moore.

Mackinac County: Phyllis A. Pemberton-Miller, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Barbara Pemberton.

Manistee County: Irene Dunham-Thayer.

Marquette County: James P. Haglund.

Mason County: Barbara Bay.

Menominee County: Diane M. Meza.

Missaukee County: Ester M. Burruss.

Montcalm County: Matthew Atkinson and Jolene Atkinson.

Muskegon County: Jaelyn W. Balaskovitz.

Newaygo County: Royce D. Covell.

Oceana County: Darrell Cole.

Ontonagon County: Ruth A. Fors, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Ned J. Fors.

Osceola County: Jason Gibson.

Ottawa County: Melony Boerman, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Tommy Wayne VanDyke.

Saint Joseph County: Rick Mitchem, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Spanward Mitchem.

Schoolcraft County: John Deroshia.

Van Buren County: Wayside Church and Henderson Hodgens.

Wexford County: Lori Carlson.

9. Pursuant to Rule 23(g), the Court appoints Lead Counsel (Fink Bressack, James Shek, and Lewis, Reed & Allen PC) as Class Counsel, finding that Class Counsel are well-qualified and experienced in class action litigation.

10. Kroll Settlement Administration is hereby appointed as Claims Administrator to provide Notice to Potential Claimants as described in Paragraph 6.4.1 of the Settlement Agreement

and to administer the process of soliciting, receiving, reviewing, approving or denying claims, and distributing funds.

11. The proposed form, content, and procedures of notice to the Potential Claimants are approved. The Notice to be provided to the Potential Claimants clearly, concisely, and in plain language advises them of, among other things, the nature of the Action, the proposed Settlement Agreement, the definition of the Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes, the claims the Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes would release, the consideration the Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes would receive, Class Counsel's intended application for attorneys' fees and expenses, putative Class Members' right to participate individually or through an attorney and object to the Settlement Agreement or any portion of it, putative Class Members' right to opt out and exclude themselves from the Settlement Agreement, and the binding nature of the Settlement Agreement if it is ultimately approved. The Notice to be provided to Potential Claimants is the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constitutes due and sufficient notice of the proposed Settlement Agreement and this Order to all persons affected by and/or entitled to participate in the settlement, in full compliance with the notice requirements of Rule 23 and due process.

12. Within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order, the Claims Administrator shall begin providing notice of the Settlement Agreement and the Final Approval Hearing to Potential Claimants as described in Paragraph 6.4.1 of the Settlement Agreement, including by (i) mailing the written Notice, along with a Claim Form, to the most recent known address for each Potential Claimant; (ii) publishing the Summary Notice (Exhibit 5 to Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval) in major publications; (iii) issuing a press release through PR Newswire's USA 1

Newsline, which will provide summary information regarding the Settlement; and (iv) creating a dedicated website for the Settlement, www.TaxForeclosureSettlement.com.

13. As set forth in the Settlement Agreement, the Counties shall pay up to \$450,000 toward Administration Costs (the costs of the Claims Administrator, the costs associated with the Class Notice, and the costs of the Special Master).

14. The deadline for Class Members to submit a Claim Form is 135 calendar days after entry of this Order.

15. No later than 120 calendar days after entry of this Order, any putative Class Member wishing to be excluded from the Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes shall mail an opt-out request to the Claims Administrator conforming in all respects to the terms and provisions of the Notice. Those who timely and properly do so shall neither participate in the settlement nor release their claims, and they forego (a) all the benefits they might otherwise receive because of the settlement and (b) their standing to participate in the Final Approval Hearing or object to the proposed Settlement Agreement or any portion of it. Failure to opt out in strict compliance with the time and manner requirements set forth in the Notice shall result in waiver of the right to opt out. All potential Class Members who either do not attempt to or fail to properly and timely opt out shall remain part of the Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes and, to the extent the Settlement Agreement is ultimately approved, shall be bound by the settlement.

16. The Notice shall designate the Claims Administrator as the entity to whom opt-out requests shall be sent. The Claims Administrator shall be responsible for the receipt of all responses from putative Class Members and shall preserve all opt-out requests and any and all other written communications from putative Class Members or any other person in response to the Notice until administration of the Settlement is complete or pursuant to further Order of this Court.

All written communications received from putative Class Members and all written responses to inquiries by them relating to the Settlement Agreement and settlement shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection and copying by counsel for Defendants, subject to further Order of the Court if issues of privilege or confidentiality arise.

17. Any Class Member who does not attempt to or fails to properly and timely opt out of the Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes may, but is not required to, enter an appearance either *pro se* or through counsel of that Class Member's own choosing and expense. Any Class Member who does not enter a separate appearance shall be represented by Class Counsel. Class Members who are in favor of the proposed Settlement need not appear at the Final Approval Hearing or take any other action to indicate their approval.

18. Any Class Member who will challenge or object to the fairness, reasonableness, or adequacy of the Settlement Agreement or any portion of the settlement, including without limitation the amount of Class Counsel's requested fees and expenses must remain part of the Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes and must serve on the Parties a timely and valid statement of Objection that complies with the Objection procedure described in the Notice. Any Objection must be filed with the Clerk of Court and postmarked no later than 120 calendar days after entry of this Order. Class Counsel shall file all such Objections with the Court at least 14 days before the Final Approval Hearing. Any objecting Class Member may appear at the Final Approval Hearing in person, with or without such Class Member's separate counsel. The scope of any objector's presentation of evidence or argument at the Final Approval Hearing shall be limited to such objector's written objection. Any Class Member who fails to file and serve an objection in strict compliance with the deadlines and procedures, and containing the information required by the Notice, shall be deemed to have forever waived and forfeited the right to object to

the Settlement Agreement or any part of the settlement or to raise or pursue an objection at the Final Approval Hearing or at any point thereafter, including through appeal or as part of a separate proceeding.

19. Within ten days of the filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, Defendants' counsel shall send notice to the United States Attorney General and the Attorney General for the State of Michigan. Each such notice shall contain all of the information required under 28 U.S.C. § 1715. At least seven (7) days before the Final Approval Hearing, Defendants' counsel shall file a report with the Court confirming that these notices were timely sent.

20. All other events contemplated under the Settlement Agreement to occur after this Order and before the Settlement Fairness Hearing described in this Order shall occur as proposed in the Motion for Preliminary Approval, to the extent not inconsistent herewith.

21. The motion for final approval and the motion for attorneys' fees and expenses shall be filed at least 42 calendar days before the Final Approval Hearing; all reply briefs must be filed no later than 7 calendar days before the Final Approval Hearing.

22. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before the undersigned at 9:00 a.m. on October 17 and 18, 2023, in the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan, Kalamazoo Division, 174 Federal Bldg, 410 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007, to consider the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the proposed Settlement Agreement, the entry of any final order or judgment in the action, any application for attorneys' fees and costs, and other related matters. The Final Approval Hearing

may be postponed, adjourned, conducted virtually or continued by further Order of this Court without further notice to the putative Settlement Class and Settlement Sub-Classes.

23. All proceedings in the action other than such as may be necessary to carry out the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement or the responsibilities related or incidental thereto are stayed and suspended until further notice of this Court. Pending final determination of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the proposed Settlement Agreement, no putative Settlement Class Member, other than those who timely and properly have opted out of the Class, may either directly or indirectly prosecute, institute, or commence any individual or class action with respect to the subject matter of this Action.

SO ORDERED.

/s/ Paul L. Maloney
Paul L. Maloney
United States District Judge