# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA CHARLESTON DIVISION

PRO SLAB, INC., et al., on behalf of themselves and all other similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

ARGOS USA LLC, et al.,

Defendants

Case No.: 2:17-cv-03185-BHH

# DECLARATION OF JANETH ANTONIO IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION OF SETTLEMENT FUNDS

- I, Janeth Antonio, declare and state as follows:
- 1. My name is Janeth Antonio. I have personal knowledge of the matters stated herein and, if called upon, could and would testify thereto.
- 2. I am a Director with Verita f/k/a KCC Class Action Services, LLC ("Verita"), located in El Segundo, CA, a firm that provides comprehensive class action services, including legal notification, email and postal mailing campaign implementation, website design, call center support, class member data management, claims processing, check and voucher disbursements, tax reporting, settlement fund escrow and reporting, and other related services critical to the effective administration of class actions. Verita has developed efficient, secure and cost-effective methods to properly handle the voluminous data and mailings associated with class action noticing to ensure the orderly and fair treatment of class members and all parties in interest.
- 3. Verita was previously selected by Plaintiffs and appointed by the Court to act as the Notice and Settlement Administrator for the distribution of the Notice of Class Certification

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and Proposed Settlement for settlements with Defendants Lafarge, Thomas and Evans. The Courtapproved notice plans for the Lafarge, Thomas and Evans Settlements have now been completed. Verita has also been selected and proposed by counsel for the Plaintiffs to serve as the Administrator for the Certified Litigation Class Notice Program.

- Verita has been selected by Settlement Class Counsel as the proposed Claims 4. Administrator for the Plaintiffs' proposed Plan of Distribution for the Lafarge, Thomas and Evans Settlement Funds.
- I provide this Declaration to describe my and Verita's experience, as well Verita's 5. proposed role in the Plan of Distribution, which includes issuing notice of the settlement distribution to the Settlement Class members and the processing and payment of claims submitted by Settlement Class members. Upon Court approval, Verita will work with the Plaintiffs to implement the Plan of Distribution, and to implement any future Court-approved proposals concerning distribution and administration of the Settlement Funds.

## **EXPERIENCE**

- 6. As an industry leader, Verita has been retained to administer more than 10,000 class actions and distributed settlement payments totaling well over a trillion dollars. Our experience includes many of the largest and most complex administrations of both private litigation and of actions brought by state and federal government regulators.
- 7. Verita has administered distribution plans and claims processing in a wide range of federal antitrust class actions, including: Barba v. Shire U.S., Inc., No. 1:13-cv-21158 (S.D. Fla.); In re Aftermarket Filters Antitrust Litigation, No. 1:08-cv-04883 (N.D. Ill.); In re Asacol Antitrust Litigation, No. 1:15-cv-12730 (D. Mass.); In re Blood Reagents Antitrust Litigation, No. 09-md-2081 (E.D. Pa.); In re Domestic Drywall Antitrust Litigation, No. 2:13-md-02437 (E.D. Pa.); Fond

Du Lac Bumper Exchange, Inc. v. Jui Li Enterprise Company, Ltd., No. 2:09-cv-00852 (E.D. Wis.); In re College Athlete NIL Litigation, No. 20-cv-03919 (N.D. Cal.); In re: Fresh and Process Potatoes Antitrust Litigation, 4:10-md-02186 (D. Idaho); In re HIV Antitrust Litigation, No. 3:19-cv-2573 (N.D. Cal.); In re Hypodermic Products Antitrust Litigation, No. 05-cv-1602 (D. N.J.); In re Intuniv Antitrust, No. 1:16-cv-12396 (D. Mass.); In Re Korean Ramen Antitrust Litigation, No. 13-cv-4115 (N.D. Cal.); In re Lidoderm Antitrust Litigation, No. 3:14-md-02521 (N.D. Cal.); In re Lithium Ion Batteries Indirect Antitrust Litigation, No. 13-md-02420 (N.D. Cal.); In re: Nexium (Esomeprazole) Antitrust Litig., No. 1:12-md-2409 (D. Mass.); In re Potash Antitrust Litigation (II), No. 1:08-cv-06910 (N.D. III.); In re Remicade Antitrust Litigation, No. 2:17-cv-04326 (E.D. Pa.); In re Solodyn (Minocycline Hydrochloride) Antitrust Litigation, No. 1:14-md-02503 (D. Mass.); In re: Skelaxin (Metaxalone) Antitrust Litigation, No. 1:12-md-02343 (E.D. Tenn.); In re Telescopes Antitrust Litigation, No. 5:20-cv-03639 (N.D. Cal.); In re Thalomid and Revlimid Antitrust Litigation, No. 2:14-cv-06997 (D.N.J.); and In re Titanium Dioxide Antitrust Litigation, No. 10-CV-00318 (D. Md.).

- 8. I have personally been involved in claims administration for many large and significant cases, including *In re College Athlete NIL Litigation*, No. 4:12-CV-03919 (N.D. Cal); *In re VNGR Beverage, LLC Litigation*, No. 4:24-cv-09229-HSG (N.D. Cal); and *Smidga et al. v. Bath & Body Works LLC*, GD-21-009142 (C.P. Alleghany Cnty., PA.).
- 9. In forming my opinions, I draw from my in-depth class action case experience. I have worked in the class action administration field for more than 10 years. During that time, I have been involved in all aspects of the design and implementation of class action notice and administration planning, including claims processing and fund distribution, as well as coordinating the drafting of plain language notice documents related to the claims process that satisfy the

requirements of Rule 23 and adhere to the guidelines set forth in the Manual for Complex Litigation, Fourth and by the Federal Judicial Center ("FJC").

## THE PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

- Distribution for the Lafarge, Thomas and Evans Settlement Funds. Plaintiffs have proposed that Verita be appointed as Claims Administrator to provide notice of the claims process and Claim Forms to Settlement Class members, create and operate a claims-related portion of the Settlement website, process Claim Forms and related submissions, communicate with and assist Settlement Class members in the claims process and issue claims decisions and payments to Settlement Class members. Verita is prepared to serve in this role, and to provide an estimate of the cost of administering the Plan of Distribution, once approved, for purposes of calculating the Net Settlement Funds available for distribution.
- 11. To effectuate the Plan of Distribution, Verita will begin by mailing a "Notice of Settlement Distribution and Claim Form Instructions" in the form attached as Exhibit A (hereafter "Claims Notice") to all Settlement Class members for which an address is available. In addition, to maximize the opportunity for Settlement Class members to participate in the distribution of Settlement funds, Plaintiffs will inform the public of the commencement of the claims process and the claims deadline by: (i) publishing summary notices in those newspapers in which the Settlement notices were published; (ii) issuing a press release; and (iii) engaging in community outreach through social media. The mailed Notice of Settlement Distribution and Claim Form Instructions, published notice, press release and social media outreach will all direct potential Settlement Class members to the Settlement website, <a href="www.SavannahConcreteCase.com">www.SavannahConcreteCase.com</a>, where detailed instructions on submitting a claim will be available.

- 12. The proposed notice component of the Plan of Distribution mirrors the Courtapproved Notice Plans undertaken by Verita for the Lafarge, Thomas and Evans Settlements, and the Notice Plan proposed for issuing notice of class certification to members of the certified Plaintiff Class. The undersigned incorporates herein the description of (i) the available Class member data; (ii) the process of issuing direct mail notice; (iii) the process of publishing summary notice in newspapers, issuing a press release and engaging in social media outreach; and (iv) the response mechanisms that are included in the Declaration of Janeth Antonio in Support of the Certified Litigation Class Notice Plan field with the Court on October 1, 2025. (ECF No. 532-3, ¶¶ 11-24).
- 13. As with these Notice Plans, the notice component of the Plan of Distribution utilizes individual notice where possible, and supplemental notice for Settlement Class members for which addresses are unavailable, and is expected to reach Settlement Class members accounting for the vast majority of the Class purchases by number of transactions and sales volume. Notice to the subset of Settlement Class members lacking sufficient identifying information for mailed notice will be provided through regional newspaper placements, a press release, and community outreach.
- Under the Plan of Distribution, the Net Settlement Funds the amount of the 14. combined Settlement Funds after the deduction of Court-awarded attorneys' fees and costs, Class Representative service fees, Settlement notice costs and Fund administration expenses, and the withholding of estimated claims-related expenses – will be distributed to Settlement Class Members who submit timely and properly executed Claim Forms, on a pro rata basis relative to the amounts of their Qualifying Purchases. A "Qualifying Purchase" is a direct purchase of Ready-Mix Concrete at any time during the Class Period from one or more of the Subject Plants identified

in the Settlement Class definitions for which a completed and signed Claim Form has been submitted by a Settlement Class member.

- 15. For each Settlement Class member for which there is a clear individual or business name, Verita will prepare a summary of all Qualifying Purchases for that Settlement Class member as determined from purchase Ready-Mix Concrete data provided by the Defendants. Settlement Class members who receive a Claims Notice will be provided with a Claim Number and a unique Pin Code that can be used to access, on the Settlement website, the summary of all their Qualifying Purchases as determined from the records provided by Defendants. Other potential Settlement Class members, including those for whom a mailing address is not available, will be able to use a tool on the Settlement website to search for a summary of their Qualifying Purchases as determined from the records provided by Defendants.
- 16. Any Settlement Class member who <u>agrees</u> with the amount of their Qualifying Purchases as determined from the records provided by Defendants will be able to complete and sign a Claim Form accepting the amount of Qualifying Purchases, and can then submit the Claim Form either online or by mail. Settlement Class members and potential members who did not receive a Claims Notice will be able to obtain a Claim Form, Claim Number and unique Pin Code through the Settlement website for purposes of submitting a claim.
- 17. If a Settlement Class member or potential member <u>disagrees</u> with the amount of their Qualifying Purchases as determined from the records provided by Defendants, including if there are no Qualifying Purchases clearly identified in the records provided by Defendants, the Settlement Class member or potential member may complete and submit a "Purchase Audit Request Form," a copy of which is attached as Exhibit B (hereafter "Purchase Audit Request"). The Purchase Audit Request must be accompanied by copies of contemporaneous records such as

receipts, delivery tickets or invoices that identify the Defendant, product, purchase amount and purchase or delivery date for any Qualifying Purchases claimed. Verita, as Claims Administrator, will be responsible for processing all Purchase Audit Requests and determining whether sufficient documentation has been submitted to support any claim for Qualifying Purchases.

18. After the claims deadline has passed and all submitted claims have been processed, for each Settlement Class member who has submitted a qualifying claim that Settlement Class member's *pro rata* percentage of the Net Settlement Funds will be calculated by dividing the amount of their Qualifying Purchases by the total amount of Qualifying Purchases of all Settlement Class Members who submit qualifying claims. Settlement Class members will not need to submit claims for each Settlement, and *pro rata* distributions will be calculated in the aggregate based on all available Net Settlement Funds.

## **CONCLUSION**

- 19. In my opinion, the notice component of the Plan of Distribution is consistent with other effective programs for providing notice of a claims process, is the best notice practicable under the circumstances and meets the "reasonably certain to inform" due process communications standard of *Mullane v. Cent. Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306, 315 (1950), and is consistent with the guidelines set forth in Rule 23, the Manual for Complex Litigation, Fourth, and the FJC Checklist.
- 20. Additionally, the proposed Claim Form and Purchase Audit Request form, the claims administration process and the calculation of *pro rata* distributions under the Plan of Distribution are consistent with other court-approved distribution plans that have been successfully administered by Verita in other cases.

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

Executed on October 31, 2025 at San Rafael, CA

Janeth Antonio

Janeth Antonio