### **CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

This Agreement ("Agreement" or "Settlement Agreement" or "Settlement") is entered into by and among: (i) Monique Bell, Tree Anderson, and Melissa Conklin ("Named Plaintiffs"); (ii) the Settlement Class (as defined herein); and (iii) Defendant CVS Pharmacy, Inc. ("Defendant" or "CVS"). The Settlement Class and the Named Plaintiffs are collectively referred to as "Plaintiffs" unless otherwise noted. Plaintiffs and Defendant are collectively referred to herein as the "Parties." Capitalized terms used herein are defined in Section 2 of this Agreement or indicated in parentheses elsewhere in this Agreement. This Agreement is intended by the Parties to fully, finally, and forever resolve, discharge, and settle the Released Claims (as defined herein), upon and subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and subject to the final approval of the Court.

# 1. <u>RECITALS</u>

A. On December 11, 2021, Named Plaintiff Monique Bell filed the original putative class action complaint in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, and this matter was assigned case number 21-cv-06850 (the "Action") (ECF No. 1).

B. On February 14, 2022, Defendant filed an answer to Named Plaintiff Bell's operative putative class action complaint, in which it asserted 15 affirmative defenses. (ECF No. 14).

C. On April 7, 2022, Defendant filed two letters seeking a pre-motion conference regarding its anticipated motion for judgment on the pleadings (ECF No. 26) and requesting adjournment of the Court's Initial Scheduling Conference (ECF No. 27). On April 12, 2022, Named Plaintiff Bell filed two letters in opposition to the above-referenced letters. (ECF Nos. 28, 29).

D. On April 13, 2022, the Court denied Defendant's request for a pre-motion

conference and directed the parties to agree on a briefing schedule in anticipation of Defendant's motion for judgment on the pleadings. Furthermore, on April 13, 2022, the Court also denied Defendant's letter to adjourn the Court's Initial Scheduling Conference.

E. On May 10, 2022, Named Plaintiff Bell and Defendant, by and through their counsel of record, attended an in-person hearing before Judge Peggy Kuo to discuss the Parties' anticipated motion for judgment on the pleadings and discovery schedule. During the hearing, the Parties also discussed the prospect of settlement and agreed to participate in a settlement conference before the Court on August 23, 2022. Since that time, the Parties continued to engage in informal settlement discussions.

F. On May 18, 2022, Defendant served, and subsequently filed, its motion for judgment on the pleadings (ECF Nos. 37, 41-43). On June 17, 2022, Named Plaintiff Bell filed her opposition to Defendant's motion (ECF No. 44), and Defendant filed its reply in further support of its motion on July 1, 2022 (ECF No. 45).

G. On May 20, 2022, Named Plaintiff Bell and Defendant filed, and the Court adopted, a joint confidentiality order (ECF Nos. 39-40). Throughout that time, the Parties continued to engage in settlement discussions, including exchanging information on issues such as the size and scope of the putative class and Named Plaintiff Bell's use of Defendant's Products (as defined herein). To that end, the Parties agreed in July 2022 to participate in a private mediation before The Honorable Frank Maas (Ret.) of JAMS New York, an experienced class action mediator.

H. In the weeks leading up to the mediation, the Parties were in regular communication with each other and with Judge Maas, as the Parties sought to crystallize the disputed issues, produce focal information and data, and narrow potential frameworks for resolution. During this period and in connection with the mediation proceedings, Defendant provided counsel for Plaintiffs ("Class Counsel") with detailed transactional data regarding Defendant's sales of the Products (as defined herein); the Parties exchanged briefing on the key facts, legal issues, litigation risks, and potential settlement structures; and the Parties supplemented that briefing with extensive telephonic correspondence mediated by Judge Maas and in-person meetings in order to clarify the Parties' positions in advance of the mediation. This permitted the Parties to competently assess the strengths and weakness of their claims and defenses and their relative negotiating positions.

I. On September 28, 2022, the Parties attended a full-day mediation before Judge Maas in JAMS New York. While the Parties engaged in good-faith arms' length negotiations, they failed to reach an agreement. However, the mediation culminated in a mediator's proposal on October 4, 2022, that the Parties later accepted. After accepting the mediator's proposal, the Parties continued to negotiate all of the material terms of the class action settlement and executed a term sheet. (ECF No. 48).

J. During the mediation, Class Counsel noted the existence of additional plaintiffs, who purchased other CVS-branded maximum strength lidocaine products, which they intended to add to this suit. Defendant agreed to permit Named Plaintiff Bell to file her First Amended Complaint, which was filed on April 21, 2023, naming Named Plaintiffs Tree Anderson and Melissa Conklin (ECF No. 53-1). The Parties also agreed to stay all non-settlement deadlines (ECF No. 53).

K. At all times, Defendant has denied and continues to deny any wrongdoing whatsoever and has denied and continues to deny that it committed, or threatened or attempted to commit, any wrongful act or violation of law or duty alleged in the Action. Defendant believes that the claims asserted in the Action do not have merit and that Defendant would have prevailed

at summary judgment or trial. Nonetheless, taking into account the uncertainty and risks inherent in any litigation, Defendant has concluded it is desirable and beneficial that the Action be fully and finally settled and terminated in the manner and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement. This Agreement is a compromise, and the Agreement, any related documents, and any negotiations resulting in it will not be construed as or deemed to be evidence of or an admission or concession of liability or wrongdoing on the part of Defendant, or any of the Released Parties (as defined herein), with respect to any claim of any fault or liability or wrongdoing or damage whatsoever or with respect to the certifiability of a litigation class.

L. Plaintiffs believe that the claims asserted in the Action against Defendant have merit and that they would have prevailed at summary judgment and/or trial. Nonetheless, Plaintiffs and Class Counsel recognize that Defendant has raised factual and legal defenses that present a risk that Plaintiffs may not prevail. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel also recognize the expense and delay associated with continued prosecution of the Action against Defendant through class certification, summary judgment, trial, and any subsequent appeals. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel also have taken into account the uncertain outcome and risks of litigation, especially in complex class actions, as well as the difficulties inherent in such litigation. Therefore, Plaintiffs and Class Counsel believe it is desirable that the Released Claims (as defined herein) be fully and finally compromised, settled, and resolved with prejudice. Based on its evaluation, Class Counsel has concluded that the terms and conditions of this Agreement are fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Settlement Class, and that it is in the best interests of the Settlement Class to settle the claims raised in the Action pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and among Named Plaintiffs, the Settlement Class, and Defendant, by and through their undersigned counsel, that, subject to final approval of the Court, after a hearing or hearings as provided for in this Settlement Agreement, and in consideration of the benefits flowing to the Parties from the Agreement set forth herein, the Action and the Released Claims will be finally and fully compromised, settled, and released, and the Action will be dismissed with prejudice, upon and subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

# 2. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>

As used in this Settlement Agreement and the attached exhibits (which are an integral part of the Settlement and are incorporated in their entirety by reference), the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below, unless this Settlement specifically provides otherwise. Other capitalized terms in this Settlement but not defined in this section shall have the meanings ascribed to them elsewhere in this Agreement.

**2.1 "Administration Expenses"** means reasonable fees and expenses incurred by the Settlement Administrator for all tasks the Settlement Administrator performs in furtherance of the notice and administration of the Settlement, except as otherwise noted herein. The Administration expenses will be paid by Defendant separate and apart from the Settlement Sum.

**2.2 "Application"** means the application to be filed by Class Counsel in this Action by which they will seek an award of attorneys' fees, Class Representative Service Awards, and reimbursement of expenses they incurred prosecuting this Action.

2.3 "Attorneys' Fees and Expenses" or "Fee Award" means such funds as may be awarded by the Court based on the Settlement described herein to compensate Class Counsel as determined by the Court and described more particularly in Section 7 of this Settlement. This award will also include a reimbursement of expenses incurred by Class Counsel arising from their representation in the Action, and disbursements incurred by them and their experts, staff, and consultants in connection with the Action. Class Counsel will not request, and will not accept, a Fee Award in excess of \$1,140,000.00. The Fee Award will be paid out of the Settlement Sum.

2.4 "Benefit" means the cash payment available to a Claimant who files a Valid Claim under this Agreement. The specific Benefit paid is subject to review, validation, and adjustments by the Settlement Administrator based upon the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

**2.5 "Benefit Payments"** are the payments issued for Valid Claims as determined by the Settlement Administrator and in accordance with this Agreement.

**2.6** "Claim" means a request for relief pursuant to this Settlement submitted by Settlement Class Members on a Claim Form filed with the Settlement Administrator in accordance with the terms of this Settlement. One Claim is allowed per Settlement Class Member.

2.7 "Claim Form" means the proposed claim form in substantially the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u> to be used by Settlement Class Members to make a Claim under the Settlement (described at Section 4, below), which form is to be approved by the Court and to be posted online in accordance with Section 8 of this Settlement.

2.8 "Claimant" means a Settlement Class Member who files a Claim seeking a Benefit under this Agreement.

2.9 "Claims Deadline" means the date by which a Claim Form must be postmarked (if sent by mail) or received (if submitted electronically) to be considered timely and shall be no later than 90 days after the Notice Date. The Claims Deadline shall be clearly set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order as well as in the Class Notice Program and the Claim Form.

**2.10** "Class Counsel" means the law firms Bursor & Fisher, P.A. and Gucovschi Rozenshteyn, PLLC.

**2.11** "Class Notice Program" or "Notice Program" means the Court-approved notice, detailed in Section 8, and consists of the: (i) Direct Notice; (ii) Long-Form Notice (iii) Publication Notice; and (iv) Settlement Website.

**2.12** "Class Period" means the period of December 11, 2017 through and including the date of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order.

**2.13 "Class Representatives"** means Named Plaintiffs Monique Bell, Tree Anderson, and Melissa Conklin.

2.14 "Class Representative Service Awards" means any award sought by Application and approved by the Court that is payable to the Class Representatives, up to a maximum total amount of three thousand dollars and zero cents (\$3,000.00) per Class Representative to compensate the Class Representatives for their efforts in bringing the Action and achieving the benefits of this Settlement on behalf of the Settlement Class.

2.15 "Court" means the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

2.16 "Defendant" or "CVS" means CVS Pharmacy, Inc.

2.17 "Defendant's Counsel" means the law firm of Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP.

**2.18** "Direct Notice" means the email notice, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C-1 and detailed in Section 8.1, that will be sent to Defendant's loyalty program members for which an email address is readily available in Defendant's records.

2.19 "Effective Date" means one business day after the last of the following dates: (a)

all Parties have executed this Settlement; (b) the Court has entered the Final Approval Order finally certifying the Settlement Class, finally approving the Agreement, and dismissing the Action with prejudice as to Named Plaintiffs' and Settlement Class Members' claims against Defendant; and (c) the date on which the time to appeal or to seek permission to appeal from the Court's approval of the Settlement Agreement has expired or, if appealed, approval of the Settlement Agreement has been affirmed in its entirety by the Court of last resort to which such appeal has been taken and such affirmance is no longer subject to further appeal or review, or upon the denial of a writ of certiorari to review the order and final judgment from any court, thus making the Final Approval Order a final, non- appealable judgment.

**2.20** "Fairness Hearing" or "Final Approval Hearing" means the final hearing to be conducted by the Court on such date as the Court may order to determine the fairness, adequacy, and reasonableness of the Settlement in accordance with applicable jurisprudence, to be held after notice has been provided to the Settlement Class in accordance with this Settlement, and where the Court will: (a) determine whether to grant final approval to the certification of the Settlement Class; (b) determine whether to designate Named Plaintiffs as the representatives of the Settlement Class; (c) determine whether to designate Class Counsel as counsel for the Settlement Class; (d) determine whether to grant final approval to the Settlement; (e) rule on Class Counsel's Application for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses and Class Representative Service Awards; and (f) consider whether to enter the Final Approval Order.

**2.21 "Final Approval Order"** means an order to be entered by the Court granting, among other things, final approval of the Settlement and entry of final judgment with respect thereto.

2.22 "Labeling" means the display of written, printed, or graphic matter upon the

outside packaging of Product(s).

**2.23** "Long-Form Notice" means the notice substantially in the form attached as Exhibit B, to be posted on the Settlement Website.

**2.24** "Media Plan" means the Settlement Administrator's plan to disseminate the Publication Notice to Settlement Class Members, which will be designed to achieve no less than 70% reach to Settlement Class Members and will be designed to comport with due process requirements, Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, and any governing local rules, standing orders, or judicial requirements.

**2.25** "Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement" means the motion, to be filed by Plaintiffs, seeking entry by the Court of the Preliminary Approval Order, and includes all supporting papers. This Motion shall be provided to counsel for Defendant no fewer than 7 days prior to filing.

**2.26** "Motion for Final Approval of Settlement" means the motion, to be filed by Plaintiffs, seeking entry by the Court of the Final Approval Order, and includes all supporting papers. This Motion shall be provided to counsel for Defendant no fewer than 7 days prior to filing.

2.27 "Named Plaintiffs" means the named Plaintiffs in this Action: Monique Bell,Tree Anderson, and Melissa Conklin.

**2.28** "Notice Date" means the date by which the Class Notice Program must be effectuated pursuant to Section 8 of this Agreement, which is to be thirty-five (35) days after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order.

**2.29** "Opt-Out / Objection Deadline" means the date by which Settlement Class Members must mail their written request for exclusion or objection to the Settlement, meeting

the requirements detailed at Section 9. The postmark date shall constitute evidence of the date of mailing for these purposes. This deadline shall be no later than 45 days after the Notice Date.

2.30 "Parties" (or "Party" individually) means Plaintiffs and Defendant.

**2.31 "Plaintiffs"** (or **"Plaintiff"** individually) means Named Plaintiffs and Settlement Class Members.

**2.32** "**Preliminary Approval Order**" means the Order preliminarily approving the Settlement Agreement, conditionally certifying the Settlement Class for settlement purposes, and directing notice thereof to the Settlement Class using the Class Notice Program detailed in Section 8, which is substantially in the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit D</u>.

**2.33** "**Product**" and/or "**Products**" means all CVS-branded "maximum strength" lidocaine patches, creams, and spray products, including, but not limited to, the products listed in the First Amended Complaint (ECF No. 53-1). The Products include the following SKU numbers: 376649, 405343, 977934, 328522, 405623, 250483, 385037, 249024, 235554, 383998, 238921, 197229, 450467, 371271, 188721, 256563, 196728, 256518, 384034, 234274, 834344, 388642.

**2.34 "Proof of Purchase"** means a receipt or other documentation which reasonably establishes the fact of purchase of the Product during the Class Period in the United States.

**2.35** "Publication Notice" means the proposed short form notice, in substantially the form attached as <u>Exhibit C-2</u> hereto, to be approved by the Court and to be published in accordance with the Media Plan.

**2.36** "Releases" means the release of all claims contained in Section 12 of this Agreement.

**2.37** "Released Claims" are defined in Section 12.

2.38 "Released Parties" means CVS Pharmacy, Inc., and its current, former, and future parents, predecessors, successors, affiliates, assigns, subsidiaries, divisions, or related corporate entities, employees, officers, directors, shareholders, equity holders, consultants, assigns, suppliers, manufacturers, agents, independent contractors, trustees, administrators, executors, insurers, attorneys, customers, wholesalers, retailers, vendors, distributors, and dealers, and each and all of their respective current, future, and former managers, members, directors, officers, consultants, affiliated entities and corporations, subsidiaries, divisions, franchisees, partners, joint venturers, agents, investors, creditors, insurers, attorneys, employees, representatives, successors, licensees, customers, and assigns. For the avoidance of doubt, Released Parties shall include all persons or entities in the stream of commerce for the marketing, sale, and/or distribution of the Products.

**2.39** "Releasing Parties" means Plaintiffs, all Settlement Class Members, Class Counsel, and any person claiming by or through him/her/it, including any Person claiming to be his/her/its spouse, parent, child, heir, guardian, associate, co-owner, attorney, agent, administrator, devisee, predecessor, successor, assignee, representative of any kind, shareholder, partner, director, employee or affiliate.

**2.40** "Settlement Administrator" means Kroll Settlement Administration, who has been selected jointly by the Parties and approved by the Court to perform the duties set forth in this Agreement.

2.41 "Settlement Class" or "Settlement Class Members" means all persons who purchased Products in the United States during the Class Period. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) all persons who purchased or acquired the Products for resale; (b) Defendant and its employees, principals, affiliated entities, legal representatives, successors, and assigns; (c) any person who makes a valid, timely opt-out request; (d) federal, state, and local governments (including all agencies and subdivisions thereof, but excluding employees thereof), and (e) the judges to whom this Action is assigned and any members of his/her/their immediate family.

2.42 "Settlement Sum" means the maximum of three million eight hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$3,800,000) that Defendant will make available to resolve the Action. The Settlement Sum represents Defendant's all-inclusive, sole, exclusive, and full payment for all monetary consideration of any kind whatever to Plaintiffs, Class Representatives, Settlement Class Members, and Class Counsel, including the total amount of monetary relief available to Settlement Class Members for payment of all Valid Claims, Class Representative Service Awards, and Class Counsel's Fee Award. The Settlement Sum does not include reasonable Administration Expenses. Defendant shall not, under any circumstances, be obligated to pay any other additional amounts beyond the Settlement Sum and the Administration Expenses. Defendant need not segregate funds or otherwise create special accounts to hold the Settlement Sum and will not relinquish control of any money until payments are due as set forth in the Settlement Agreement. The Parties agree that any and all undistributed funds-that is, funds not used to pay the Valid Claims, awarded Class Representative Incentive Awards, and the awarded Fee Award—will remain with Defendant and uncashed checks will promptly revert to Defendant. The Settlement Sum amount and structure are material terms of this Agreement.

**2.43** "Settlement Website" means a website to be established, operated, and maintained by the Settlement Administrator, utilizing the URL lidocainesettlement.com, for purposes of providing notice and otherwise making available to the Settlement Class Members the documents, information, and online claims submission process referenced in Section 8.3, below.

2.44 "Unit" means a single unit sold of the Product.

**2.45** "Valid Claim" means a Claim Form submitted by a Settlement Class Member that is: (a) submitted in accordance with the directions accompanying the Claim Form and the provisions of the Settlement; (b) accurately, fully and truthfully completed and executed, with all of the information requested in the Claim Form, by a Settlement Class Member; (c) signed physically or by e-signature by a Settlement Class Member personally, subject to the penalty of perjury; (d) returned via mail and postmarked by the Claims Deadline, or, if submitted online, is submitted by 11:59 p.m. EST on the Claims Deadline; and (e) determined to be valid by the Settlement Administrator.

# 3. <u>PRELIMINARY APPROVAL AND CONDITIONAL CERTIFICATION</u> <u>OF THE SETTLEMENT CLASS</u>

**3.1** The Parties agree that the Action may be certified as a class action in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, with the understanding of all Parties that should this Agreement fail to become effective or is not fully implemented in accordance with its terms, no class shall be deemed certified unless and until Named Plaintiffs prevail on a motion for class certification, and without prejudice to Defendant's right to contest class certification in that event. If the Settlement is not approved or this Agreement fails to be fully implemented for any reason, Defendant reserves all rights to object to any subsequent motion to certify a class in this or any other lawsuit, and no representation or concession made in connection with the Settlement or this Agreement shall be admissible or considered law of the case or an admission by Defendant or to have any kind of preclusive effect against Defendant or to give rise to any form of estoppel or waiver by Defendant in these actions or any other proceeding.

**3.2** Defendant expressly denies any and all liability and/or wrongdoing with respect to any and all of the claims alleged in this lawsuit and any similar lawsuits and enters into this Settlement solely to compromise a disputed claim. Accordingly, any references to the alleged

business practices or actions of Defendant or any Released Party in this Settlement or the related Court hearings and processes shall raise no inference or admission respecting the propriety of those business practices or any other business practices of Defendant. If this Agreement is deemed void or the Effective Date does not occur for any reason, Defendant does not waive, but rather expressly reserves, all rights to challenge all such claims and allegations in the Action on all procedural, evidentiary, and factual grounds, including, without limitation, the ability to challenge on any grounds whether any class can be certified and to assert any and all defenses or privileges. The Class Representatives and Class Counsel agree that Defendant retains and reserves all these rights and agree not to take a position to the contrary.

**3.3** As soon as practicable after the execution of this Agreement, Plaintiffs shall file in the Action this Agreement and a Motion for Preliminary Approval seeking entry of the Preliminary Approval Order substantially in the form of Exhibit D, which order by its terms shall accomplish all of the following: (i) preliminarily approve the Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate; (ii) conditionally certify the Settlement Class for the purpose of effectuating the Settlement; (iii) preliminarily designate Named Plaintiffs Monique Bell, Tree Anderson, and Melissa Conklin as the Class Representatives of the Settlement Class; (iv) preliminarily designate Class Counsel as counsel for the Settlement Class; (iv) approve the Settlement Administrator and instruct the Settlement Administrator to perform its functions in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and the Preliminary Approval Order; and (v) approve the form, contents, and method of the Class Notice Program, as detailed in Section 8 of this Agreement.

# 4. <u>SETTLEMENT CONSIDERATION AND PROCEDURES FOR</u> <u>PROVIDING BENEFITS TO SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBERS</u>

#### 4.1 Benefit Available to Settlement Class Members

In order to qualify for a Benefit, Settlement Class Members must timely submit a

completed and valid Claim Form, which shall be substantially the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit</u> <u>A</u>. This can be done on the Settlement Website or by mail, submitted by or postmarked by the Claims Deadline. In consideration for the Settlement and Releases given herein and subject to the rights, terms, and conditions of this Agreement, Defendant will make available the Settlement Sum to pay Valid Claims subject to Section 4.4.

Settlement Class Members will be able to choose between two mutually exclusive Benefit options.

- (a) Settlement Class Members who elect to fill out the Claim Form and who do not provide valid Proof of Purchase(s) may recover four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) per Unit, limited to up to three (3) total Units (the "Simple Claim"); or
- (b) Settlement Class Members who elect to fill out the Claim Form and who provide valid Proof of Purchase(s) dated within the Class Period may recover four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) for each Unit included in the Proof of Purchase(s), without limitation (the "Proof Claim").

For the avoidance of doubt, a Settlement Class Member may file a Claim Form electing either option, but not both. If no proof or inadequate proof is submitted along with a Proof Claim, but the claim is otherwise a Valid Claim, it will be treated as a Simple Claim and subject to the Unit limitations therein. No single Proof of Purchase can support a Proof Claim for more than one Settlement Class Member.

# 4.2 Claim Form Requirements

The Settlement Administrator shall validate that all sections of the Claim Form are complete and that the Settlement Class Member provided and certified the truth and accuracy of the following information under the penalty of perjury, including by signing the Claim Form physically or by e-signature, or the Claim will not be considered a Valid Claim by the Settlement Administrator. The absence of any of the following information, or the provision of incorrect information, will result in the rejection of the Claim:

- (a) The Settlement Class Member's name and mailing address;
- (b) The Settlement Class Member's email address (unless the Settlement Class Member requests a claim form by mail, in which case an email address is optional);
- (c) The name of the Product(s) purchased, the store name where the Product(s) were purchased, and the number of Units purchased during the Class Period;
- (d) For Proof Claims, valid Proof of Purchase(s);
- (e) That the claimed purchases were not made for purposes of resale;
- (f) The payment preference of the Settlement Class Member (*i.e.*, via check or electronic payment); and
- (g) A security code or control number provided by the Settlement Administrator at the time the Class Member requests a Claim Form on the Settlement Website (if the Settlement Class Member requests a Claim Form by mail).

## 4.3 Claim Submission

At the election of the Settlement Class Member, the Settlement Administrator shall accept Claim Forms submitted on paper via United States First Class Mail or online at the Settlement Website. Claim Forms must be either postmarked (if sent by mail) or received (if submitted electronically) by the Settlement Administrator by no later than the Claims Deadline. Claim Forms postmarked or submitted online after that date will not be considered Valid Claims, but any such Settlement Class Member submitting a late Claim Form shall nevertheless be bound by all of the terms in this Agreement, including the terms of the Final Approval Order and the Releases in this Agreement, and shall be permanently barred and enjoined from bringing any action, claim, or other proceeding of any kind against any Released Parties concerning any Released Claims.

## 4.4 Only Valid Claims Paid; No Unclaimed Property Rights

The Settlement Sum will be used to pay the Benefit Payments as determined by the Settlement Administrator subject to the number of Valid Claims and other adjustments pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, Defendant, through the Settlement Sum, shall pay Valid Claims only. This Agreement does not create any vested property interest or unclaimed property rights for Settlement Class Members who do not file Valid Claims.

## 4.5 Invalid Claims

Any Settlement Class Member who fails to submit a timely, accurate, completed Valid Claim, or who otherwise submits a Claim Form determined to be invalid for any reason, shall not be entitled to receive a Benefit Payment, but shall otherwise be bound by all of the terms in this Agreement, including the terms of the Final Approval Order and the Releases in this Agreement, and shall be permanently barred and enjoined from bringing any action, claim, or other proceeding of any kind against any Released Parties concerning any Released Claims.

# 4.6 Cap and Proportionate Reduction

The actual amount paid to Settlement Class Members will depend upon the number of Valid Claims. If the total amount to be paid as a result of Valid Claims exceeds the amount of the Settlement Sum that remains after the payment of Class Representative Service Awards, and Class Counsel's Fee Award, then the Benefit payable to each Claimant shall be proportionately reduced, such that Defendant's maximum liability under this Agreement shall not exceed the Settlement Sum.

# 5. <u>THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR</u>

**5.1** The Parties shall jointly ask the Court to approve a Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall, subject to the supervision of the Court, administer the relief provided by this Agreement by processing Claim Forms in a rational, responsive, cost-effective, and timely manner. The Settlement Administrator shall maintain reasonably detailed records of its activities under this Agreement. The Settlement Administrator shall maintain all such records as are required by applicable law in accordance with its normal business practices, and such records will be made available to Class Counsel, Defendant's Counsel, and the Parties promptly upon request. The foregoing notwithstanding, the Class List (as defined herein) will be kept confidential and will not be shared with Plaintiffs or any Settlement Class Member.

**5.2** Defendant will pay all Administration Expenses, except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement, and shall pay such expenses separate and apart from the Settlement Sum. Defendant shall not be obligated to compute, estimate, or pay any taxes on behalf of Plaintiffs, any Settlement Class Member, Class Counsel, or the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator will invoice Defendant directly as agreed upon between the Settlement Administrator and Defendant. The Settlement Administrator will complete and provide to Defendant any W9 forms necessary for Defendant to pay for the Administration Expenses.

**5.3** Defendant shall not be responsible for any cost that may be incurred by, on behalf of, or at the direction of, Plaintiffs or Class Counsel in: (a) responding to inquiries about the Agreement, the Settlement, or the Action; or (b) posting the Publication Notice on Class Counsel's website, should that occur subject to the mutual agreement of the Parties.

**5.4** The Settlement Administrator will track Claim Forms with unique security identifiers or control numbers issued to Persons who seek to file a Claim. For Claim Forms that are submitted online, the Settlement Class Member shall have the opportunity to upload Proof of Purchase image files (*e.g.*, jpg, tif, pdf), to preview and confirm information entered in the Claim Form prior to submitting the claim, and to print a page immediately after the Claim Form has been submitted showing the information entered, the names of image file(s) uploaded, and the date and time the Claim Form was received.

5.5 The Settlement Administrator shall be responsible for, among other things, implementing the Class Notice Program, processing Claim Forms, and administering the Settlement Website, toll-free telephone support line, objection process, and claims process described herein (including receiving and maintaining on behalf of the Court and the Parties any Settlement Class Member correspondence regarding requests to opt-out from the Settlement Class). The Settlement Administrator will use mutually agreed upon security procedures and standards to prevent the filing and payment of false or fraudulent claims, and to pay only Valid Claims. The Settlement Administrator and Parties shall have the right to audit claims, and the Settlement Administrator may request additional information from Claimants.

**5.6** The Settlement Administrator will determine whether Claims are Valid Claims and issue Benefit Payments based upon the terms and conditions of the Agreement or may reject Claims which are invalid or evidence waste, fraud, or abuse. The determination of validity of claims shall occur, if feasible, at least 7 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. Should the Settlement Administrator need additional time, the Parties agree to work together in good faith to determine how much additional time is necessary to validate claims. The Settlement Administrator shall approve or deny all claims after consultation with Class Counsel and

Defendant's Counsel. Neither Plaintiffs nor Defendant, nor their counsel, shall have any liability whatsoever for any act or omission of the Settlement Administrator, including the denial of Claims. The Settlement Administrator shall not receive any incentive for denying claims.

5.7 The Settlement Administrator shall also provide reports and other information to the Court as the Court may require. The Settlement Administrator shall promptly and on a weekly basis provide Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel with information concerning notice, administration, and implementation of the Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, the Settlement Administrator shall:

- (a) promptly forward, upon request, to Defendant's Counsel and Class
   Counsel, copies of all documents and other materials relating to the administration of the Settlement;
- (b) cause notice, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1715, to be served not later than ten
   (10) days after this Agreement is filed with the Court, on the Attorneys
   General of each U.S. State in which Settlement Class members reside, the
   Attorney General of the United States, and other required government
   officials, as required by law;
- (c) receive requests from Settlement Class Members to opt out from or object to the Settlement Class and promptly provide to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel a copy thereof upon receipt. If the Settlement Administrator receives any opt-out requests or objections from Settlement Class Members after the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline, the Settlement Administrator shall promptly provide copies thereof to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel;

- (d) provide reports and summaries on a weekly basis throughout the Claim
   Period to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel, including and without
   limitation, reports regarding the number of Claim Forms received;
- (e) employ reasonable procedures to screen Claims Forms for waste, fraud, and abuse and shall reject a Claim Form, or any part of a Claim for a payment reflected therein, where the Settlement Administrator determines that there is evidence of waste, fraud, or abuse. The Settlement Administrator will review each Claim Form and ensure that each is complete, properly substantiated, and, based on the substantiation, determine the appropriate benefit to be paid, if any, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The Settlement Administrator is empowered to pay legitimate and Valid Claims only;
- (f) prepare a declaration attesting to the implementation of and compliance with the Class Notice Program requirements set forth below and identifying all opt-outs and/or objectors. Such declaration shall be provided to Defendant's Counsel and Class Counsel for filing with the Court no later than seven (7) days prior to the filing of the Motion for Final Approval;
- (g) distribute Benefit Payments for payment of Valid Claims. Defendant is obligated to pay Valid Claims only. To the extent that a Benefit Payment is made by check, as opposed to other forms of payment that may be available to Settlement Class Members, such checks shall bear in the legend that they expire if not negotiated within 150 days of their date of

issue. Benefit Payment checks issued to a Settlement Class Member not cashed within 150 days after the date of issue shall be void. Any undistributed or unclaimed monies from the Settlement Sum and any monies remaining as a result of uncashed checks shall remain with (and, for uncashed checks, promptly revert to) Defendant; and

(h) Obtain any and all tax documents needed to process or may any payments required as a result of this Agreement.

### 6. <u>FUNDING & DISTRIBUTION OF THE SETTLEMENT SUM</u>

**6.1** As described herein, the Settlement Sum shall be used to provide the exclusive recovery and relief for the Settlement Class, any Fee Award, and any Class Representative Incentive Awards. The Settlement Sum and the Administration Expenses shall be the sole and exclusive monetary contribution or consideration paid or provided by Defendant under this Settlement Agreement and Defendant shall not, under any circumstances, be obligated to pay any other additional amounts beyond the Settlement Sum and the Administration Expense. Any part of the Settlement Sum that is not used for Valid Claims, the Fee Award, and the Class Representative Incentive Awards shall remain with Defendant, including any uncashed checks.

6.2 From the Settlement Sum, Defendant, within 35 days after the Effective Date, shall fund all amounts required by the Settlement Administrator for distribution of: (i) any Benefit Payments to Settlement Class Members who submit Valid Claims, and (ii) any Class Representative Incentive Awards awarded by the Court.

6.3 The Settlement Administrator shall pay any Benefit Payments to Settlement Class Members who submit Valid Claims within 49 days after the Effective Date. If the Court awards Class Representative Incentive Awards, the Settlement Administrator shall effectuate the payment as directed by Class Counsel within 49 days of the Effective Date.

6.4 The funding and payment of any Fee Award is detailed in Section 7.2.

**6.5** The payments made by Defendant to the Settlement Administrator to fund the Settlement, at such times as payments are required by this Agreement, as described herein will be maintained by an escrow agent as a Court-approved Qualified Settlement Fund pursuant to Section 1.468B-1, *et seq.*, of the Treasury Regulations promulgated under Section 468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and shall be deposited in an interest-bearing account.

**6.6** This Agreement is conditioned on the entry of the Final Approval Order without material modification of this Agreement by the Court. If the Court does not enter the Final Approval Order or if the Effective Date does not occur for any reason, Defendant shall not be obligated to make any payments or provide any monetary or non-monetary relief to Plaintiffs or the Settlement Class Members or any Class Representative Incentive Award. Further, if the Final Approval Order is not entered, Defendant shall not be obligated to pay any Fee Award to Class Counsel. If the Final Approval Order is entered, but the Effective Date does not occur, the payment of the Fee Award will be governed by the stipulated undertaking, a sample of which is attached hereto as Exhibit E.

# 7. <u>CLASS COUNSEL'S APPLICATION FOR AN AWARD OF</u> <u>ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES AND CLASS REPRESENTATIVE</u> <u>SERVICE AWARDS</u>

7.1 The Parties agree, subject to Court approval, that the law firms of Bursor & Fisher, P.A. and Gucovschi Rozenshteyn, PLLC shall be appointed Class Counsel, without prejudice to Defendant's right to contest the appointment in the event that this Agreement is not fully implemented in accordance with its terms. If the Settlement is not approved or this Agreement fails to be implemented, this Agreement and any filings or orders relating thereto shall not constitute admissible evidence and Defendant reserves all rights to object to any subsequent motion to appoint class counsel in these or any other actions.

7.2 At least 14 days prior to the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline, Class Counsel will submit to the Court an Application seeking a Fee Award which shall not exceed \$1,140,000.00. In addition, Class Representatives may seek a Class Representative Service Award for each Named Plaintiff in the amount of three thousand dollars and zero cents (\$3,000.00) as compensation for their efforts in bringing the Action and achieving the benefits of the Settlement on behalf of the Settlement Class. The Fee Award and Class Representative Service Awards shall be paid from the Settlement Sum.

**7.3** Class Counsel and the Class Representatives, respectively, shall not seek, and will not accept, a Fee Award or Class Representative Service Award in excess of that set forth above, nor will Class Counsel or the Class Representatives appeal the award of any amounts lower than what was sought.

7.4 Court approval of Class Counsel's Fee Award and Class Representative Service Awards will not be a condition of the Settlement. If the Court denies, in whole or part, Class Counsel's Application for a Fee Award, the remainder of the terms of this Agreement shall remain in effect. In addition, no interest will accrue on such amounts at any time, except as provided in the stipulated undertaking attached as <u>Exhibit E</u>. Neither Class Counsel nor Plaintiffs will request nor will they accept any award inconsistent with these terms.

7.5 Defendant agrees that it will not object to the amount of Class Counsel's Application for a Fee Award up to the amounts set forth in the preceding paragraphs and will not solicit or encourage others to do so.

7.6 Within 7 business days of the entry of the Final Approval Order, Defendant shall transmit to the Settlement Administrator the amounts awarded by the Court for the Fee Award, provided that Class Counsel first provide signed stipulated undertakings in substantially the form attached as <u>Exhibit</u> <u>E</u>. Within 3 business days thereafter, the Settlement Administrator shall effectuate payment to Class Counsel.

7.7 Class Counsel shall provide the Settlement Administrator with all necessary accounting and tax information, including W-9 forms, with reasonable advance notice to allow Settlement Administrator to make the Fee Award payment as set forth above, as well as the Class Representative Service Awards. Once the Settlement Administrator makes the Fee Award payment as directed in writing by Class Counsel, Defendant shall have no further obligation to pay any additional sums to Class Counsel and shall be held harmless and indemnified by Class Counsel for the division and disbursements of the Fee Award amongst and between Class Counsel.

## 8. <u>NOTICE AND DISSEMINATION TO THE SETTLEMENT CLASS</u>

The Class Notice Program shall consist of the Direct Notice, Publication Notice, Long-Form Notice, and Settlement Website, defined above and detailed below. No notice other than as set forth herein shall be conducted by the Parties.

The Parties agree that the Class Notice Program shall be in the manner and form agreed upon by the Parties and approved by the Court. Collectively, the Settlement Notice shall in general terms set forth and sufficiently inform the Settlement Class Members of: (a) a short, plain statement of the background of the Action, the Settlement Class certification, and the essential terms of the Settlement; (b) appropriate means for obtaining additional information regarding the Settlement and the Action; (c) appropriate information concerning the procedure for objecting or opting-out from the Settlement, if they should wish to do so; and (d) that any relief to Settlement Class Members is contingent on the Court's final approval of the Settlement and reaching the Effective Date. The Parties will request that the Court approve the Class Notice Program in the Preliminary Approval Order.

#### 8.1 Direct Notice

No later than fourteen (14) days after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, Defendant shall produce an electronic list from its records that includes all of the names and email addresses, to the extent the foregoing exists in Defendant's records, belonging to Persons within the Settlement Class who are members of Defendant's loyalty program, known as the ExtraCare program. This electronic document shall be called the "Class List," and shall be provided to the Settlement Administrator. The Class List, and any information derived therefrom, shall be kept confidential and will be produced subject to the Protective Order entered in the Action, which must be executed by the Settlement Administrator.

Using the information provided from the Class List, the Settlement Administrator shall, within thirty-five (35) days from entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, cause Direct Notice to be disseminated via email only, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit C-1, along with an electronic link to the Claim Form and Settlement Website, to all Settlement Class Members for whom a valid email address is in the Class List. In the event transmission of the email notice results in any "bounce-backs," the Settlement Administrator will resend a second attempt.

## 8.2 **Publication Notice**

Similarly, within thirty-five (35) days after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, the Settlement Administrator will cause the Publication Notice, substantially in the form of Exhibit C-2, to be published in accordance with the Media Plan. The Media Plan will be implemented on a single occasion. The Parties agree to mutually consider, if necessary, conducting a supplemental Publication Notice at the expense of Class Counsel, and consent to conducting a second implementation of such supplemental Publication Notice will not be unreasonably withheld.

#### 8.3 Settlement Website

Within thirty-five (35) days after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, the Settlement Administrator will establish a Settlement Website that will contain the complaint in the Action, the Motion for Preliminary Approval, the Preliminary Approval Order, the Settlement Agreement, the Direct Notice, the Long-Form Notice, the Publication Notice, and the Claim Form. The Settlement Website will also identify key deadlines (e.g., the Claims Deadline, the Opt-Out Deadline, Objection Deadline, the date of the Final Approval Hearing), and it will direct Settlement Class Members on how to submit Claim Forms and will include a "Frequently Asked Questions" section. Settlement Website.

## 8.4 Toll-Free Telephone Support Line

Within thirty-five (35) days after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, the Settlement Administrator will establish a toll-free telephone support line that will provide Settlement Class Members with general information about the Action and will respond to frequently asked questions about the Action and claim procedure. Should Class Counsel desire to implement a live operator function for the toll-free telephone support line, Class Counsel may request that the Settlement Administrator implement that function at the sole expense of Class Counsel.

# 8.5 Declaration of Compliance

The Settlement Administrator shall prepare a declaration attesting to compliance with the

Class Notice Program requirements set forth above, detailing the scope of the Media Plan, and providing a statement of the percentage of Settlement Class Members the Class Notice Program reached. Such declaration shall be provided to Defendant's Counsel and Class Counsel no later than seven (7) days prior to the deadline to file the Motion for Final Approval.

### 9. OPT-OUT REQUESTS AND OBJECTIONS

The Class Notice will advise all Settlement Class Members of their rights to be excluded from the Settlement or to object to the Settlement.

# 9.1 **Opt-Out Requests**

(a) Any person who falls within the definition of the Settlement Class but wishes to be excluded from the Settlement may do so by timely mailing a valid opt-out notice, as described in the Class Notice Program, by the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline. Any person who is excluded from the Settlement will not be bound by this Settlement Agreement, will not be eligible to make a claim for any benefit under the terms of this Settlement Agreement, and will not be permitted to object to the Settlement or to intervene in the Action. At least seven (7) calendar days before the deadline to file the Motion for Final Approval, Class Counsel will prepare or cause the Settlement Administrator to prepare a list of the persons who have excluded themselves in a valid and timely manner from the Settlement Class, and Class Counsel will file that list with the Court.

(b) In order to exercise the right to be excluded, a Settlement Class Member must timely send a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator at the address provided in the Class Notice Program, providing: (i) his/her/their name, address, and telephone number; (ii) the name and number of this case; (iii) documents or information sufficient to establish the person's standing as a Settlement Class Member (including the Product purchased and date and location of purchase); (iv) a statement that he/she/they wishes/wish to be excluded from the Settlement Class; and (v) a signature. No mass or class opt-outs will be permitted.

(c) Any Settlement Class Member who validly opts out of the Settlement Class shall not: (a) be bound by any orders or judgments relating to the Settlement; (b) be entitled to relief under, or be affected by, this Agreement; (c) gain any rights by virtue of this Agreement; or (d) be entitled to object to any aspect of the Settlement. Except for those Settlement Class Members who timely and properly file a request for exclusion, all other Settlement Class Members will be deemed to be Settlement Class Members for all purposes under the Agreement, and upon the Effective Date, will be bound by its terms.

### 9.2 **Objections**

(a) Any person who is a Settlement Class Member and who wishes to object to the Settlement Agreement must timely serve a written objection on the Court and simultaneously with the Settlement Administrator, Defense Counsel, and Class Counsel, at the addresses described in the Class Notice Program, by the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline. Any person who submits both an opt-out request and an objection will be treated as opted out of the Settlement and will not be able to object.

(b) In order to object, the objection must contain: (i) a caption or title that identifies it as "Objection to Class Settlement in *Bell v. CVS Pharmacy, Inc.*"; (ii) contact and address information for the objecting Settlement Class Member; (iii) documents sufficient to establish the person's standing as a Settlement Class Member (including the Product purchased and date and location of purchase); (iv) the facts supporting the objection; (v) the legal grounds on which the objection is based, including all citations to legal authority and evidence supporting the objection; (vi) the name and contact information of any and all attorneys representing, advising, or in any way assisting the objecting Settlement Class Member in connection with the preparation or submission of the objection or who may profit from the pursuit of the objection (the "Objecting Attorneys"), and (vii) the objecting Settlement Class Member's signature (an attorney signature is not sufficient). If a Settlement Class Member or any of the Objecting Attorneys has objected to any class action settlement within the last five years, then the objection must include a statement identifying each such case by full case caption and amount of payment received. No mass or class objections will be permitted.

(c) Any Settlement Class Member who fails to object to the Settlement in the manner consistent with this Section shall be deemed to have waived any such objection, shall not be permitted to object to any terms or approval of the Settlement at the Final Approval Hearing, and shall be foreclosed from seeking any review of the Settlement or the terms of this Agreement by appeal or other means.

(d) If an objecting person chooses to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, a notice of intention to appear must be filed with the Court no later than the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline. The notice of intention to appear must identify: (i) whether the appearance will be through counsel, (ii) any witnesses the objecting person may call to testify at the Final Approval Hearing; and (iii) all exhibits the objecting person intends to introduce into evidence at the Final Approval Hearing, which must also be attached to, or included with, the written objection. Only Settlement Class Members who submit timely objections including notices of intention to appear may speak at the Final Approval Hearing. If a Settlement Class Member makes an objection through an attorney, the Settlement Class Member will be responsible for his/her/their personal attorney's fees and costs.

(e) The Parties shall have the right to take discovery without further leave of court consistent with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure from any person who claims to be a Settlement Class Member who objects to the Settlement. If the person who objects to the Settlement is represented by counsel, the Parties shall also have the right to take discovery consistent with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure from the Objecting Attorney without further leave of court.

# 10. LABEL CHANGE

**10.1** As part of the consideration of this Agreement, and without admitting that the previous labels had any deceptive aspects to a reasonable consumer or were otherwise actionable, Defendant agrees to have the Labeling changed on the Products to clearly identify that the Products contain the "maximum strength" of lidocaine available over the counter ("OTC") without a prescription and to remove any language concerning the length of time the Products in patch form will adhere.

**10.2** Nothing in this Agreement requires Defendant to withdraw, change, or otherwise modify labeling, components, packing cases, or advertising of the Products already manufactured, in distribution or storage, and/or stocked in stores.

**10.3** Defendant agrees to implement the changes described in Section 10.1 within 12 months following the Effective Date (the "Label Deadline"). For the avoidance of any doubt, none of the Products' labels modified pursuant to Section 10.1 shall require review or preclearance by Plaintiffs or Class Counsel. Defendant shall maintain complete discretion as it relates to Labeling, notwithstanding its agreement to implement the changes described herein.

**10.4** Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude Defendant from making further changes to any labels or advertising for the Products so long as those changes are not inconsistent with

Section 10.1. Further, nothing in this Agreement shall preclude Defendant from making any changes that Defendant, in its sole discretion, determines to be necessary to, or required to, comply with any law, regulation or administrative guidance, even if such changes are different from those specified in Section 10.1.

### 11. FINAL JUDGMENT AND SETTLEMENT APPROVAL

This Agreement is subject to and conditioned upon the issuance by the Court of the Final Approval Order that, without material alteration to this Agreement or its exhibits, finally certifies the Settlement Class for the purposes of this Settlement, grants final approval of the Agreement, and provides the relief specified herein, which relief shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement and the Parties' performance of their continuing rights and obligations hereunder. If the Settlement is approved, the Court will enter a judgment dismissing the claims against Defendant with prejudice. The Parties waive any right to appeal or collaterally attack a Final Approval Order entered by the Court that does not materially alter this Agreement.

# 12. <u>RELEASES</u>

**12.1** Upon the Effective Date and without any further action by the Court or by any Party to this Agreement, the Releasing Parties, for good and sufficient consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is acknowledged, shall be deemed to, and shall, in fact, have remised, released, and forever discharged any and all Released Claims, which they, or any of them, had or has or may in the future have or claim to have against any of the Released Parties.

**12.2** The Releasing Parties hereby fully release and forever discharge the Released Parties from any and all claims, demands, rights, damages, obligations, suits, debts, liens, contracts, agreements, judgments, expenses, costs, liabilities, and causes of action of every nature

and description, including claims for attorneys' fees, expenses and costs, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, existing now or arising in the future that: (a) is or are based on, related to, or arise out of, any act, omission, inadequacy, misstatement, representation, harm, matter, cause, or event pertaining to the Products that has occurred at any time from the beginning of time up to and including the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, (b) arise from or are related in any way to this Action or the marketing, advertising, promoting, or Labeling of the Products, or (c) were or could have been asserted in the Action ("Released Claims").

**12.3** The Releasing Parties also agree to release, waive, and not pursue any claims whatsoever concerning or relating to the Labeling of the Products that arise between the date of the Preliminary Approval Order and the Label Deadline.

**12.4** With respect to any and all Released Claims against any and all Released Parties, the Parties stipulate and agree that each Releasing Party shall have expressly waived the provisions, rights, and benefits of Cal. Civ. Code § 1542 or any federal, state, or foreign law, rule, regulation, or common-law doctrine that is similar, comparable, equivalent, or identical to, or that has the effect in whole or part of, Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which provides: "A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY." Each of the Releasing Parties shall be deemed to have acknowledged, and by operation of the entry of a Final Approval Order acknowledges, that he/she/they/it is/are aware that he/she/they/it may hereafter discover facts other than or different from those that they know or believe to be true with respect to the

subject matter of the Released Claims, but it is his/her/their/its intention to, and each of them shall be deemed upon the Effective Date to have, waived and fully, finally, and forever settled and released any and all Released Claims, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, asserted or unasserted, contingent or non-contingent, whether or not concealed or hidden, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts.

**12.5** The Releasing Parties understand and acknowledge the significance of these waivers and any other applicable federal or state statute, case law, rule, or regulation relating to limitations on releases. In connection with such waivers and relinquishment, the Releasing Parties acknowledge that they are aware that they may hereafter discover facts in addition to, or different from, those facts that they now know or believe to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Settlement, but that it is their intention to release fully, finally, and forever all Released Claims with respect to the Released Parties, and in furtherance of such intention, the release of the Released Claims will be and remain in effect notwithstanding the discovery or existence of any such additional or different facts.

**12.6** The Final Approval Order shall further provide for and effect the release of the Released Claims by the Releasing Parties, and all actions, causes of action, claims, administrative claims, demands, debts, damages, costs, attorney's fees, obligations, judgments, expenses, compensation, or liabilities, in law or in equity, whether now known or unknown, contingent or absolute, that Releasing Parties now have or may have against the Released Parties by reason of any act, omission, harm, matter, cause, or event whatsoever arising out of or relating to the Action, the initiation, prosecution, or settlement of the Action or the claims and defenses asserted in or could have been asserted in the Action.

**12.7** Notwithstanding the above, the Court shall retain jurisdiction over the Parties and

the Agreement with respect to the future performance of the terms of the Agreement, and to assure that all payments and other actions required of any of the Parties by the Settlement are properly made or taken.

## 13. <u>REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES</u>

Each Party represents and warrants to, and agrees with, the other Party as follows:

**13.1** Each Party has had the opportunity to receive, and has received, independent legal advice from his, her, their, or its attorneys regarding the advisability of making the Settlement, the advisability of executing this Agreement, and the legal and income tax consequences of this Agreement, and fully understands and accepts the terms of this Agreement.

**13.2** Defendant represents and warrants that: (a) it has the requisite corporate power and authority to execute, deliver, and perform the Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby; (b) the execution, delivery, and performance of the Agreement and the consummation by it of the actions contemplated herein have been duly authorized by necessary corporate action on the part of Defendant; and (c) the Agreement has been duly and validly executed and delivered by Defendant and constitutes its legal, valid, and binding obligation.

**13.3** Named Plaintiffs represent and warrant that they are entering into the Agreement on behalf of themselves individually and as proposed representatives of the Settlement Class Members, of their own free will and without the receipt of any consideration other than what is provided in the Agreement or disclosed to, and authorized by, the Court. N a m e d Plaintiffs represent and warrant that they have reviewed the terms of the Agreement in consultation with Class Counsel and believe them to be fair and reasonable, and covenant that they will not file an opt-out request from the Settlement Class or object to the Agreement.

13.4 Named Plaintiffs represent and warrant that no portion of any claim, right,

demand, action, or cause of action against any of the Released Parties that Named Plaintiffs have or may have arising out of or relating to the Action or pertaining to their purchase and/or use of the Product and/or the design, manufacture, testing, marketing, Labeling, packaging, or sale of the Product otherwise referred to in this Agreement, and no portion of any recovery or settlement to which Named Plaintiffs may be entitled, has been assigned, transferred, or conveyed by or for Named Plaintiffs in any manner, and that no Person other than Named Plaintiffs have any legal or equitable interest in their claims, demands, actions, or causes of action referred to in this Agreement.

13.5 Named Plaintiffs represent and warrant that to their knowledge, they have no surviving claim or cause of action against any of the Released Parties that is not being released by this Agreement.

**13.6** Class Counsel represent and warrant that they know of no other persons with claims against Defendant that could have been asserted in the Action who are not included in the Settlement Class and whose claims will not be released upon the Effective Date of this Agreement.

**13.7** No Party relies or has relied on any statement, representation, omission, inducement, or promise of the other party (or any officer, agent, employee, representative, or attorney for any other party) in executing this Agreement, or entering the Settlement provided for herein, except as expressly stated in this Agreement.

# 14. <u>MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS</u>

### 14.1 Termination of Agreement

This Agreement may be terminated at the election of either Party: (a) if the Court fails to approve the Agreement; (b) in the event of any proposed material modification of this Agreement

as a condition to approval of the Settlement, to which the Parties do not mutually agree; (c) if 200 or more persons opt out; or (d) prior to approval of this Agreement by the Court, upon the mutual agreement of the Parties by and through their respective counsel.

#### 14.2 Entire Agreement

This Agreement, together with the Exhibits hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter of the Settlement and supersedes all prior negotiations, communications, memoranda, and agreements between the Parties. Neither Plaintiffs nor Defendant are entering into this Agreement in reliance upon any representations, warranties, or inducements other than those contained in this Agreement.

#### 14.3 Change of Time Periods

The time periods and/or dates described in this Agreement with respect to the giving of notices and hearings are subject to approval and change by the Court or by the written agreement of Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel, without notice to Class Members, except that the Settlement Administrator shall ensure that such dates are posted on the Settlement Website.

#### 14.4 Extension of Time

The Parties reserve the right, by agreement and subject to the Court's approval, to grant any reasonable extension of time that might be needed to carry out any of the provisions of this Agreement.

#### 14.5 Media and Contact of Class Members

Other than public court filings, court-ordered notice to the class, and communications with Settlement Class Members, there shall be no other publication or dissemination of the terms of this Settlement by Named Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, or the Administrator,

37

including, but not limited to, in the form of press releases or in response to inquiry from any media. For the avoidance of any doubt, nothing in this Agreement prevents the Parties from making any disclosures required to effectuate this Agreement or as required by law, nor does anything in this Agreement prevent Class Counsel from answering any inquiries initiated by Settlement Class Members or communicating with Named Plaintiffs.

#### 14.6 Cooperation

Defendant, Named Plaintiffs, and their respective counsel agree to prepare and execute any additional documents that may reasonably be necessary to effectuate the terms of this Agreement. The Parties shall cooperate with the Settlement Administrator to the extent reasonably necessary to assist and facilitate the Settlement Administrator in carrying out its duties and responsibilities.

#### 14.7 Plaintiffs' Authority

Class Counsel represent and warrant that they are authorized to take all appropriate actions required or permitted to be taken by or on behalf of Named Plaintiffs and, subsequent to an appropriate Court Order, the Settlement Class, in order to effectuate the terms of this Agreement and are also authorized to enter into appropriate modifications or amendments to this Agreement on behalf of Named Plaintiffs and, subsequent to an appropriate Court Order, the Settlement Class Members.

#### 14.8 Governing Law

This Agreement shall be construed and governed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, without regard to New York's conflict-of-laws principles.

#### **14.9 Stay Pending Court Approval**

Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel agree to stay all proceedings, other than those

38

proceedings necessary to carry out or enforce the terms and conditions of the Settlement, until the Effective Date of the Settlement has occurred. If for any reason the Settlement does not receive final, complete, and non-appealable approval, the First Amended Complaint (ECF No. 53-1) will be withdrawn and the Parties shall proceed solely on the basis of the original Complaint (ECF No. 1), and from the point in this Action immediately preceding the signing of this Settlement, including the reinstatement of the briefing on the motion for judgment on the pleadings,(ECF No. 37. 41-43. 44. 45).

#### 14.10 Construing the Agreement

This Agreement shall not be construed more strictly against one Party than another merely by virtue of the fact that it may have been initially drafted by counsel for only one of the Parties. It is recognized that this Agreement is the result of arm's-length negotiations between the Parties and it is acknowledged that all Parties have contributed substantially to the preparation of this Agreement. Accordingly, the doctrine of *contra proferentum* shall not apply in construing this Agreement, nor shall any other such similar doctrine apply.

#### 14.11 Modifications Suggested by the Court

If the Court suggests any modifications to the Settlement Agreement or seeks to condition entry of the Preliminary Approval Order or Final Approval Order on modifications to the Agreement, the Parties shall, working in good faith and consistent with the Agreement, endeavor to cure any such deficiencies identified by the Court. However, Defendant shall not be obligated to make any additions or modifications to the Agreement that would affect the Benefits provided to Settlement Class Members, the structure of the Settlement Sum, the cost to or burden on Defendant, or the scope of any of the Released Claims contemplated in this Agreement.

#### 14.12 Evidentiary Preclusion

39

The Parties agree that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, neither this Agreement nor the Settlement, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of this Agreement or the Settlement: (a) is or may be deemed to be or may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, the validity of any claim or of any wrongdoing or liability of the Released Parties; or (b) is or may be deemed to be or may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, any fault or omission of any Released Party or the appropriateness of class certification in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal. In addition, any failure of the Court to approve the Settlement and/or any objections or interventions may not be used as evidence in the Action or any other proceeding for any purpose whatsoever. However, the Parties may file the Agreement and/or the Final Approval Order in any action or proceeding that may be brought against them in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar, or reduction or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim.

#### 14.13 Effect of Non-Approval

This Agreement is conditioned on entry of a Final Approval Order without material modification by the Court and reaching the Effective Date. In the event that this Agreement is not approved by the Court in substantially its present form, any Objection to the Settlement is sustained by the Court, or the Effective Date is not reached for any reason, including termination pursuant to paragraph 15.1 above, the terms and provisions of this Agreement shall have no further force and effect with respect to the Parties or the Class Members, except as may be required by the stipulated undertaking attached as Exhibit E (which would occur if, and only if, the Final Approval Order is entered, but the Effective

Date is not reached), and shall not be used in this Action or in any other action or proceeding for any purpose, and any order or judgment entered by the Court in accordance with the terms of this Agreement shall be treated as vacated, *nunc pro tunc*. In such event, this Agreement and all negotiations, proceedings, documents prepared, and statements made in connection with this Agreement shall be without prejudice to any Party or Class Member and shall not be admissible or offered into evidence in any action or proceeding, and shall not be deemed, asserted, or construed to be an admission or confession by any Party or any other person or entity of any fact, matter, or proposition of law, and shall not be used or asserted in any other manner or for any purpose, and all Parties and Class Members shall stand in the same position as if this Agreement and Settlement had not been negotiated, made, or submitted to the Court.

#### 14.14 Signatures

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, and, when so executed, shall constitute a binding original, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Facsimile signatures or signatures sent by email shall be deemed original signatures and shall be binding.

#### 14.15 Notices

Whenever this Agreement requires or contemplates that one Party shall or may give notice to the other, notice shall be provided in writing by United States First Class Mail and email to:

**14.5.1** If to Plaintiffs or Class Counsel:

Joseph I. Marchese Bursor & Fisher, P.A. 888 Seventh Ave. New York, NY 10019

#### jmarchese@bursor.com

And

Adrian Gucovschi, Esq. Gucovschi Rozenshteyn, PLLC 630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 New York, NY 10111 Telephone: (212) 884-4230 E-Mail: adrian@gr-firm.com

14.5.2 If to Defendant or Defendant's counsel ("Defendant's Counsel"):

Emily N. Dillingham Mark S. Eisen Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff LLP 71 S. Wacker Dr. 16th Floor Chicago, IL 60606 312-212-4949 Fax: 312-767-9192 Email: edillingham@beneschlaw.com meisen@beneschlaw.com

#### 14.16 Good Faith

The Parties agree that they will act in good faith and will not engage in any conduct that will or may frustrate the purpose of this Agreement.

#### 14.17 Protective Orders

All orders, settlement agreements, and designations regarding the confidentiality of documents and information ("Protective Orders") remain in effect, and all Parties and counsel remain bound to comply with the Protective Orders, including the provisions to certify the destruction of "Confidential" documents.

#### 14.18 Binding on Successors

This Agreement shall be binding upon the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of the Plaintiffs, Settlement Class Members, and Defendant.

#### 14.19 Arm's-Length Negotiations

The determination of the terms and conditions contained herein and the drafting of the provisions of this Agreement have been by mutual understanding after negotiation, with consideration by, and participation of, the Parties hereto and their counsel.

#### 14.20 Waiver

The waiver by one Party of any provision or breach of the Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of any other provision or breach of the Agreement.

#### 14.21 Variance

In the event of any variance between the terms of this Agreement and any of the Exhibits hereto, the terms of this Agreement shall control and supersede the Exhibit(s).

#### 14.22 Modification or Amendment

This Agreement may not be modified or amended, nor may any of its provisions be waived, except by a writing signed by the Parties who executed this Agreement or their successors-in-interest.

#### 14.23 Severability

Should any part, term, or provision of this Agreement be declared or determined by any court or tribunal to be illegal or invalid, the Parties agree that the Court may modify such provision to the extent necessary to make it valid, legal, and enforceable, if mutually agreed upon by the Parties. In any event, such provision shall, if mutually agreed upon, be separable and shall not limit or affect the validity, legality, or enforceability of any other provision hereunder. The claims-made structure of this Settlement is material term and Defendant represents that it would not have agreed to the Settlement but for the claims-made structure.

#### 14.24 Exhibits

All Exhibits to this Agreement are material and integral parts hereof, and are incorporated

by reference as if fully rewritten herein.

#### 14.25 Taxes

No opinion concerning the tax consequences of the Agreement to any Settlement Class Member is given or will be given by Defendant, Defendant's Counsel, or Class Counsel; nor is any Party or their counsel providing any representation or guarantee regarding the tax consequences of the Agreement as to any Settlement Class Member. Each Settlement Class Member is responsible for his/her/their tax reporting and other obligations respecting the Agreement, if any. The Parties and Releasees shall bear no responsibility for tax liabilities. The Settlement Administrator will handle all tax reporting with respect to the Settlement Fund and payments made pursuant to this Settlement and shall report payments pursuant to applicable law.

#### 14.26 No Fine or Penalty

The Parties agree that no part of any payments by Defendant pursuant to this Agreement constitutes: (i) a fine or penalty under any law; or (ii) a payment to settle any actual or potential liability for a fine or penalty under any law.

#### 14.27 Retain Jurisdiction

The Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to the implementation and enforcement of the terms of this Agreement, and all Parties hereto submit to the jurisdiction of the Court for purposes of implementing and enforcing the agreements embodied in this Agreement.

#### 14.28 Exclusive Remedy; Permanent Injunction

Upon issuance of the Final Approval Order: (i) the Agreement shall be the exclusive remedy for any and all Settlement Class Members, except those who have properly requested exclusion (opted out) in accordance with the terms and provisions hereof; (ii) the Released Parties shall not be subject to liability or expense for any of the Released Claims to any Settlement Class Member(s); (iii) Settlement Class Members who have not opted out shall be permanently barred and enjoined from asserting any Released Claims in any action or from filing, commencing, prosecuting, intervening in, or participating in (as class members or otherwise) any action based on or relating to any of the Released Claims or the facts and circumstances relating thereto; and (iv) Settlement Class Members who have not opted out shall be permanently barred and precluded from organizing Settlement Class Members, or soliciting the participation of Settlement Class Members, for purposes of pursuing any action (including by seeking to amend a pending complaint to include class allegations, or seeking class certification in a pending or future action) based on or relating to any of the Released Claims or the facts and circumstances relating thereto. The Parties agree that upon the entry of the Final Approval Order, the Action shall be dismissed with prejudice and judgment shall be entered.

#### 14.29 Enforcement

The provisions of this Settlement Agreement, and any orders, pleadings, or other documents entered in furtherance of this Settlement Agreement, may be offered or received in evidence solely: (a) to enforce the terms and provisions hereof or thereof; (b) to establish payment, or an affirmative defense of preclusion or bar in a subsequent case; (c) in connection with any motion to enjoin, stay, or dismiss any other action; or (d) for approval of the Settlement.

#### 14.30 Support From The Parties

After a full investigation, discovery, and arm's-length negotiations, the Parties and their counsel agree that they: (a) have independently determined that this Settlement is in the best interest of the Settlement Class; and (b) shall support motions for entry of the Preliminary Approval Order and Final Approval Order, so long as there is no material modification of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

## IT IS SO AGREED TO BY THE PARTIES:

Dated:	, 2023	MONIQUE BELL
		By: Individually and as representative of the Class
Dated:	, 2023	TREE ANDERSON
		By: Individually and as representative of the Class
Dated:	, 2023	Melissa Conklin
		By: Individually and as representative of the Class
Dated:	, 2023	CVS PHARMACY, INC.
		By:
		Name:
		Title:
IT IS SO STIPU	LATED BY COUNSI	EL:
Dated:	, 2023	Bursor & Fisher, P.A.
		By: Joseph I. Marchese jmarchese@bursor.com 888 Seventh Avenue New York, NY 10019 Tel: (646) 837-7410

Dated:	,	2023
--------	---	------

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Adrian Gucovschi, Esq. 630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 New York, NY 10111 Telephone: (212) 884-4230 E-Mail: adrian@gr-firm.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class

BENESCH FRIEDLANDER COPLAN & Aronoff LLP

#### By:\_\_\_\_\_

Mark S. Eisen meisen@beneschlaw.com 71 S. Wacker Dr. 16th Floor Chicago, IL 60606 312-212-4949 Fax: 312-767-9192

Attorneys for Defendant CVS Pharmacy, Inc.

Dated: , 2023

Exhibits to attach:

Exhibit A – Claim Form Exhibit B – Long Form Notice

Exhibit C-1 – Direct Notice

Exhibit C-2 – Publication Notice

 $\overline{Exhibit D} - Proposed Preliminary Approval Order$  $\underline{Exhibit E} - Stipulated Undertaking$ 

EXHIBIT A

## \*624900000000\*

6249000000000

#### **CLAIM FORM INSTRUCTIONS**

If you purchased a CVS store-brand maximum strength lidocaine patch, cream, or spray product between December 11, 2017 and [DATE] you may complete this Claim Form to be eligible to receive a cash payment under the Settlement. Claim forms may be completed online at www.lidocainesettlement.com or submitted by U.S. mail, postmarked no later than [DATE] to the following:

Settlement Name c/o Kroll Settlement Administration PO Box New York, NY 10150-5391

*NOTE: If you wish to receive payment electronically for an approved claim, you must complete the Claim Form online. All approved paper claims will receive checks mailed to the address you provide below.* 

For a list of Products covered by this Settlement, please review the Product list at www.lidocainesettlement.com.

#### **CLAIMANT INFORMATION**

First Name	MI	Last Name			
Street Address					
City			State	Zip	
() Phone Number					
E-mail Address (e-mail address is optional i	 f your		ted by mail)	<u>-</u>	

# \*624900000000\*

6249000000000

62490

Page 1 of 3

CLAIM AND POTENTIAL CASH BENEFIT

You may select one option below. If you select Option 2 but do not provide a Proof of Purchase, your claim will be treated as though submitted under Option 1.

**<u>Option 1</u>**: I purchased one or more of the CVS store-brand maximum strength lidocaine patch, cream, or spray Products, but I *do not* have proof of purchase.

Please provide how many Units of each Product(s) you purchased, along with the <u>name</u> of the Product(s) purchased (descriptions of the Product(s) will not suffice), the <u>store name</u> and the <u>year</u> of the purchase(s) between December 11, 2017 through [DATE].

**NOTE**: You will be paid for <u>up to three (3) total Units</u> (single containers) of the lidocaine Products without Proof of Purchase, up to a maximum of \$4.50 per Unit.

Product(s) Name	Number of product(s)	Store Name	Purchase Year

# <u>Option 2</u>: I purchased one or more of the CVS store-brand maximum strength lidocaine patch, cream, or spray Products and I <u>do</u> have Proof of Purchase.

Please provide how many units of each Product(s) you purchased, along with the <u>name</u> of the Product purchased, the <u>store name</u> and the <u>year</u> of the purchase between December 11, 2017 through [DATE]. You must include your Proof of Purchase, which can be any receipt, copies of receipts, paid invoice, or other similar types of documentation showing your purchase of the Lidocaine Products.

**NOTE**: If you select this option and provide valid Proof of Purchase, you will be paid up to a maximum of \$4.50 per Unit supported by your valid Proof of Purchase.

Product(s) Name	Number of product(s)	Store Name	Purchase Year

If additional space is needed, use the back of the Claim Form.



## \*624900000000\*

62490000000000

#### **CERTIFICATION**

By submitting this Claim Form, I declare under penalty of perjury that: (i) I purchased one or more CVS store-brand Products (as defined in the Settlement Agreement), (ii) in the United States, (iii) between December 11, 2017 and [DATE], (iv) and that such purchase(s) was not for purposes of resale. This Claim Form may be researched and verified by the Settlement Administrator.

Additional information regarding the Settlement can be found at visit www.lidocainesettlement.com

 Signature:
 Date:
 /
 /

## ACCURATE CLAIMS PROCESSING TAKES TIME. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE

Reminder Checklist:

- 1. Please sign the above Claim Form and complete all of the information requested above.
- 2. If filing under Option 2, enclose a copy of your Proof(s) of Purchase.
- 3. Keep a copy of your Claim Form and supporting documentation for your records.



**EXHIBIT B** 

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

*Bell v. CVS Pharmacy, Inc.,* Case No. 1:21-cv-06850-PK (E.D.N.Y.)

## If you purchased a CVS branded maximum strength lidocaine patch, cream, or spray product between December 11, 2017, and [the date of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order], you may be entitled to benefits from a class action settlement.

*A federal court authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer. You are not being sued.* 

- A settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit. In the lawsuit, Plaintiffs Monique Bell, Tree Anderson, and Melissa Conklin ("Plaintiffs") allege that packaging of Defendant's Lidocaine Products (as defined below) was false and deceptive in that it led purchasers to believe that the Lidocaine Products delivered a "maximum strength" amount of lidocaine, and that the Products in patch form could reliably adhere to consumer bodies for up to 8 or 12 hours. Defendant does not concede the truth of any of the claims against it, and denies that it did anything wrong. The Court has not decided who is right. Instead, the parties agreed to a compromise ("Settlement").
- The Settlement offers payments to Settlement Class Members who file Valid Claims.
- Your legal rights will be affected even if you do not act. Your rights and options and the deadlines to exercise them are explained in this Class Notice. Please read this Notice carefully in its entirety. Defined terms have the meanings given to them in the Settlement Agreement.

SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBERS' LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THE SETTLEMENT			
YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS	WHAT THEY MEAN	DEADLINES	
DO NOTHING	If you are a Settlement Class Member and do not take any action, you will not receive any financial compensation under the Settlement. Further, if the Settlement is finally approved, you will be bound by the Court's final judgment and the release of claims explained in the Settlement Agreement.	None	
SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM	If you are a member of the Settlement Class, you must submit a Valid Claim, choosing between the two claim options detailed in the Settlement and herein, to receive a payment. If the Court approves the Settlement and it becomes final and effective, and you remain in the Settlement Class, you will receive your payment by check or electronic payment. To find out how to submit a Claim Form, please read Question 11.	, 2023 [90 days	

EXCLUDE YOURSELF (OPT OUT)	Get no benefits from the Settlement. Requesting exclusion from the Settlement (also called "opting out") would allow you to file or continue your own lawsuit against Defendant about the legal claims involved in the Settlement. To find out how to opt out, please read Question 13.	, 2023 [45 days
OBJECT OR COMMENT	Write to the Court about why you do or do not like the Settlement. To find out how to object or comment, please read Question 15.	Filed and served on or before, 2023 [45 days after Notice Date]
GO TO FINAL APPROVAL HEARING	Ask to speak in court about the fairness of the Settlement. To find out how to do so, please read Question 18.	Served on or before , 2023

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

## PAGE(S)

Basic Information4
1. Why did you receive this notice?4
2. What is this case about?
3. Why is this a class action?
4. Why is there a settlement?
Who Does The Settlement Apply To?5
5. Who is in the Settlement Class?
6. Are there exceptions to being included in the Settlement Class?
7. I'm still not sure if I am included5
The Settlement Benefits And Options5
8. What is the Settlement Sum?
9. What are the benefits of the Settlement for Settlement Class Members?
10. Am I entitled to any other relief under the Settlement?
11. What do I need to do to participate in the Settlement?7
12. When will the Settlement go into effect?7
Excluding Yourself From The Settlement Class7
13. If I do not want to participate in the Settlement, what must I do?7
14. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from the Settlement?
15. How do I tell the Court if I do not like the Settlement?
The Lawyers Representing You10
16. Do I have a lawyer in this case?10
17. How will the lawyers be paid?10
The Court's Final Approval Hearing
18. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?
19. Do I have to come to the Final Approval Hearing?
20. May I speak at the Final Approval Hearing?
If You Do Nothing12
21. What happens if I do nothing?12
Getting More Information
22. How do I get more information?

#### 1. Why did you receive this notice?

This notice ("Class Notice" or "Notice") has been sent and published because the Court has given its preliminary approval to the Settlement of the Action.

If you received an e-mail concerning the Settlement, that means that Defendant's records indicate you may be a Settlement Class Member who is affected by the Settlement. You may still be a Settlement Class Member even if you did not receive an e-mail concerning the Settlement. You may also have received or seen a publication notice concerning this case.

#### 2. What is this case about?

Plaintiffs filed a lawsuit in which they allege that the packaging of Defendant's Lidocaine Products was false and deceptive in that it led purchasers to believe that the Lidocaine Products delivered a "maximum strength" amount of lidocaine, and that the Products in patch form could reliably adhere to the body for up to 8 or 12 hours. Defendant denies that it did anything wrong. Accordingly, Defendant has vigorously defended Plaintiffs' allegations. The Parties, however, have agreed to settle the Action to avoid the cost, delay, and uncertainty of continuing the Action.

#### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, one or more Class Representatives or Named Plaintiffs sue on behalf of all those with the same types of claims arising from the same events. Here, the Class Representatives filed the Action as a proposed class action and asked to represent the class detailed at Question 5. They sue on behalf of people who have similar claims—called the "Settlement Class" or "Settlement Class Members"—which in this case may include you.

When this case settled, the Court had not yet decided whether the case could be a class action. Defendant disputes that a class is appropriate for trial purposes, but the Parties have agreed to the certification of the Settlement Class, as detailed at Question 5, for purposes of the Settlement, and the Court has certified a class action for settlement purposes only. More information about why this is a class action can be found in the Court's Class Certification Order, which is available at <u>www.[INSERT URL].com</u>.

#### 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court has not decided which side is right or wrong in the Action. Instead, both sides agreed to a settlement to avoid the costs and risks of a lengthy trial and appeals process.

After extensive, arm's-length negotiations overseen by a JAMS mediator, a former federal judge, the lawyers representing the Parties agreed to settle the Action. The Class Representatives and their lawyers think the Settlement is fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests of all Settlement Class Members.

## WHO DOES THE SETTLEMENT APPLY TO?

#### 5. Who is in the Settlement Class?

The Settlement Class under the Settlement includes all persons who purchased Products in the United States during the Class Period, which is from December 11, 2017 through and including the date of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order.

"Products" means all CVS-branded "maximum strength" lidocaine patches, creams, and spray products, including, but not limited to, the products listed in the First Amended Complaint. (ECF No. [XX].) The Products include the following SKU numbers: 376649, 405343, 977934, 328522, 405623, 250483, 385037, 249024, 235554, 383998, 238921, 197229, 450467, 371271, 188721, 256563, 196728, 256518, 384034, 234274, 834344, 388642.

#### 6. Are there exceptions to being included in the Settlement Class?

The Settlement Class under the Settlement excludes: (a) anyone who purchased or acquired the Products for resale; (b) Defendant and its employees, principals, affiliated entities, legal representatives, successors and assigns; (c) any person who makes a valid, timely opt-out request; (d) federal, state, and local governments (including all agencies and subdivisions thereof, but excluding employees thereof); and (e) the judges to whom this Action is assigned and any members of their immediate families.

#### 7. I'm still not sure if I am included.

If you are not sure whether you are included in the Settlement Class, you can call toll-free [INSERT PHONE NUMBER] or visit [INSERT SETTLEMENT WEBSITE] for more information.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS AND OPTIONS

If the Settlement is approved and becomes final, it will provide the benefits described below to Settlement Class Members. The benefit you may receive from the Settlement depends upon the particular claim option you choose.

#### 8. What is the Settlement Sum?

To resolve the Action, and in consideration for the Settlement and Releases agreed to therein, Defendant will make available the Settlement Sum, which is up to three million eight hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$3,800,000).

The Settlement Sum represents Defendant's all-inclusive, sole, exclusive, and full payment for all monetary consideration of any kind whatever to Plaintiffs, Class Representatives, Settlement Class Members, and Class Counsel, including the total amount of monetary relief available (a) to Settlement Class Members for payment of all Valid Claims, (b) for Class Representative Service Awards, and (c) for Class Counsel's Fee Award. The Settlement Sum does not include reasonable Administration Expenses, which Defendant is also paying for the benefit of the Plaintiffs, Class Representatives and Settlement Class Members.

#### 9. What are the benefits of the Settlement for Settlement Class Members?

Each Settlement Class Member will be able to choose between one of the two mutually exclusive Benefit options. One Claim is allowed per Settlement Class Member.

- (a) Settlement Class Members who fill out the Claim Form and do not provide valid Proof of Purchase(s) may recover four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) per Unit, limited to up to three (3) total Units (the "Simple Claim"); or
- (b) Settlement Class Members who fill out the Claim Form and provide valid Proof of Purchase(s) in the Class Period may recover four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) for each Unit included in the Proof of Purchase(s), without limitation on the number of Units (the "Proof Claim").

"Proof of Purchase" means a receipt or other documentation which reasonably establishes the fact of purchase of the Product during the Class Period in the United States.

A Settlement Class Member may file a Claim Form electing either option, but not both. If no proof or inadequate proof is submitted along with a Proof Claim, but the claim is otherwise a Valid Claim, it will be treated as a Simple Claim and subject to the Unit limitations therein.

The actual amount paid to each Settlement Class Member who makes a Valid Claim will depend upon the number of Valid Claims. If the total amount to be paid as a result of Valid Claims exceeds the amount of the Settlement Sum that remains after the payment of the Class Representative Service Awards and Class Counsel's Fee Award, then the Benefit payable to each Claimant shall be proportionately reduced, such that Defendant's maximum liability under this Agreement shall not exceed the Settlement Sum.

#### **10.** Am I entitled to any other relief under the Settlement?

As part of the consideration for this Agreement, and without admitting that the previous labels had any deceptive aspects to a reasonable consumer, Defendant has agreed to have changed the Labeling on the Products (a) to clearly identify that the Products contain the "maximum strength" of lidocaine available over the counter ("OTC") without a prescription, and (b) to remove any language concerning the length of time the Products in patch form will adhere.

QUESTIONS? CALL 1-800-xxx-xxx TOLL-FREE OR VISIT WWW.\_\_\_\_.COM

#### 11. What do I need to do to participate in the Settlement?

In order to qualify for a Benefit, a Settlement Class Member must timely submit a completed and valid Claim Form before the deadline. This can be done on the Settlement Website [INSERT WEBSITE URL] (submitted by the Claims Deadline) or by mail (postmarked by the Claims Deadline). Settlement Class Members must satisfy each of the Claim Form requirements.

To receive a cash payment, you must submit your Claim Form by the Claims Deadline – no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023 [90 days after the Class Notice Date], by following the directions set forth at [INSERT WEBSITE URL]. Only Valid Claims will be paid.

#### 12. When will the Settlement go into effect?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 to decide whether to approve the Settlement. Even if the Court approves the Settlement, there could be appeals. The time for an appeal varies and could be more than a year.

The Effective Date is the date one business day after the last of the following dates: (a) all Parties have executed the Settlement; (b) the Court has entered the Final Approval Order finally certifying the Settlement Class, finally approving the Agreement, and dismissing the Action with prejudice as to Named Plaintiffs' and Settlement Class Members' claims against Defendant; and (c) the date on which the time to appeal or to seek permission to appeal from the Court's approval of the Settlement Agreement has expired or, if appealed, approval of the Settlement Agreement has been affirmed in its entirety by the Court of last resort to which such appeal has been taken and such affirmance is no longer subject to further appeal or review, or upon the denial of a writ of certiorari to review the order and final judgment from any court, thus making the Final Approval Order a final, non- appealable judgment.

You can visit the Settlement Website at **[INSERT WEBSITE URL]** to check the progress of the Court approval process and the setting of the Effective Date. Please be patient.

Valid Claims will be paid within forty-nine (49) days of the Effective Date. The Court will have the power to enforce the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

### **EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT CLASS**

If you do not want to participate in the Settlement and instead you want to keep all of your rights to sue Defendant individually about the claims being resolved in the Settlement, then you must take steps to get out of the Settlement Class. This is called asking to be excluded from, or "opting out" of, the Settlement Class.

13. If I do not want to participate in the Settlement, what must I do?

In order to exercise the right to be excluded, a Settlement Class Member must send, by [DATE], a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator at the address provided in the Class Notice Program (also provided below), providing: (1) his/her/their name, address, and telephone number; (2) the name and number of this case; (3) documents or information sufficient to establish the person's standing as a Settlement Class Member (including the Product purchased and date and location of purchase); (4) a statement that he/she/they wishes/wish to be excluded from the Settlement Class; and (5) a signature. No mass or class opt-outs will be permitted.

Your written request for exclusion from the Class should be mailed to:

#### [INSERT ADDRESS]

If your request is not received by [DATE], your right to opt out will be waived and you will be bound by all orders and judgments entered in connection with the Settlement. In that case, you will not be entitled to any benefits unless you have filed a Valid Claim.

#### 14. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from the Settlement?

No. Any Settlement Class Member who validly opts out of the Settlement Class shall not: (a) be bound by any orders or judgments relating to the Settlement; (b) be entitled to relief under, or be affected by, this Agreement; (c) gain any rights by virtue of this Agreement; or (d) be entitled to object to any aspect of the Settlement. Except for those Settlement Class Members who timely and properly file a request for exclusion, all other Settlement Class Members will be deemed to be Settlement Class Members for all purposes under the Agreement, and upon the Effective Date, will be bound by its terms even if they file no Valid Claim. If you exclude yourself, you will receive no payment from the Settlement but will retain the ability to sue Defendant later, subject to the applicable statute of limitations or other defenses..

#### 15. How do I tell the Court if I do not like the Settlement?

If you are a Settlement Class Member, you can object to the Settlement if you do not like any part of it. You can also object to Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees, expenses, and costs, and the service awards for the Class Representatives. You can give reasons why you think the Court should not approve the Settlement or award the requested fees, costs, or expenses. The Court will consider your views.

Anyone who objects to the Settlement, the Settlement Agreement, the application for attorneys' fees, costs, or expenses, or service awards for the Class Representatives, or the other matters to be considered at the Final Approval Hearing must, on or before \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, serve a written objection. The written objection must include the following information:

- A caption or title that identifies it as "Objection to Class Settlement in Bell v. CVS Pharmacy, Inc.";
- Name, address, and telephone number for the objecting Settlement Class Member;

- Documents sufficient to establish the person's standing as a Settlement Class Member (including the Product purchased and date and location of purchase);
- The facts supporting the objection;
- The legal grounds on which the objection is based, including all citations to legal authority and evidence supporting the objection;
- The name and contact information of any and all attorneys representing, advising, or in any way assisting the objector in connection with the preparation or submission of the objection or who may profit from the pursuit of the objection (the "Objecting Attorneys"); and
- The objector's signature (an attorney signature is not sufficient).

If a Settlement Class Member or any of the Objecting Attorneys has objected to any class action settlement within the last five years, then the objection must include a statement identifying each such case by full case caption and the amount of any payment received. No mass or class objections will be permitted.

Any Settlement Class Member who fails to object to the Settlement in the manner described in this Section shall be deemed to have waived any such objection, shall not be permitted to object to any terms or approval of the Settlement at the Final Approval Hearing, and shall be foreclosed from seeking any review of the Settlement or the terms of this Agreement by appeal or other means.

If an objecting person chooses to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, a notice of intention to appear must be filed with the Court no later than the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline. The notice of intention to appear must identify: (i) whether the appearance will be through counsel, (ii) any witnesses the objecting person may call to testify at the Final Approval Hearing; and (iii) copies of all exhibits the objecting person intends to introduce into evidence at the Final Approval Hearing. Only Settlement Class Members who submit timely objections including notices of intention to appear may speak at the Final Approval Hearing. If a Settlement Class Member makes an objection through an attorney, the Settlement Class Member will be responsible for his/her/their personal attorney's fees and costs.

You must also serve the objection and notice of intention to appear (if any) on the Settlement Administrator, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel, as follows:

*Upon the Settlement Administrator at:* 

#### [ADD ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESS AND CONTACT]

Upon Class Counsel at:

Joseph I. Marchese Bursor & Fisher, P.A. 888 Seventh Ave. New York, New York 10019 jmarchese@bursor.com

and

Adrian Gucovschi, Esq. GUCOVSCHI ROZENSHTEYN, PLLC 630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 New York, NY 10111 Telephone: (212) 884-4230 E-Mail: adrian@gr-firm.com

Upon Defense Counsel at:

Mark S. Eisen Emily N. Dillingham Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff LLP 71 S. Wacker Dr. 16<sup>th</sup> Floor Chicago, IL 60606 312-212-4949 Fax: 312-767-9192 meisen@beneschlaw.com edillingham@beneschlaw.com

If you do not comply with the foregoing procedures and deadlines for submitting written objections, you may lose substantial legal rights to contest the orders or judgments of the Court entered in connection with the Settlement, including the ability to object.

## THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

#### 16. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

If you are a Settlement Class Member and do not opt out, you have a lawyer in this case. The Court has appointed the law firms of Bursor & Fisher, P.A. and Gucovschi Rozenshteyn, PLLC as Class Counsel to represent the Settlement Class Members. The only fees, costs, and expenses these lawyers will seek are those described in Question 17 below. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer in this case, you may hire one at your own expense.

#### **17. How will the lawyers be paid?**

Class Counsel has worked without compensation on this case since it was filed. In connection with the Final Approval Hearing on the Settlement, Class Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of expenses, costs, and attorneys' fees, with the total amount not to exceed \$1,140,000.00. This amount is being paid from the Settlement Sum.

Class Counsel will also apply to the Court for a service award for the Class Representatives in an amount not to exceed \$3,000 each. The service award compensates the Class Representatives for their efforts and

commitment on behalf of the Settlement Class during the Action. This amount is being paid from the Settlement Sum.

## THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

#### **18.** When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing to decide whether to approve the Settlement and whether to grant Class Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses. You may attend and you may ask to speak if you have filed a timely and compliant notice of intention to appear, but you do not have to do either one.

The Final Approval Hearing will be held before the Honorable Peggy Kuo on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Eastern Time, at United States District Court, Eastern District of New York 225 Cadman Plaza East Brooklyn, Room 8D South, New York 11201.

#### Do not write or call the judge or the clerk concerning this Class Notice or the Action.

The purpose of the Final Approval Hearing will be for the Court to determine whether the Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class, and to consider awarding attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses to Class Counsel and service awards to the Class Representatives. At the hearing, the Court will hear any objections and arguments that have properly been submitted, as set forth above, concerning the fairness of the Settlement or the fees.

The date of the Final Approval Hearing may change without further notice to the Settlement Class. Settlement Class Members should be advised to check the Settlement Website at [INSERT WEBSITE URL] to check on the date of the Final Approval Hearing, the Court-approval process, and the Effective Date.

#### **19.** Do I have to come to the Final Approval Hearing?

No, you are not required to come to the Final Approval Hearing. Class Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have.

If you send an objection, you do not have to come to the Court to talk about it. As long as you served your written objection on time and complied with the other requirements for a proper objection, the Court will consider it.

#### 20. May I speak at the Final Approval Hearing?

You or your lawyer may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Final Approval Hearing if you have filed a timely and compliant notice of intention to appear.

You may not be able to speak at the hearing if you do not comply with the procedures set out in this Notice and the Settlement Agreement.

## IF YOU DO NOTHING

#### 21. What happens if I do nothing?

If you are a Settlement Class Member, you must file a Valid Claim by the Claims Deadline, [INSERT DATE], as described in response to Question 11, to receive a cash payment.

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING OR YOUR CLAIM FORM IS INVALID AND THE SETTLEMENT IS FINALLY APPROVED, YOU WILL BE BOUND BY THE COURT'S FINAL JUDGMENT AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS EXPLAINED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, AND WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION.

## **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

#### 22. How do I get more information?

This Class Notice is only a summary of the terms of the Settlement. More details about the Settlement, the Effective Date, the deadlines, and your options are available in a longer document called the Settlement Agreement. This Settlement Agreement can be reviewed by clicking here: [INSERT WEBSITE URL].

The Settlement Website also contains answers to common questions about the Settlement, plus other information to help you determine whether you are a Settlement Class Member. In addition, some of the key documents in the case will be posted on the Settlement Website. If you would like this Class Notice, the Claim Form, or the Settlement Agreement mailed to you, please call [PHONE NUMBER] or write to [Settlement Administrator] at:

#### [INSERT ADDRESS]

Alternatively, all of the court documents in this case are on file and available for review during regular office hours at the Clerk of the Court, United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, New York 11201.

## Please do not call the Court or the Court Clerk's Office to inquire about this Settlement or the Claims Process.

**EXHIBIT C-1** 

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK Bell v. CVS Pharmacy, Inc., Case No. 1:21-cv-06850-PK

#### <u>A federal court authorized this Notice</u>. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

A Settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit. In the lawsuit, Plaintiffs Monique Bell, Tree Anderson, and Melissa Conklin ("Named Plaintiffs") allege that the packaging of Defendant's Lidocaine Products was false and deceptive in that it led purchasers to believe that the Lidocaine Products delivered a "maximum strength" amount of lidocaine, and that the Products in patch form could reliably adhere to the body for up to 8 or 12 hours. Defendant does not concede the truth of any of the claims against it and denies that it did anything wrong. The Court has not decided who is right. Instead, the parties agreed to a compromise ("Settlement"). Defined terms have the meanings given to them in the Settlement Agreement.

**Who's Included?** The Settlement Class is defined all persons who purchased Products in the United States during the Class Period, which is from December 11, 2017 through and including the date of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order. You received this notice because records show that you may be a Settlement Class Member.

"Products" means all CVS-branded "maximum strength" lidocaine patches, creams, and spray products, including, but not limited to, the products listed in the First Amended Complaint. (ECF No. [XX].) The Products include the following SKU numbers: 376649, 405343, 977934, 328522, 405623, 250483, 385037, 249024, 235554, 383998, 238921, 197229, 450467, 371271, 188721, 256563, 196728, 256518, 384034, 234274, 834344, 388642. If the product you bought was sold under the CVS brand and says "maximum strength" on the box, you may qualify as a Settlement Class Member.

What Are the Settlement Terms? In consideration for the Settlement and Releases agreed to as part of the Settlement and subject to the rights, terms, and conditions of the Settlement, Defendant will make available the Settlement Sum, which is the maximum of up to three million eight hundred thousand dollars and zero cents (\$3,800,000) that Defendant will make available to resolve the Action. The Settlement Sum represents Defendant's all-inclusive, sole, exclusive, and full payment to constitute all monetary consideration of any kind whatsoever for Plaintiffs, Class Representatives, Settlement Class Members, and Class Counsel, including (a) the total amount of monetary relief available to Settlement Class Members for payment of all Valid Claims, (b) Class Representative Service Awards, and (c) Class Counsel's Fee Award. The Settlement Sum does not include reasonable Administration Expenses, which are also being paid by Defendant.

Each Settlement Class Member who submits a timely and valid Claim Form by the Claim Deadline in the manner required by the Agreement, shall receive a Benefit Payment as detailed below and in greater detail in the Settlement. Settlement Class Members will be able to choose between two Benefit options (but cannot choose both).

(a) Settlement Class Members who fill out the Claim Form and do not provide valid Proof of Purchase(s) (as defined below), may

recover four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) per Unit, limited to up to three (3) total Units (the "Simple Claim"); or

(b) Settlement Class Members who fill out the Claim Form and provide a valid Proof of Purchase(s) for each Unit dated in the Class Period may recover four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) for each Unit contained in the Proof of Purchase(s), for any number of documented Units (the "Proof Claim").

"Proof of Purchase" means a receipt or other documentation which reasonably establishes the fact of purchase of the Product during the Class Period in the United States.

A Settlement Class Member may file a Claim Form electing a Simple Claim (up to three total Units) or a Proof Claim (unlimited Units for which the Proof(s) of Purchase supports), but not both. If no proof or inadequate proof is submitted along with a Proof Claim, but the claim is otherwise a Valid Claim, it will be treated as a Simple Claim and subject to the limit of three total Units. The actual total amount paid to Settlement Class Members will depend upon the number of Valid Claims. If the total amount to be paid as a result of Valid Claims exceeds the amount of the Settlement Sum that remains after the payment of Class Representative Service Awards and the Class Counsel's Fee Award, then the Benefit Payment payable to each Claimant shall be proportionately reduced, that Defendant's maximum liability under this Agreement shall not exceed the Settlement Sum plus the Administration Expenses.

Settlement Class Members who file a Valid Claim will be sent their Benefit Payments to the address or electronic payment method they submit or select on their Claim Form within 49 days following the Effective Date.

**How Do I Submit a Claim Form?** To get a payment, you must submit a Claim Form by the deadline stated below. You may download and submit a Claim Form at the Settlement Website, www.XXXXX.com, or request a Claim Form by calling the Settlement Administrator at the toll-free number below. To be valid, a Claim Form must be completed fully and accurately and submitted on time. You may submit a Claim Form by U.S. mail or file it online. If you send in a Claim Form by U.S. mail, it must be postmarked by **xxxxxxxxx**. Claim Forms submitted online must be submitted by **11:59 p.m. EST on xxxxxxxx**.

**Exclude Yourself.** If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlement, you must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class by **xxxxxxxxx**. If you do not exclude yourself, you will release any claims you may have, as more fully described in the Settlement Agreement, available at the Settlement Website. If you exclude yourself, you will receive no payment from the Settlement but will retain the ability to sue Defendant later, subject to the applicable statute of limitations or other defenses. The Settlement and the Long-Form Notice available on the Settlement Website explain the requirements for excluding yourself.

**Object.** If there is something about the Settlement you do not like, you may object to the Settlement by **xxxxxxxxx**. You may only object if you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class. Objections must be signed, provide the reasons for the objection, and comply

with the other requirements set forth in the Settlement and by the Court in its order granting preliminary approval of the Settlement, a copy of which is accessible at www.XXXXXXX.com. The Settlement and the Long Form Notice available on the Settlement Website explain the requirements for objecting.

**Final Approval Hearing.** The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on **xxxxxxxxx** to consider whether to approve the Settlement (including the Application for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses of up to \$1,140,000 of the Settlement Sum and service awards of \$3,000 to each Named Plaintiff, all of which are to be paid from the Settlement Sum). You may appear at the hearing, either yourself or through an attorney you hire, but you don't have to. If you intend to appear, either yourself or through an attorney you hire, you must file and serve a notice of intention to appear satisfying the requirements set forth in the Settlement Agreement and detailed in the Long Form Notice. For more information, call **1-xxx-xxxx** or visit the Settlement Website.**www.XXXXXX.com** 

**EXHIBIT C-2** 

MAX STRENGTH CVS-BRAND LIDOCAINE SETTLEMENT If You Purchased CVS-Brand Maximum Strength Lidocaine Products

You Could Get Money From a Settlement.



# LEARN MORE >>>

**EXHIBIT D** 

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MONIQUE BELL, TREE ANDERSON, and MELISSA CONKLIN, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Case No. 1:21-cv-06850-PK

Hon. Peggy Kuo

v.

CVS PHARMACY, INC.,

Defendant.

Plaintiffs,

## [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, CERTIFYING SETTLEMENT CLASS, APPOINTING CLASS REPRESENTATIVES, APPOINTING CLASS COUNSEL, AND APPROVING NOTICE PROGRAM

The Plaintiffs in this action have filed an unopposed motion for preliminary approval of a Class Action Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Agreement"), conditional certification of the Settlement Class for settlement purposes, approval of the Notice Program for providing notice to the Settlement Class, and approval of the proposed Settlement Administrator. The Court has reviewed and considered the Settlement Agreement and the accompanying exhibits.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. <u>Defined Terms</u>. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the

Settlement Agreement, and all terms used in this Order shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

2. <u>Preliminary Approval of Settlement</u>: The Court preliminarily approves the Settlement Agreement, and its terms, as fair, reasonable, and adequate under Rule 23, subject to further consideration at the Final Approval Hearing described below. The Court also preliminarily finds that the Settlement Agreement has been reached as a result of arm's-length negotiations of disputed claims.

3. <u>Class Definition</u>: Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, the Court preliminarily certifies, solely for purposes of effectuating the Settlement Agreement, the following Settlement Class:

All persons who purchased Products in the United States during the Class Period. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) all persons who purchased or acquired the Products for resale; (b) Defendant and its employees, principals, affiliated entities, legal representatives, successors and assigns; (c) any person who makes a valid, timely opt-out request; (d) federal, state, and local governments (including all agencies and subdivisions thereof, but excluding employees thereof), and (e) the judges to whom this Action is assigned and any members of their immediate families.

4. <u>Class Representatives and Class Counsel</u>: The Court preliminarily appoints the law firm of Bursor & Fisher, P.A. and Gucovschi Rozenshteyn, PLLC as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class. The Court preliminarily appoints Monique Bell, Tree Anderson, and Melissa Conklin as Class Representatives.

5. <u>Preliminary Class Certification for Settlement Purposes Only</u>: The Court preliminarily finds, solely for purposes of the Settlement, that the Rule 23 criteria for certification of the Settlement Class have been met in that: (a) the Settlement Class is so numerous that joinder of all Settlement Class Members in the Action is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class that predominate over any individual questions; (c) the claims of the Class Representatives are typical of the claims of the Settlement Class; (d) the Class Representatives and Class Counsel have and will continue to fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Settlement Class; and (e) a class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

6. In addition, the Court finds that preliminary certification of the Settlement Class is appropriate when balanced against the risks and delays of further litigation.

7. Class Notice: The Court approves the form and content of the proposed Long Form Notice and Direct Notice (Exhibits B and C-1 to the Settlement Agreement) and Claim Form (Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement). The Court further finds that the method of dissemination of the Notice Program (including the Media Plan), in the manner set forth in the Settlement Agreement, as well as the establishment of a Settlement Website, satisfy Rule 23 and due process, and constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances. The Notice Program set forth in the Settlement Agreement is reasonably calculated to apprise the Settlement Class of the pendency of the Action, the class certification for settlement purposes only, the terms of the Settlement and benefits afforded, the Settlement Class Members' rights including the right to opt-out of or object to the Settlement and the deadlines and procedures for doing so, the deadline, procedures and requirements for submitting a Claim pursuant to the Settlement, Class Counsel's Application for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses and Class Representative Service Awards for the Class Representatives, the time, place, and right to appear at the Final Fairness hearing, and other pertinent information about the Settlement and the Settlement Class Members' rights. The Court authorizes the Parties to make non-material modifications to the notice documents and Claim Form if they jointly agree that any such changes are appropriate.

8. No later than the date specified in Paragraph 23 below, the Settlement Administrator shall effectuate the Notice Program pursuant to the terms of the Agreement.

9. <u>Administration</u>: The Court appoints Kroll Settlement Administration as Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator is directed to perform all settlement administration duties set forth in, and pursuant to the terms and time periods of, the Settlement

Agreement, including mailing of the CAFA Notice, implementing and maintaining the Settlement Website, effectuating the Notice Program, the Media Plan, the processing, review and determination of timely submitted and proper Claims under the Settlement, and the preparation of any declarations and other necessary materials to be submitted to the Court, as well as any other duties required under the Settlement Agreement.

10. Exclusion from Class. Any Settlement Class Member who wishes to be excluded from the Class must send to the Settlement Administrator by U.S. Mail a request for exclusion postmarked no later than the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline. The request for exclusion must be a personally signed request from the Settlement Class Member including (1) his/her/their name, address, and telephone number; (2) the name and number of this case; (3) documents or information sufficient to establish the person's standing as a Settlement Class Member (including the Product purchased and date and location of purchase); (4) a statement that he/she/they wishes/wish to be excluded from the Settlement Class; and (5) a signature. A Class Member can exclude only himself/herself/themselves from the Class, and shall not be allowed to request that another individual or group be excluded. "Mass" or "class" opt-outs are not permitted. At least seven (7) calendar days before the deadline to file the Motion for Final Approval, Class Counsel will prepare or cause the Settlement Administrator to prepare a list of the persons who have excluded themselves in a valid and timely manner from the Settlement Class, and Class Counsel will file that list with the Court.

11. If the proposed Settlement is finally approved, any Settlement Class Member who has not submitted a timely written request for exclusion on or before the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline shall be bound by all terms of the Agreement and the Final Approval Order and final judgment, even if the Settlement Class Member previously initiated or subsequently initiates any

litigation against any or all of the Released Parties relating to Released Claims. All persons or entities who properly exclude themselves from the Settlement Class shall not be Settlement Class Members and shall relinquish their rights or benefits under the Settlement Agreement, should it be approved, and may not file an objection to the Settlement or be entitled to any settlement benefits.

12. <u>Objections</u>: Any Settlement Class Member who has not filed a timely written request for exclusion may object to the fairness, adequacy, or reasonableness of the Settlement Agreement, the requested award of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, and/or Class Representative Service Awards.

13. In order to object, the objection must contain: (i) a caption or title that identifies it as "Objection to Class Settlement in *Bell v. CVS Pharmacy, Inc.*"; (ii) contact and address information for the objecting Settlement Class Member; (iii) documents sufficient to establish the person's standing as a Settlement Class Member (including the Product purchased and date and location of purchase); (iv) the facts supporting the objection; (v) the legal grounds on which the objection is based, including all citations to legal authority and evidence supporting the objection; (vi) the name and contact information of any and all attorneys representing, advising, or in any way assisting the objection Settlement Class Member in connection with the preparation or submission of the objection or who may profit from the pursuit of the objection (the "Objecting Attorneys"), and (vii) the objecting Settlement Class Member or any of the Objecting Attorneys has objected to any class action settlement within the last five years, then the objection must include a statement identifying each such case by full case caption and amount of payment received. No mass or class objections will be permitted.

14. Any objecting Class Member may appear, in person or by counsel, at the Final Approval Hearing to explain why the proposed Settlement should not be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate, or to object to any motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses or Class Representative Service Awards. To appear, the objecting Settlement Class Member must, by the Opt-Out / Objection Deadline, file with the Clerk of the Court a notice of intention to appear at the Final Approval Hearing. The notice of intention to appear must identify: (i) whether the appearance will be through counsel, (ii) any witnesses the objecting Settlement Class Member intends to introduce into evidence at the Final Approval Hearing, which must also be attached to, or included with, the written objection. Only Settlement Class Members who submit timely objections including notices of intention to appear may speak at the Final Approval Hearing. If a Settlement Class Member makes an objection through an attorney, the Settlement Class Member will be responsible for his/her/their personal attorney's fees and costs.

15. Any Settlement Class Member who has not properly filed a timely objection in accordance with the deadline and requirements set forth in this Order and the Settlement Agreement shall be deemed to have waived any objections to the Settlement Agreement and any adjudication or review of the Settlement Agreement by appeal or otherwise.

16. The Parties shall have the right to take discovery without further leave of court consistent with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure from any person who claims to be a Settlement Class Member who objects to the Settlement. If the person who objects to the Settlement is represented by counsel, the Parties shall also have the right to take discovery consistent with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure from the Objecting Attorney without further leave of court.

17. Preliminary Injunction. All Settlement Class Members and/or their representatives who do not timely and properly exclude themselves from the Settlement Class are barred and enjoined from directly, indirectly, derivatively, in a representative capacity, or in any other capacity filing, commencing, prosecuting, maintaining, intervening in, participating in, conducting, or continuing any action in any forum (state or federal) as individuals, class members, putative class members, or otherwise against the Released Parties (as defined in the Agreement) asserting any of the Released Claims (as defined in the Agreement), and/or from receiving any benefits from any lawsuit other than this one, administrative or regulatory proceeding, or order in any jurisdiction, arising out of, based on, or relating to the Released Claims. In addition, all such persons are hereby barred and enjoined from filing, commencing, or prosecuting a lawsuit against Defendant (or against any of the Released Parties) in any form, including as a class action, a separate class, or group for purposes of pursuing a putative class action (including by seeking to amend a pending complaint to include class allegations or by seeking class certification in a pending action in any jurisdiction) on behalf of Settlement Class Members who do not timely exclude themselves from the Class, arising out of, based on, or relating to the Released Claims. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1651(a) and 2283, the Court finds that issuance of this preliminary injunction is necessary and appropriate in aid of the Court's continuing jurisdiction and authority over the Action.

18. <u>Termination of Settlement</u>. If the Court does not enter a Final Approval Order, or for any reason the parties fail to obtain a Final Approval Order and final judgement as contemplated in the Settlement Agreement, or the Settlement Agreement is terminated pursuant to its terms for any reason, or the Effective Date does not occur for any reason, then the Parties shall be restored to their respective pre-settlement positions in the Action, including with regard

to any agreements concerning tolling and similar agreements, and this entire Agreement shall be null and void, shall have no further force and effect with respect to any Party in the Action, and shall not be offered in evidence or used in any litigation for any purpose, including the existence, certification, or maintenance of any purported class or Defendant's or any Released Party's liability with respect to the claims that are, were or could have been asserted in the Action. In the event of such, this Settlement and all negotiations, proceedings, documents prepared, and statements made in connection with it shall be without prejudice to the Parties, and shall not be deemed or construed to be an admission or confession by any Party of any fact, matter, or proposition of law, and shall not be used in any manner for any purpose, and all Parties to the Action shall stand in the same position as if this Agreement had not been negotiated, made, or filed with the Court.

19. In the event of termination, the terminating Party shall cause the Settlement Administrator to post information regarding the termination on the Settlement Website

20. <u>Alteration of Exhibits</u>. Plaintiffs' Counsel and Defense Counsel are hereby authorized to use all reasonable procedures to further the administration of the Settlement that are not materially inconsistent with this Order or the Agreement, including making, without further approval of the Court, minor changes to the form or content of the Long Form Notice, Direct Notice, Claim Form, and other exhibits that they jointly agree are reasonable or necessary.

21. <u>Retaining Jurisdiction</u>. This Court shall maintain continuing jurisdiction over these settlement proceedings to ensure the effectuation thereof for the benefit of the Class, and for any other necessary purpose.

22. All discovery and other proceedings in this action as between Plaintiffs and Defendant are stayed and suspended until further order of the Court except such actions as may be necessary to implement the Settlement Agreement and this Order.

23. <u>Settlement Deadlines</u>. Based on the foregoing, the Court sets the schedule below for the Final Approval Hearing and the actions which must precede it. If any deadline set forth in this Order falls on a weekend or federal holiday, then such deadline shall extend to the next business day. These deadlines may be extended by order of the Court, for good cause shown, without further notice to the Settlement Class. Settlement Class Members must check the Settlement website regularly for updates and further details regarding this Settlement:

Event	Deadline Pursuant To Settlement Agreement	Date Ordered By Court
Notice Date	35 days after Preliminary Approval Granted	
Application for Class Representative Service Awards and Attorneys' Fees and Expenses	14 days prior to Opt- Out/Objection Deadline	
Opt-Out and Objection Deadline	45 days after Notice Date	
Deadline to submit notices of intention to appear at the Final Approval Hearing	45 days after Notice Date	
Claims Deadline	90 days after Notice Date	
Final Approval Motion and response to any objections	100 days after Notice Date	
Final Approval Hearing	120 days after Notice Date, or as soon thereafter as may be heard by the Court	

IT IS SO ORDERED, on

(date)

The Honorable Peggy Kuo United States Magistrate Judge

**EXHIBIT E** 

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MONIQUE BELL, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

Civil Action No. 1:21-cv-06850

v.

CVS PHARMACY, INC.,

Defendant.

## STIPULATION REGARDING UNDERTAKING RE: ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS AND EXPENSES

Plaintiff ("Plaintiff") and Defendant ("Defendant") (collectively, "the Parties"), by and

through and including their undersigned counsel, stipulate and agree as follows:

WHEREAS, Scott A. Bursor and his law firm Bursor & Fisher P.A. (the "Firm")<sup>1</sup> desire

to give an undertaking (the "Undertaking") for repayment of their share of the award of attorney

fees, costs and expenses approved by the Court, and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that this Undertaking is in the interests of all Parties and in

service of judicial economy and efficiency.

NOW, THEREFORE, each of the undersigned Class Counsel, on behalf of themselves as individuals and as agents for their law firm, hereby submit themselves and their respective law firms to the jurisdiction of the Court for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Undertaking.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Parties understand that a separate undertaking will also be provided by the Gucovschi firm for its share of the award of attorney fees, costs and expenses approved by the Court.

Capitalized terms used herein without definition have the meanings given to them in the Settlement Agreement.

By receiving any payments pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Bursor & Fisher, P.A. and its shareholders, members, and/or partners submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York for the enforcement of and any and all disputes relating to or arising out of the reimbursement obligation set forth herein and the Settlement Agreement.

In the event that the Final Settlement Order and Judgment or any part of it is vacated, overturned, reversed, or rendered void as a result of an appeal, or the Settlement Agreement is voided, rescinded, or otherwise terminated for any other reason, the Firm shall, within thirty (30) days repay to Defendant, based upon written instructions provided by Defendant's Counsel, the full amount of the portion of the total attorneys' fees and costs paid to the Firm from the Settlement Fund, including any accrued interest (calculated using the then-current short term applicable federal rate).

In the event the attorney fees and costs awarded by the Court or any part of them are vacated, modified, reversed, or rendered void as a result of an appeal, the Firm shall within thirty (30) days repay to Defendant, based upon written instructions provided by Defendant's Counsel, the portion of the total attorneys' fees and costs paid to the Firm from the Settlement Fund in the amount vacated or modified, including any accrued interest (calculated using the then-current short term applicable federal rate).

This Undertaking and all obligations set forth herein shall expire upon finality of all direct appeals of the Final Settlement Order and Judgment.

In the event Class Counsel fails to repay to Defendant any of the attorneys' fees and costs that are owed to it pursuant to this Undertaking, the Court shall, upon application of Defendant, and notice to Class Counsel, summarily issue orders, including but not limited to judgments and attachment orders against each of Class Counsel, and may make appropriate findings for sanctions for contempt of court. Defendant shall also, in such event, be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and reimbursement of costs in pursuing any such relief.

The undersigned stipulate, warrant, and represent that they have both actual and apparent authority to enter into this stipulation, agreement, and undertaking on behalf of Bursor & Fisher, P.A.

This Undertaking may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Signatures by facsimile shall be as effective as original signatures.

The undersigned declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that they have read and understand the foregoing and that it is true and correct.

IT IS SO STIPULATED THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD:

DATED: \_\_\_\_, 2022 BURSOR & FISHER, P.A.

By: Scott A. Bursor, individually and on behalf of Bursor & Fisher, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DATED: \_\_\_, 2022

DEFENDANT'S LAW FIRM

By: Attorney Name Attorneys for Defendant