

Exhibit B

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11 *Counsel for Plaintiffs and Proposed Classes*

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11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
12
13 **SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

14 JEFFREY STEPHENSON and BILLY
15 SMITH II, individually, on behalf of
16 himself and all others similarly situated,

17 Plaintiffs,

18 vs.

19 NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

20 Defendant.

21 Case No. **3:23-CV-01851-WQH-KSC**

22 **NOTICE OF MOTION AND
PLAINTIFFS' UNOPPOSED
MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT
AND PROVISIONAL CLASS
CERTIFICATION**

23 Judge: Hon. William Q. Hayes
Place: Courtroom 14B
Hearing Date: August 25, 2025

24 **NO ORAL ARGUMENT UNLESS
REQUESTED BY THE COURT**

25 TO THE HONORABLE COURT, ALL PARTIES, AND THEIR COUNSEL
26 OF RECORD, PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on **August 25, 2025**, or as soon
27 thereafter as the matter may be heard, in Courtroom 14B, before the Honorable
28 William Q. Hayes, Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will, and hereby do, respectfully

1 request that the Court grant Preliminary Approval of the Settlement, the terms of
2 which are more specifically described in the Memorandum and Points of Authority
3 filed in support of this Motion.

4 This Motion is based upon this Notice of Motion and Unopposed Motion; the
5 accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities; the Settlement Agreement;
6 and the Joint Declaration of Scott Edelsberg, Adam Schwartzbaum, Sophia Gold,
7 Jeffrey Kaliel and Edwin Elliot in Support of Preliminary Approval, other pleadings
8 and papers on file in this Action; and other such evidence or argument as may be
9 presented to the Court at the hearing on this Motion. Defendant, Navy Federal Credit
10 Union, does not oppose this Motion.

11
12 Dated: July 22, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

13
14 */s/ Scott Edelsberg*
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**Admitted Pro Hac Vice*

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 22nd day of July 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF. I also certify that the foregoing document is being served this day on all counsel of record via transmission of Notice of Electronic Filing generated by CM/ECF.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Scott Edelsberg

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23 Case No. **3:23-CV-01851-WQH-KSC**
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25 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND**
26 **AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF**
27 **PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR**
28 **PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF**
29 **CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**
30 **AND PROVISIONAL CLASS**
31 **CERTIFICATION**

32 Hon. William Q. Hayes
33 Hon. Karen S. Crawford

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

Plaintiffs Jeffrey Stephenson and Billy Smith II submit this Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement and Provisional Class Certification (the "Motion"). Defendant Navy Federal Credit Union does not oppose the relief sought. The terms and conditions of the proposed class action settlement are set forth in the Parties' Class Action Settlement Agreement¹ (the "Agreement"), a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 1 to the Declaration of Class Counsel ("Class Counsel Decl.").

Plaintiffs filed this Action after Stephenson reported unauthorized charges on his son’s debit card, Billy Smith II reported unauthorized charges made through the Navy Federal app on his phone, and Navy Federal denied their claims. They allege Navy Federal’s policy and practice of denying consumers’ claims with letters stating “no error occurred” violates the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (the “EFTA”), 15 U.S.C. §§ 1693, *et seq.* and Regulation E of the EFTA, 12 C.F.R. §§ 1005.1, *et seq.*, which require financial institutions to comply with specific error resolution procedures and limit consumer liability for reported unauthorized transactions.² Plaintiffs further allege Navy Federal’s conduct breaches the express terms of its Account Disclosures, including the Debit Card Disclosure, and violates the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. Navy Federal denies the allegations in the Action. But given the risks, uncertainties, and burdens of continued litigation, the Parties agreed to settle according to the terms of the Agreement.

¹ The capitalized terms used herein are defined and have the same meaning as those used in the Agreement unless otherwise stated.

² These statutes require financial institutions to reimburse accountholders for unauthorized transfers, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1693g(a), (b); to investigate in good faith reported claims of error; *id.* § 1693f(c), 12 C.F.R. § 1005.11(c)(4); to provide “a written explanation of the institution’s findings” upon denying account-holders’ claims, *id.* § 1693f(d), 12 C.F.R. §§ 1005.11(d)(4)(ii); and, upon request, to provide the “documents that the institution relied on in making its determination” in connection with those denials, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1693f(d), 12 C.F.R. § 1005.11(d)(1).

1 The Settlement achieved by the Parties through experienced counsel—reached
2 via arm's-length negotiations with the assistance of a respected mediator—guarantees
3 substantial benefit for the Settlement Class Members. In exchange for a release of
4 certain claims against Navy Federal, the Parties agree that Navy Federal will:

- 5 • provide \$1,700,000 to Settlement Class Members to fund (a) payments or
6 Account credits to Settlement Class Members who file a valid and timely
7 Claim Form; and (b) any award of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses.
8 Settlement Class Members will receive a *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement
9 Fund (with the opportunity for a second *pro rata* share for Settlement Class
10 Members who also are members of the Document Request Settlement
11 Subclass);
- 12 • separately pay \$5,000 to each Plaintiff to settle their individual claims for
13 actual damages and \$5,000 Service Awards to Plaintiffs for serving as Class
14 Representatives; and
- 15 • Settlement Administration Costs paid to the Settlement Administrator, to be
16 reimbursed in whole or in part if there are uncashed checks after payments to
17 Settlement Class Members.

18 An additional benefit to all Settlement Class Members, and current and future
19 Navy Federal accountholders is that Defendant has agreed to revise its written
20 explanation sent to members whose claims are denied and to bolster its procedures
21 for responding to member requests for documents in connection with such denials.
22 Navy Federal's promise to implement changes to its policies and procedures for
23 handling account-holders' claims for unauthorized transfers promotes EFTA
24 compliance and adds meaningful Settlement value.

25 The Settlement does not release Settlement Class Members' actual-damages
26 claims based on Navy Federal's purported improper denial of a claim of unauthorized
27 transfers. Instead, Settlement Class Members release claims of statutory damages
28 only, which are capped under the EFTA. 15 U.S.C. § 1693m(a)(2)(B).

29 The Parties have agreed to a robust direct Notice Program designed to afford
30 all Settlement Class Members due process and advise them of their rights.

31 As such, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter the Preliminary
32 Approval Order submitted herewith that would, among other things:

- Grant preliminary approval of the Agreement, finding the terms to be fair, adequate, and reasonable;
- Provisionally certify the Settlement Classes under Rule 23(a) and (b)(3) for settlement purposes only;
- Appoint the law firms of Edelsberg Law, P.A., Shamis & Gentile, P.A., and Kaliel Gold PLLC as Class Counsel, and appoint Plaintiffs as Class Representatives for the Settlement Classes;
- Approve the Claim Form and the form and content of the Notices, and direct that the Settlement Administrator provide Notice to the Settlement Classes;
- Establish deadlines for members of the Settlement Class to file claims, object to, or exclude themselves from the Settlement; and
- Set a Final Approval Hearing date per the schedule below.

Plaintiffs ask the Court to grant the Motion because the Agreement meets all requirements for preliminary approval and certifying the Settlement Classes.

II. **BACKGROUND OF THE LITIGATION**

A. **Litigation History**

On October 10, 2023, Stephenson filed his putative class action complaint in this Court against Navy Federal arising out of its handling of electronic fund transfers disputed by members as unauthorized and/or fraudulent. Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 7. The Complaint alleged claims on behalf of a nationwide class for breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, violations of the EFTA, and violation of California’s Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 (the “UCL”). *Id.* Stephenson filed his First Amended Complaint on January 22, 2024, in lieu of responding to Defendant’s motion to dismiss. *Id.*

On February 21, 2024, Defendant filed a motion to dismiss the First Amended Complaint under Rule 12(b)(6). *Id.* ¶ 8. After briefing, the Court entered its order denying in part and granting in part Defendant’s motion to dismiss, allowing Plaintiffs’ EFTA and breach of contract claims to proceed. *Id.* Plaintiffs filed their Second Amended Complaint (SAC), which added Smith II to the Action; Defendant filed its answer to the SAC, asserting seven affirmative defenses. *Id.*

1 The Parties began written discovery, which included the exchange of Rule
2 26(a)(1) initial disclosures, requests for production and interrogatories, engaging in
3 meet-and-confer conferences regarding the same, issuing third-party subpoenas, and
4 production of documents. *Id.* ¶ 9.

5 On December 11, 2024, the Parties participated in an Early Neutral Evaluation
6 with Magistrate Judge Karen S. Crawford, which did not result in settlement. *Id.* ¶
7 10. Then, on February 26, 2025, the Parties requested, and the Court granted a stay
8 of the case to allow the Parties to participation in a mediation to see if they could
9 resolve the case without further litigation. *Id.* On June 4, 2025, the Parties attended a
10 full-day in-person mediation before Judge Diane M. Welsh (Ret.), which resulted in
11 an agreement to the material terms of this Settlement. *Id.* ¶ 11. On June 6, 2025, the
12 Parties notified the Court that they had reached an agreement to settle in principle on
13 a class-wide basis and stipulated to stay the case. *Id.* The Parties then negotiated the
14 Agreement now pending preliminary approval. *Id.*

15 **B. Settlement Negotiations**

16 The Settlement was aggressively negotiated with the assistance of retired Judge
17 Welsh, a well-respected mediator experienced in mediating class actions alleging
18 EFTA claims. Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 11. Judge Welsh presided over an arm's-length
19 mediation between capable and experienced class action counsel on both sides. *Id.* ¶¶
20 2–6, 15. The Parties engaged in a significant amount of informal and formal discovery
21 to assist Class Counsel in assessing the Settlement Class claims and Navy Federal's
22 defenses before reaching this Agreement. *Id.* ¶¶ 13–14, 21. This information included
23 documents regarding Navy Federal's internal policies and practices on handling
24 account-holders' claims of unauthorized or fraudulent transactions and efforts to
25 comply with federal error resolution requirements; letters denying claims during the
26 Class Period; each Plaintiff's transaction history; and the approximate number of
27 accountholders whose claims were denied (a subset of which claim not to have
28 received supporting documentation upon request). *Id.* ¶ 21. The Parties did not

1 discuss attorneys' fees and costs, nor any potential service awards, until they first
2 agreed on the material Settlement terms, including the Settlement Class definitions,
3 the Notice and Notice Program, the claims process and Claim Form, benefits for
4 Settlement Class Members, and scope of the Releases. *Id.* ¶ 17.

5 **III. THE SETTLEMENT**

6 **A. The Settlement Agreement**

7 The Agreement, which resolves the Action in its entirety, includes the
8 following pertinent terms:

9 **1. The Settlement Classes**

10 Plaintiffs propose, for settlement purposes only, that this Court certify
11 Settlement Classes defined as:

12 **Written Explanation Settlement Class:** All Accountholders whose
13 claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfers were denied by Navy
14 Federal Credit Union between October 10, 2022, and the date the Court
grants preliminary approval of the Settlement.

15 **Document Request Settlement Subclass:** All Accountholders in the
16 Written Explanation Settlement Class who requested documents Navy
17 Federal relied on in making its determination and who did not receive
them.

18 Agreement §§ 1.42(a), (b).

19 **2. Settlement Benefits**

20 Class Counsel believes that the contemplated benefits addressed below
21 adequately compensate the Settlement Classes for the claims they are releasing and,
22 in light of the risks of continued litigation, represent an excellent result for the
Settlement Classes. Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 12.

23 **i. Injunctive Relief**

24 Navy Federal has agreed to provide prospective relief to the Settlement Classes
25 by implementing changes to its policies and procedures relating to the handling of
26 claims concerning unauthorized electronic fund transfers. *See* Agreement, 2.2(a).
27 Specifically, Navy Federal has agreed to revise its written explanation sent to
28

1 members whose claims are denied and enhance its procedures for responding to
2 member requests for documents in connection with such denials. *Id.*

3 **ii. Settlement Class Member Payments and Plan of
4 Allocation**

5 Navy Federal shall deposit the \$1,700,000 Settlement Fund less the amount of
6 Settlement Class Member Payments to be credited to the accounts of Current
7 Accountholders. Agreement § 2.1(a). The Settlement Fund shall be used to pay any
8 Fee Award to Class Counsel as well as payments and Account credits to Settlement
9 Class Members. *Id.*

10 Each Settlement Class Member may submit a Claim Form to request a
11 Settlement Class Member Payment in the amount of a *pro rata* portion of the Net
12 Settlement Fund. *Id.* § 2.1(b). The Net Settlement Fund will be allocated based on
13 class membership as follows: Settlement Class Members who are members of the
14 Written Explanation Class will be assigned one (1) Approved Claim, while
15 Settlement Class Members who are also members of the Document Request
16 Settlement Subclass will be assigned two (2) Approved Claims. *Id.* The value of each
17 *pro rata* portion of the Net Settlement Fund will be calculated by dividing the total
18 number of Approved Claims by the amount of the Net Settlement Fund. *Id.*

19 **iii. Claims Process and Distribution.**

20 The Settlement provides an easy claim-submission process. The Claim Forms
21 are accessible via one click in the Email Notice and Settlement Website, as well as
22 available in paper format, pre-filled with a unique claim ID and the Settlement Class
23 Member name provided as part of the Postcard Notice with return postage prepaid.
24 Agreement §§ 4.1(g), (h); 1.35. The Claim Forms do not require Settlement Class
25 Members to submit any supporting documentation. *See* Agreement, Ex. A. Settlement
26 Class Members can check a box to indicate that they are also members of the
27 Document Request Settlement Subclass to be assigned an additional Approved
28 Claim. *Id.* § 2.1(b)(ii).

1 To receive a Settlement Class Member Payment, Settlement Class Members
2 must submit a valid Claim Form postmarked or submitted online by the Claims
3 Deadline. *Id.* § 1.6. The Claims Deadline will be clearly set forth in the Preliminary
4 Approval Order, as well as in the Notice and the Claim Form, and will be no later
5 than sixty (60) days after the Notice Date. *Id.*

6 Upon the Effective Date, within ten (10) business days of receipt of funds from
7 Navy Federal, the Settlement Administrator will mail Settlement Class Member
8 Payments to Former Accountholders via check and Navy Federal will credit accounts
9 of Current Accountholders. *Id.* § 2.1(d). After the check cashing deadline (stated on
10 the checks), the Settlement Administrator will attempt to identify updated addresses
11 and re-mail or re-issue a distribution check. *Id.* If any Remaining Residual Funds
12 exist at that time, such funds will be payable for reimbursement of Settlement
13 Administrative Costs, and if any remain, next to a *cy pres* recipient proposed by the
14 Parties (subject to Court approval). *Id.* § 2.1(j).

15 **3. Settlement of Plaintiffs' Individual Claims.**

16 To settle Plaintiff Stephenson and Smith's individual claims for actual
17 damages (alleged in the SAC), Navy Federal has agreed to pay each Plaintiff \$5,000
18 in exchange for a general release of claims. Agreement § 2.1(a)(i). The General
19 Release and waiver of California Code Section 1542 relate to the Plaintiffs'
20 individual claims. *Id.* §§ 3.3; 1.31, 1.48.

21 **4. The Notice Program**

22 The Parties retained Kroll Settlement Administration LLC ("Kroll") to serve
23 as the Settlement Administrator. Agreement § 1.41. No later than sixty (60) days
24 following entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, the Settlement Administrator will
25 provide direct Email Notice and Postcard Notice via the e-mail addresses and mailing
26 addresses identified in the Settlement Class List, respectively. *Id.* § 4.1.

27 In the event any Email Notices and/or Postcard Notices are returned as
28 undeliverable within thirty (30) days after the Initial Mailed Notice is completed, the

1 Settlement Administrator shall complete the Notice Re-Mailing Process by mailing a
2 Postcard Notice to those Settlement Class Members whose new addresses were
3 identified during the reasonable tracing procedure. *Id.* § 4.1(f). No later than thirty
4 (30) days after the Notice Date, the Settlement Administrator shall also send a second
5 Email Notice to those Settlement Class Members who have not yet made a claim,
6 requested to opt out, or made an objection. *Id.* § 4.1(g).

7 The Settlement Administrator will also establish and maintain the Settlement
8 Website, which will include the Long Form Notice, the Claim Form (including the
9 ability to file Claim Forms online), the Agreement, the Preliminary Approval Order,
10 Plaintiff's Application for Fees and Costs and for Service Awards, and the date of the
11 Final Approval Hearing. *Id.* § 4.1(h). The Settlement Administrator shall also
12 maintain a toll-free telephone system containing recorded answers to frequently
13 asked questions as agreed to by the Parties and the ability to reach a live operator,
14 including to request a copy of the Claim Form or the Long-Form Notice. *Id.* § 4.1(i).

15 The Long Form Notice includes: a) a description of the case, Settlement Class
16 Members' legal rights and options, answers to frequently asked questions, the
17 Agreement and the Settlement benefits, contact information for Counsel, and the
18 attorneys' fees and costs that Class Counsel intends to request and the Service Awards
19 to be sought by Plaintiffs; b) instructions on how to opt out of or object to the
20 Settlement; and c) information about the Final Approval Hearing. *Id.* at Ex. D.

21 **5. Settlement Releases**

22 The Agreement includes a narrow release by Plaintiffs and all Settlement Class
23 Members of the Released Claims that reasonably arise out of or relate to the claims
24 alleged in the Action regarding Navy Federal's improper denial of a claim for
25 reimbursement of unauthorized electronic fund transfers. Agreement § 3.2. The
26 Released Claims exclude any claims for actual damages based on or related to Navy
27 Federal's purported improper denial of a claim of unauthorized electronic transfer(s).

6. Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees and Reimbursement of Expenses, Plaintiffs' Service Awards, and Settlement Administration Costs

Subject to Court approval, Plaintiffs will request the following payments from the Settlement Fund: Class Counsel's attorneys' fees of up to one-third of the Settlement Value and reimbursement of expenses. Agreement § 9.1. Subject to Court approval, Plaintiffs will also request \$5,000 Service Awards to each Plaintiff for serving as Class Representative.

IV. LEGAL STANDARD FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL

Rule 23(e)(2) requires that class action settlements be “fair, reasonable, and adequate.” The Ninth Circuit recognizes the “strong judicial policy that favors settlement, particularly where complex class action litigation is concerned.” *In re Hyundai & Kia Fuel Econ. Litig.*, 926 F.3d 539, 556 (9th Cir. 2019). Approval of a class action settlement “involves a two-step process in which the Court first determines whether a proposed class action settlement deserves preliminary approval and then, after notice is given to class members, whether final approval is warranted.” *Morey v. Louis Vuitton N. Am., Inc.*, 2013 WL 12069021, at *4 (S.D. Cal. 2013) (Hayes, J.).³ At the preliminary approval stage, the focus is on whether the “proposed settlement falls within the range of possible judicial approval.” *Grant v. Capital Mgmt. Services, L.P.*, 2013 WL 6499698, at *2 (S.D. Cal. 2013) (Hayes, J.). “Essentially, the court is only concerned with whether the proposed settlement discloses grounds to doubt its fairness or other obvious deficiencies such as unduly preferential treatment of class representatives or segments of the class, or excessive compensation of attorneys.” *Morey*, 2013 WL 12069021, at *7. Indeed, “[t]he court’s intrusion upon what is otherwise a private consensual agreement negotiated between the parties to a lawsuit must be limited to the extent necessary to reach a reasoned

³ Unless otherwise stated herein, all internal citations, quotation marks, and alterations are omitted, and all emphasis is added.

1 judgment that the agreement is not the product of fraud or overreaching by, or
2 collusion between, the negotiating parties, and that the settlement, taken as a whole,
3 is fair, reasonable and adequate to all concerned.” *Officers for Justice v. Civil Serv.*
4 *Comm’n of City and County of San Francisco*, 668 F.2d 615, 625 (9th Cir. 1982).

5 Ultimately, the standard inquiry the trial court explores is whether the proposed
6 settlement “is fundamentally fair, adequate, and reasonable.” *Hanlon v. Chrysler*
7 *Corp.*, 150 F.3d 1101, 1026 (9th Cir. 1998); Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e). “It is the settlement
8 taken as a whole, rather than the individual component parts, that must be examined
9 for overall fairness.” *Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1026. Accordingly, the court does not have
10 “the ability to delete, modify or substitute certain provisions.” *Id.* In other words, the
11 “settlement must stand or fall in its entirety.” *Id.*

12 Rule 23(e)(2) permits a district court to approve a class action settlement upon
13 considering whether: “(A) the class representatives and class counsel have adequately
14 represented the class; (B) the proposal was negotiated at arm’s length; (C) the relief
15 provided the class is adequate … and (D) the proposal treats class members equitably
16 relative to each other.” *Martinez v. University of San Diego*, No. 3:20-cv-01946-
17 RBM-VET, 2024 WL 4713891, at *10 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 7, 2024). In addition to the
18 Rule 23(e)(2) requirements, courts in the Ninth Circuit generally assess a settlement’s
19 fairness in weighing several factors, as set forth in *In re Bluetooth Headset Prods.*
20 *Liab. Litig.*, 654 F.3d 935, 946 (9th Cir. 2011) (quoting *Churchill Vill. v. Gen. Elec.*,
21 361 F.3d 566 (9th Cir. 2004)) (the “Churchill factors”). The Churchill factors, which
22 largely overlap with the Rule 23(e)(2) factors, include:

23 (1) the strength of the plaintiff’s case; (2) the risk, expense, complexity,
24 and likely duration of further litigation; (3) the risk of maintaining class
25 action status throughout the trial; (4) the amount offered in settlement;
26 (5) the extent of discovery completed and the stage of the proceedings;
27 (6) the experience and views of counsel; (7) the presence of a
28 governmental participant; and (8) the reaction of the class members of
the proposed settlement.

1 *Bluetooth*, 654 F.3d at 946.⁴ For the reasons set forth in detail below, the proposed
2 Settlement is fundamentally fair, adequate, and reasonable—thereby, falling squarely
3 into the range of preliminary approval.

4 **V. PRELIMINARY SETTLEMENT APPROVAL IS WARRANTED**

5 Plaintiffs and the Settlement Classes faced significant risks in this case. Given
6 these risks, highly experienced counsel for the parties diligently engaged in arm's-
7 length negotiations, conducted in good faith, and driven by a substantial amount of
8 discovery and investigation, as well as significant and complex motion practice. A
9 settlement that provides Settlement Class Members with a valuable cash benefit and
10 meaningful injunctive relief falls within the range of possible approval. Accordingly,
11 each of the Rule 23(e)(2) factors, as well as the *Churchill* factors, weigh in favor of
12 finding that the proposed Settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable.

13 **A. The Proposed Settlement is Fair, Adequate, and Reasonable**

14 **1. The Rule 23(e)(2) Requirements**

15 Plaintiffs and Class Counsel have adequately and vigorously represented the
16 Settlement Classes throughout the 2.5-year litigation, which involved significant
17 formal and informal discovery, contentious motion practice, and settlement
18 negotiations with the assistance of a third-party neutral mediator. Class Counsel Decl.
19 ¶ 13. Further, Plaintiffs, through their counsel, engaged in a lengthy, independent
20 investigation of their claims, as well as the potential claims of other Settlement Class
21 Members, to properly weigh the pros and cons of continued litigation versus the
22 proposed nationwide settlement of all claims for statutory damages. *Id.* ¶ 14.
23 Additionally, the entire settlement process was negotiated in good faith and at arm's-
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25
26 ⁴ As this Court explained, “the Court need not conduct a full settlement fairness
27 appraisal before granting preliminary approval” and in fact, “cannot fully assess
28 many of these factors prior to notice and an opportunity for objection.” *Morey*, 2013
WL 12069021 at *7. This Motion does not discuss the seventh *Churchill* factor—
presence of a governmental participant—because it is inapplicable. And the eighth
Churchill factor—reaction of the settlement class—will be revisited at final approval.

length by highly knowledgeable counsel experienced in complex class action litigation, including consumer disputes against financial institutions. *Id.* ¶ 15. *See Grant*, 2013 WL 6499698, at *5 (finding “the procedure reaching the settlement was fair and reasonable” where it “was the product of arms-length negotiations” and “reached with the assistance of” a mediator).

Next, the adequacy of the relief provided to the Settlement Class Members is substantial and each Settlement Class Member is treated equitably relative to all other members of the Settlement Classes based on the *pro rata* distribution amongst the number of Approved Claims as set forth in the Agreement § 2.1. *See Morgan v. Rohr, Inc.*, 2025 WL 1285830, at *14 (S.D. Cal. May 1, 2025) (finding “there is little risk of unequal treatment” where each settlement class member payment is “calculated *pro rata*”). And the scope of the Release applies equally to all Settlement Class Members and does not affect the apportionment of relief. *Id.* § 3.2. The Release is tailored to the Released Claims as defined in the Agreement and protects Settlement Class Members’ rights to individually pursue claims for actual damages. *Id.* § 1.36.

Lastly, Class Counsel has not been paid for their extensive efforts or reimbursed for litigation costs incurred over the last two and a half years. Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 16. Under the Agreement, Class Counsel are entitled to request attorneys’ fees representing up to one-third of the value of the Settlement, as well as reimbursement of litigation costs incurred in the Action. Agreement § 9.1. The Parties negotiated and reached agreement regarding fees and costs only after agreeing to the material terms of the Settlement. Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 17. That award remains subject to this Court’s approval and will compensate Class Counsel for the time, risk, and expenses incurred in pursuing claims on Settlement Class Members’ behalf. Accordingly, this Court should find that this factor will weigh in favor of granting final approval and should reserve a full analysis of this factor for final approval. *Kendall v. Odonate Therapeutics, Inc.*, 2022 WL 188364, at *7 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 18,

28

1 2022) (33.33% of the settlement “is within the range of acceptable attorneys’ fees in
2 Ninth Circuit cases”).

3 At this stage, there is no reason to doubt that the proposed Fee Award supports
4 settlement approval. Class Counsel’s fees and costs will be paid from the same
5 Settlement Fund as Settlement Class Member Payments and thus, Class Counsel were
6 incentivized to negotiate the largest fund possible. Agreement § 9.1. Further, the Fee
7 Award is subject to final Court approval, and if any requested fees are not approved
8 by the Court, those funds will be distributed to Settlement Class Members. *Id.*

9 **2. The *Churchill* Factors**

10 **i. Strength of Plaintiffs’ Case and Further Litigation Risk**

11 As this Court has noted, “the Court must balance against the risks of continued
12 litigation (including the strengths and weaknesses of Plaintiff’s case), the benefits
13 afforded to members of the Class, and the immediacy and certainty of a substantial
14 recovery.” *Morey v. Louis Vuitton N.A.*, No. 11cv1517 WQH (BLM), 2014 WL
15 109194, at *5 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 9, 2014) (Hayes, J.).

16 The SAC alleges claims for statutory damages under the EFTA and actual
17 damages for the EFTA and breach of contract. Plaintiffs believed their EFTA claims
18 for statutory damages were meritorious based on both the alleged facts and court
19 decisions involving similar claims challenging financial institutions’ error resolution
20 procedures like Navy Federal’s alleged here. *See, e.g., Garcia v. Navy Federal Credit*
21 *Union*, No. 23-cv-2017-MMA-BLM, 2025 WL 1100898, at *19 (S.D. Cal. Apr. 14,
22 2025) (denying Defendant’s motion for summary judgment as to whether Navy
23 Federal complied with the EFTA’s reasonable investigation provision); *Nguyen v.*
24 *Wescom Central Credit Union*, No. SACV 22-01520-CJC (JDEx), 2023 WL
25 9019022, at *4 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 15, 2023) (“Summary judgment is inappropriate on
26 Plaintiff’s EFTA claim because a reasonable jury could determine that Defendant’s
27 investigation of Plaintiff’s claim was not reasonable.”); *see also Sparkman v.*
28 *Comerica Bank*, No. 23-CV-02028-DMR, 2023 WL 5020269, at *10 (N.D. Cal. Aug.

1 4, 2023) (denying motion to dismiss based on allegations of insufficient form letters
2 denying fraud claims and facts showing transactions were unauthorized).

3 But “in the case of a class action … the total recovery” for statutory damages
4 under the EFTA “shall not be more than the lesser of \$500,000 or 1 per centum of the
5 net worth of the defendant[.]” 15 U.S.C. § 1693m(a)(2)(B)(ii). Thus, even if the
6 EFTA claims for alleged insufficient denial letters and failure to provide documents
7 upon request were meritorious, they provide a limited ground for recovery of putative
8 class damages. Further, while Plaintiffs believe in the merits of their EFTA and
9 breach of contract claims for actual damages, they recognize that certification of such
10 claims under Rule 23(b)(3) was risky due to Navy Federal’s arguments that the
11 elements of causation and damages could not be determined on a class-wide basis.
12 *See, e.g., Moriarty v. Am. Gen. Life Ins. Co.*, No. 3:17-CV-1709-BTM-WVG, 2022
13 WL 6584150, at *5 (S.D. Cal. Sept. 27, 2022) (denying motion for class certification
14 on claim for breach of contract in part due to “substantial concerns as to whether the
15 issues of the individual claims such as actual damages and causation would
16 predominate”).

17 The parties weighed these considerations when they agreed to settle only the
18 statutory damages claims, but to not release Settlement Class Members’ claims for
19 actual damages under the EFTA, their contracts, or any other legal theory. This is like
20 other settlements that recently received final approval from district courts, where only
21 statutory claims under the EFTA were released in exchange for a settlement payment.
22 *See Almon v. Conduent Bus. Servs., LLC*, No. 5:19-cv-01075-XR, ECF No. 110
23 (W.D. Tex. Nov. 1, 2024) (granting final approval of class action settlement regarding
24 EFTA claims); *Shelby v. Two Jinns, Inc.*, No. CV 15-03794-AB (GJSx), 2017 WL
25 6347090 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 2, 2017) (same)

26 While Plaintiffs are confident in their claims’ merits, establishing liability is
27 challenging, as shown by the dispute over whether Navy Federal’s procedures satisfy
28 the EFTA requirements, the discovery needed, and challenges in determining whether

1 Navy Federal erred in denying any particular claim. Navy Federal maintains that its
2 practices and procedures related to the investigation and determination of claimed
3 fraudulent electronic transfers, including explanations for denial and provision of
4 documents to members upon request, complied with all applicable laws and
5 regulations, including the terms of its Deposit Account Agreement with consumers.
6 Indeed, “[t]here is limited guidance as to what constitutes a reasonable investigation
7 under § 1693f.” *Nguyen*, 2023 WL 9019022 at *3 (citing cases).

8 Although the Court allowed Plaintiffs’ EFTA and contract claims to proceed
9 on the motion to dismiss, the risks in prosecuting a class action through trial cannot
10 be disregarded. Plaintiffs’ claims would need to survive additional forthcoming
11 motion practice, and they would have to succeed in certifying a class. Class Counsel
12 Decl. ¶ 18. The delay in continuing to litigate this case also favors approval of the
13 Settlement. *Id.* Significant time and additional costs would be required for the Parties
14 and the Court to complete discovery, brief and rule on class certification, participate
15 in pre-trial proceedings, brief and rule on summary judgment, etc. *Id.* And the Parties
16 could appeal the Court’s class certification and summary judgment decisions as well
17 as any verdict at trial, which could take years to resolve and could result in reversal
18 on appeal. *Id.* Plainly, litigation “would likely continue for many years, especially
19 given that EFTA law is not well settled.” *Granados v. OnPoint Community Credit*
20 *Union*, 2025 WL 1640204, at *7 (D. Or. June 10, 2025). Given that the Settlement
21 provides immediate compensation for the Settlement Classes now, in light of the risks
22 and delay of receiving any monetary relief at all, these considerations support
23 approval of the Settlement.

24 **ii. The Risk of Maintaining Class Action Status
25 Throughout Trial**

26 The third *Churchill* factor, which considers the risk of Plaintiffs maintaining
27 class status through the duration of the case, also supports preliminary approval. At
28 the time this Settlement was reached, no class was certified. As discussed above, there

1 are undoubtedly risks involved in pursuing this case as a class action, especially given
2 that “the type of fraud that generates these claims on a broad scale is a new
3 phenomenon.” *Nelipa v. TD Bank, N.A.*, No. 21-CV-1092, 2024 WL 3017141 at *8
4 (E.D.N.Y. June 17, 2024). This risk is especially acute regarding claims for actual
5 damages, which Navy Federal argued could never be certified due to a lack of
6 predominance on the elements of breach and damages. Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 19. And
7 even if the Court were to grant class certification, the real risk of later decertification
8 supports settlement approval. *See In re Netflix Privacy Litig.*, No. 5:11-cv-00379
9 EJD, 2013 WL 1120801, at *6 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 18, 2013) (“The notion that a district
10 court could decertify a class at any time is one that weighs in favor of settlement”).

11 **iii. The Amount Offered in the Settlement**

12 The Settlement provides exceptional monetary benefits. Settlement Class
13 Members who submit a timely and valid Claim Form will receive payment of their
14 *pro rata* share of a \$1,700,000 Settlement Fund net of attorneys’ fees and Service
15 Awards awarded by the Court. The Net Settlement Fund will be distributed to
16 Settlement Class Members based on the number of Approved Claims divided by the
17 Net Settlement Fund.

18 This Settlement does not release any Settlement Class Members’ claims for
19 actual damages based on Navy Federal’s alleged improper denial of claims. Class
20 Counsel Decl. ¶ 20. Instead, the Agreement reflects a settlement of statutory damages
21 claims, which do not require proof of actual damages, but are capped under the EFTA.
22 *See* 15 U.S.C. § 1693m(a)(2)(A)-(B). Although the recovery for each Settlement
23 Class Member will depend on the number of Approved Claims, the Settlement Fund
24 is more than three times the maximum class recovery if successful in litigation. This
25 sizable monetary recovery weighs in favor of preliminary approval. *See e.g.*,
26 *Greenley v. Mayflower Transit, LLC*, No. 21-cv-339-WQH-MDD2022 WL 3161908,
27 at *3 (S.D. Cal. Aug. 8, 2022) (Hayes, J.) (approving settlement fund of 41.9% of
28 maximum potential statutory damages under CIPA as “fair and reasonable”).

1 The substantial amount offered in this Settlement is also an excellent recovery
2 when compared with the limited universe of similar EFTA class action settlements
3 that have received approval. *See, e.g., Almon*, No. 5:19-cv-01075-XR, ECF No. 110
4 (granting final approval to class action settlement that certified three classes—each
5 relating to a different alleged violation of the EFTA—in exchange for a \$1,200,000
6 cash fund); *Shelby*, 2017 WL 6347090, at *2 (approving \$475,000 common fund for
7 EFTA violations). The reasonableness of the \$1,700,000 common fund is strongly
8 supported by the fact that statutory damages under the EFTA for class actions are
9 capped at \$500,000. Moreover, while prior cases only obtained cash funds, here Navy
10 Federal has agreed to implement changes to its policies and procedures relating to the
11 handling of claims concerning unauthorized transfers that will benefit Settlement
12 Class Members (and many other Navy Federal customers) for years to come.

13 **iv. The Extent of Discovery and Stage of the Proceedings**

14 In assessing sufficiency of discovery, “a court need not possess evidence to
15 decide the merits of the issues, because compromise is proposed in order to avoid
16 further litigation.” Newberg & Conte, *Newberg on Class Actions*, § 11.45 (4th ed.
17 2008). Rather, a court needs only sufficient information “to raise its decision above
18 mere conjecture.” *Id.* In analyzing this factor, the Court evaluates “whether the parties
19 have sufficient information to make an informed decision about settlement.” *Hunter*
20 *v. Nature’s Way Products, LLC*, No. 3:16-cv-532-WQH-AGS, 2020 WL 71160, at
21 *5 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 6, 2020) (Hayes, J.).

22 Here, the Parties engaged in both formal and informal discovery prior to
23 settling, which included Defendant’s production of information regarding Navy
24 Federal’s policies and procedures and training. Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 21. The Parties
25 aggressively litigated this case through contentious motion practice and settlement
26 negotiations driven by the exchange of discovery, including with the assistance of a
27 mediator. *Id.* ¶ 22. Thus, the Parties had sufficient information to assess the merits
28 and weigh the settlement benefits before entering into the Agreement. *See e.g.*,

1 *Hunter*, 2020 WL 71160 at *5 (finding “parties’ extensive investigation, discovery,
2 and subsequent settlement discussions” supported approval).

3 **v. The Experience and Views of Counsel**

4 The Ninth Circuit “has long deferred to the private consensual decision of the
5 parties.” *Rodriguez v. West Publ’g Corp.*, 563 F.3d 948, 965 (9th Cir. 2009). “Parties
6 represented by competent counsel are better positioned than courts to produce a
7 settlement that fairly reflects each party’s expected outcome in litigation.” *Id.* at 967.
8 Class Counsel are highly experienced in complex class action litigation, including
9 consumer disputes against financial institutions. Class Counsel Decl. ¶¶ 2–6, 25–26,
10 Exs. 2–4 (firm resumes). Collectively, Class Counsel have secured hundreds of
11 millions of dollars on behalf of consumers because of their efforts in evoking large-
12 scale reform of unlawful and unfair business practices through class action
13 settlements nationwide. *See id.* Counsel for both Parties, as highly experienced trial
14 attorneys and class counsel, are confident in the terms of the Settlement after
15 engaging in informed negotiations. *Id.* Thus, Class Counsel’s experience and
16 considered judgment weighs heavily in favor of finding the Settlement to be fair,
17 adequate, and reasonable. *See e.g.*, *Grant*, 2013 WL 6499698 at *5.

18 In sum, all factors weigh in favor of finding that the proposed Settlement is
19 fair, reasonable, and adequate, and therefore, a grant of preliminary approval of the
20 Settlement is warranted.

21 **VI. THE PROPOSED CLASSES SHOULD BE PROVISIONALLY**
22 **CERTIFIED FOR SETTLEMENT PURPOSES**

23 Settlement approval under Rule 23(e) requires certification of a settlement
24 class for settlement purposes only. *Greenley*, 2022 WL 3161908 at *3. The Ninth
25 Circuit recognizes the propriety of certifying a settlement class to resolve consumer
26 lawsuits. *See Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1019. At the preliminary approval stage, the
27 Court’s threshold task is to determine whether the proposed class satisfies the Rule
28 23(a) requirements: (1) numerosity, (2) commonality, (3) typicality, and (4)

1 adequacy, and the requirements set forth in Rule 23(b)(3). *Id.* Here, the provisional
2 certification of the proposed Classes for settlement purposes is warranted because
3 Plaintiffs satisfy all requirements set forth in Rule 23.

4 **A. The Proposed Settlement Classes Satisfy Rule 23(a)**

5 **1. Numerosity**

6 Numerosity is satisfied if “the class is so numerous that joinder of all members
7 is impracticable.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(1). “Joinder need not be impossible, as long
8 as potential class members would suffer a strong litigation hardship or inconvenience
9 if joinder were required.” *Rannis v. Rechhia*, 380 Fed. Appx. 646, 651 (9th Cir. May
10 27, 2010). Numerosity is clearly established here as there are approximately 350,000
11 Settlement Class Members (as of a date before the mediation). Class Counsel Decl. ¶
12 23. Accordingly, because the Settlement Class Members are certainly too numerous
13 to join as plaintiffs, the numerosity requirement is met.

14 **2. Commonality**

15 Commonality is satisfied if “there are any questions of law or fact common to
16 the class.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2). The inquiry regarding commonality involves
17 whether Plaintiffs can show a common contention such that “determination of its
18 truth or falsity will resolve an issue that is central to the validity of each one of the
19 claims in one stroke.” *Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. v. Dukes*, 564 U.S. 338, 350 (2011). “The
20 existence of shared legal issues with divergent factual predicates is sufficient, as is a
21 common core of salient facts coupled with disparate legal remedies within the class.”
22 *Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1019. All Settlement Class Members suffered the same statutory
23 injury and assert claims depending on the same contention: that Defendant’s denial
24 letters were inadequate and that Defendant failed to provide all relevant records upon
25 request. *See Beaver v. Omni Hotels Mgmt. Corp.*, 2023 WL 6120685, at *5 (S.D. Cal.
26 2023). Thus, the commonality requirement is readily satisfied.

27 **3. Typicality**

1 Typicality is satisfied if the class representatives' claims or defenses are typical
2 to those of the settlement class. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3). The Ninth Circuit applies
3 the typicality requirement liberally: "representative claims are typical if they are
4 reasonably coextensive with those of absent class members; they need not be
5 substantially identical." *Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1020. The "typicality" requirement is
6 essential to ensure that the claims of the class representative is aligned with those of
7 the class as a whole. *Wolin v. Jaguar Land Rover N.A., LLC*, 617 F.3D 1168, 1175
8 (9th Cir. 2010). Here, Plaintiffs' claims are typical to those of the absent Settlement
9 Class Members because they are based upon materially similar facts and identical
10 legal and remedial theories. *See Ellis v. Costco Wholesale Corp.*, 657 F.3d 970, 984
11 (9th Cir. 2011) (typicality exists when the class representative and the class are
12 injured by the same course of conduct).

13 **4. Adequacy**

14 Adequacy is satisfied if the class representatives "will fairly and adequately
15 protect the interests of the class." Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4). Two questions determine
16 legal adequacy: "(1) do the named plaintiffs and their counsel have any conflicts of
17 interest with other class members and (2) will the named plaintiffs and their counsel
18 prosecute the action vigorously on behalf of the class?" *Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1020.
19 Plaintiffs are adequate class representatives because they share the common goal to
20 ensure Navy Federal meets its investigative obligations under the EFTA. *See e.g.*,
21 *Hoffman v. Dutch LLC*, 317 F.R.D. 566, 574 (S.D. Cal. 2016) (finding adequacy met
22 where class representatives and members "share a common goal of protecting
23 consumer's rights"). Neither Plaintiff harbors interests antagonistic to the interests of
24 the Settlement Class. *See* Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 24. Plaintiffs have stayed abreast of
25 the proceedings, attended the Early Neutral Evaluation, and if necessary, would sit
26 for depositions and participate in discovery. *Id.* Further, Class Counsel are highly
27 experienced consumer class action attorneys, have litigated many cases involving
28 breach of contract and EFTA actions against financial institutions, and have

1 vigorously investigated and prosecuted this case since its inception. *Id.* ¶ 25.
2 Therefore, the adequacy requirement is satisfied.

3 **B. The Proposed Settlement Classes Satisfy Rule 23(b)(3)**

4 Class actions under Rule 23(b)(3) must also satisfy the “predominance” and
5 “superiority” requirements: (1) “the questions of law and fact common to class
6 members predominate over any questions affecting only individual members, and”
7 (2) “that a class action is superior to other available methods for fairly and efficiently
8 adjudicating the controversy.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3). Plaintiffs satisfy both.

9 **1. Common Questions Predominate**

10 Predominance inquires “whether proposed classes are sufficiently cohesive to
11 warrant adjudication by representation.” *Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1022. Although
12 predominance is inherently related to commonality it that it assumes a prerequisite of
13 common issues of law and fact, “Rule 23(b)(3) focuses on the *relationship* between
14 the common and individual issues.” *Id.* Where the core question driving the litigation
15 “would require the separate adjudication of each class member’s individual claim or
16 defense, a Rule 23(b) action would be inappropriate.” *Zinser v. Accufix Research
Institute, Inc.*, 253 F.3d 1180, 1189 (9th Cir. 2001). But “[w]hen common questions
17 present a significant aspect of the case and they can be resolved for all members of
18 the class in a single adjudication, there is clear justification for handling the dispute
19 on a representative rather than on an individual basis.” *Hanlon*, 150 F.3d 1022. This
20 Court has found predominance satisfied where the “claims have the potential be
21 proven based upon Defendant’s uniform [] policy, without the need for
22 individualized proof.” *Greenley*, 2022 WL 3161908 at *4.

23 As to Plaintiffs’ EFTA claim, the predominant common question is whether
24 Navy Federal’s denial letters and procedures for providing documents upon request
25 violated the EFTA, which can be proven with common evidence, including the letters
26 themselves and Navy Federal’s procedures. *See Almon v. Conduent Bus. Servs., LLC*,
27 No. No. 5:19-cv-01075-XR, 2022 WL 4545530, at *15 (W.D. Tex. Sept. 28, 2022)

1 (finding predominance satisfied on EFTA claim because “individual inquiries are not
2 necessary to determine whether an investigation was timely completed, whether a
3 provisional credit was properly given, or whether or not Defendants timely provided
4 a cardholder with their investigative documents”); *Shelby*, 2017 WL 6347090, at *4
5 (“Common factual and legal issues predominate because the single claim at issue here
6 depends on Defendant’s electronic withdrawal of funds from Class members’
7 accounts, and whether the EFTA permits that conduct.”). Predominance is met here.

8 **2. A Class Action is the Superior Method of Adjudication.**

9 Superiority examines whether the class action device “is superior to other
10 available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the controversy.” Fed. R.
11 Civ. P. 23(b)(3). In evaluating superiority, courts consider the following factors: “(A)
12 the class members’ interests in individually controlling the prosecution or defense of
13 separate actions; (B) the extent and nature of any litigation concerning the
14 controversy already begun by or against class members; (C) the desirability or
15 undesirability of concentrating the litigation of the claims in the particular forum; and
16 (D) the likely difficulties in managing a class action.” *Id.* “Where recovery on an
17 individual basis would be dwarfed by the cost of litigating on an individual basis, this
18 factor weighs in favor of class certification.” *Wollin*, 617 F.3d at 1175-76. In the
19 settlement context, manageability of the class action device is not a concern. *See*
20 *Amchem Prods., Inc. v. Windsor*, 521 U.S. 591, 620 (1997).

21 Because each Settlement Class Member’s claim is common to the class and
22 relatively small in amount given the cap on statutory damages in the EFTA, a class
23 action is the superior method for efficiently adjudicating Plaintiffs’ claims for
24 statutory damages and injunctive relief.

25 **VII. THE COURT SHOULD APPROVE THE PROPOSED CLASS NOTICE**
26 **AND NOTICE PROGRAM**

27 Rule 23(e) requires the trial court to “direct notice in a reasonable manner to
28 all class members who would be bound by the proposal.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(1).

1 Class notice must be “reasonably calculated to adequately apprise Class Members of
2 (a) the pending lawsuit, (b) the proposed settlement, and (c) their rights, including the
3 right to either participate in the settlement, exclude themselves from the settlement,
4 or object to the settlement.” *Morey*, 2013 WL 12069021 at *9. A class action
5 settlement notice is “satisfactory if it generally describes the terms of the settlement
6 in sufficient detail to alert those with adverse viewpoints to investigate and to come
7 forward and to be heard.” *Churchill*, 361 F.3d at 575. “However, Rule 23(e) ‘does
8 not require a detailed analysis of the statutes or causes of action forming the basis for
9 the plaintiff class’s claims, and it does not require an estimate of the potential value
10 of those claims.’” *In re Online DVD-Rental*, 779 F.3d at 946.

11 The content of the Email Notice, Postcard Notice, and Long Form Notice
12 provides sufficient information to meet these standards. *See* Agreement Exs. B–D.
13 Each Notice clearly and conspicuously describes: who is a Settlement Class Member;
14 the factual background of the litigation and the Parties; Settlement Class legal rights,
15 including to participate, opt out, or object, and deadlines for each option; the benefits
16 and details of the relief; the requested percentage of the value of the Settlement
17 Plaintiff will seek in attorneys’ fees and the Service Award amount; how to contact
18 the Settlement Administrator. *Id.*

19 The Long Form Notice uses a “frequently asked questions” format and
20 includes answers to questions such as, “How do I know if I’m a Member of the
21 Settlement Classes?”; “If I am a Settlement Class Member, What Are My Options?”;
22 and “If I Do Not Exclude Myself from the Settlement, What Claims Am I Giving
23 Up?” *See* Settlement Agreement, Exhibit D. This format constitutes adequate notice.
24 4 Newberg on Class Actions § 11:53, at p. 167 (4th ed. 2013) (“[N]otice is adequate
25 if it may be understood by the average class member.”).

26 Moreover, the method of providing Notice is adequate and reasonably likely
27 to ensure members of the Settlement Class apprised of the Settlement and given an
28 opportunity to be heard. Within sixty (60) calendar days after entry of the Preliminary

1 Approval Order, the Settlement Administrator will post and/or send Email Notice if
2 Navy Federal has a valid email address, Postcard Notice if Navy Federal does not
3 have a valid email address. The Long Form Notice will be available on the Settlement
4 Website and upon request.

5 In addition, the Settlement Administrator will maintain a toll-free number and
6 a Settlement Website where class members can obtain further information and copies
7 of key documents. *See* Agreement at § 4.1.

8 Accordingly, both the procedure and content of the Notice constitutes the best
9 notice practicable under the circumstances. *See In re Online DVD-Rental*, 779 F.3d
10 at 946 (describing adequate notice); *See e.g.*, *Morey*, 2013 WL 12069021 at *9
11 (finding that disseminating notice via methods including email, postcard, and a
12 settlement website constituted proper forms and methods of notice).

13 **VIII. THE COURT SHOULD APPOINT PLAINTIFFS AS CLASS**
14 **REPRESENTATIVES AND PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL AS CLASS**
15 **COUNSEL FOR SETTLEMENT PURPOSES**

16 Plaintiffs also request that the Court designate Plaintiffs Stephenson and Smith
17 II as Class Representatives. As detailed above, Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately
18 represent and protect the interests of the Settlement Classes.

19 Plaintiffs also seek to appoint Scott Edelsberg and Adam Schwartzbaum of
20 Edelsberg Law, P.A.; Edwin E. Elliott of Shamis & Gentile, P.A.; and Sophia Gold
21 and Jeffrey D. Kaliel of Kaliel Gold PLLC as Class Counsel for the Settlement
22 Classes. In appointing Class Counsel pursuant to Rule 23(g), the Court “must
23 consider: (i) the work counsel has done in identifying or investigating potential claims
24 in the action; (ii) counsel’s experience in handling class actions, other complex
25 litigation, and the types of claims asserted in the action; (iii) counsel’s knowledge of
26 the applicable law; and (iv) the resources that counsel will commit to representing the
27 class.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(g)(1)(A). Class Counsel is experienced and knowledgeable
28 in complex consumer class action litigation and well-equipped to vigorously and
efficiently represent the proposed Settlement Class. *See* Class Counsel Decl. ¶ 26.

1 Moreover, Class Counsel has expended a substantial amount of time investigating
2 Navy Federal's handling of unauthorized electronic fund transfers disputed by
3 members and researching the viability of Plaintiffs' claims. *Id.* Accordingly, the
4 Court should appoint Class Counsel for the Settlement Classes.

5 **IX. THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION SCHEDULE
THROUGH FINAL APPROVAL HEARING**

6 Based on the date of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order and the date the
7 Court sets for the Final Approval Hearing, the following represents the Parties'
8 anticipated Settlement-related deadlines:

9 Event	10 Date
11 Deadline for Navy Federal to provide Settlement Class List to Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator	12 No later than 30 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order
13 Deadline for commencing emailing and mailing of the Notice to Settlement Class Members and posting the Notice and Claim Form on the Settlement website (the "Notice Date")	14 No later than 60 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order
15 Deadline for Plaintiffs to file application for attorneys' fees and expenses and Service Awards	16 30 calendar days after the Notice Date (up to 90 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order)
17 Deadline for submitting of exclusion requests or objections	18 Postmarked no later than 45 calendar days after the Notice Date (up to 105 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order)
19 Deadline for submitting Claim Forms	20 Postmarked or electronically filed no later than 60 calendar days after the Notice Date (up to 120 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order)
21 Deadline for any response to any timely and valid objections and any supplemental brief re: final approval	22 70 days after the Notice Date (up to 130 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order)
23 Deadline for Settlement Administrator to Submit Declaration Identifying Opt Outs and Confirming Compliance with Notice Plan	24 At least 10 days before Final Approval Hearing.
25 Final Approval Hearing	26 At least 5 months after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order

27 **X. CONCLUSION**

28 Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court grant Plaintiffs' unopposed
Motion and enter the proposed Preliminary Approval Order, attached to the
Agreement as Exhibit E and submitted with this Motion.

1 Dated: July 22, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

2
3 */s/ Scott Edelsberg*
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5 **Admitted Pro Hac Vice*

6 *Counsel for Plaintiffs and the*
7 *Proposed Class*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 22nd day of July 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF. I also certify that the foregoing document is being served this day on all counsel of record via transmission of Notice of Electronic Filing generated by CM/ECF.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Scott Edelsberg

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Counsel for Plaintiffs and Proposed Classes

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JEFFREY STEPHENSON and BILLY SMITH II, individually, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated.

Plaintiffs.

V.

NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

Defendant,

Case No.: 3:23-cv-01851-WOH-KSC

**DECLARATION OF CLASS
COUNSEL IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT
AND PROVISIONAL CLASS
CERTIFICATION**

Assigned to Hon. William Q. Hayes

Action Filed: October 10, 2023

We, Scott Edelsberg, Adam Schwartzbaum, Edwin Elliott, Sophia Gold and Jeffrey Kaliel, declare as follows:

1. We are counsel of record for Plaintiffs and the proposed Class Counsel for the Settlement Class in the above-captioned matter. We submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' Unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement and Provisional Class Certification. Unless otherwise noted, we have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this declaration and could and would testify.

Class Counsel Experience and Expertise

9 2. Class Counsel are highly experienced in complex class action litigation,
10 including consumer disputes against financial institutions. Collectively, Class Counsel
11 has secured hundreds of millions of dollars on behalf of consumers because of their
12 efforts in evoking large-scale reform of unlawful and unfair business practices through
13 class action settlements reached with financial institutions nationwide. Counsel for
14 both Parties, as highly experienced trial attorneys and class counsel, are confident in
15 the terms of the Settlement after engaging in informed negotiations.

KalielGold PLLC

17 3. KalielGold PLLC (“KG”) has extensive experience in consumer
18 protection class actions in both state and federal court and has represented
19 accountholders in hundreds of class actions against financial institutions.

20 4. Jeffrey Kaliel is a graduate of Yale Law School and a member of good
21 standing of the District of Columbia and State Bar of California. Sophia Gold is a
22 graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law and a member in
23 good standing of the District of Columbia Bar and the State Bar of California. Ms. Gold
24 and Mr. Kaliel have substantial experience with consumer class actions in both state
25 and federal courts. They have won contested motions for class certification; briefed,
26 argued, and overturned dispositive lower court rulings at the federal appellate level;
27 and worked extensively with economics and information technology experts to build

1 damages models. They have also successfully resolved numerous class actions by
2 settlement, resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars in relief for millions of class
3 members. KalielGold PLLC has extensive class action experience and has been
4 appointed as class counsel in numerous class actions in which courts have recognized
5 the firm's expertise in the area of class action litigation in particular. *See, e.g., Hinton*
6 *v. Atlantic Union Bank*, No. 20-cv-00651 (E.D. Va.) ("Class Counsel's expertise,
7 perseverance, and skill allowed them to obtain an excellent result for the Settlement
8 Class."); *Kelly v. Community Bank*, No. 18-cv-00919 (N.D.N.Y.) (determining Class
9 Counsel to be "qualified, experienced, and able to conduct the litigation of this
10 Action"); *Gonzalez v. Banner Bank*, No. 20- cv-05151 (E.D. Wash.) (Class counsel
11 "were diligent in their representation of the Class"); *Lambert v. Navy Federal Credit*
12 *Union*, No. 19-cv-00103 (E.D. Va.) (Class Counsel's "tenacity in the face of significant
13 risk and complexity allowed to achieve an outstanding recovery that provides
14 substantial benefits to Settlement Class Members."); *Walters v. Target Corporation*,
15 No. 16-cv-01678 (S.D. Cal.) ("It is undisputed that Class Counsel achieved this result
16 through tenacity and skill in presenting novel and complex legal issues."); *Figueroa v.*
17 *Capital One, N.A.*, No. 18-cv- 00692 (S.D. Cal.) (praising Class Counsel for the "very
18 positive result achieved for the class" in a case involving a "novel legal issue"); *White*
19 *v. Members 1st Credit Union*, No. 19-cv-00556 (M.D. Pa.) (finding Class Counsel to
20 be "highly trained in class action law and procedure" and noting their "ability to
21 negotiate the instant Settlement at the early stages of this litigation demonstrates their
22 high level of skill and efficiency"); *Perks v. Activehouse d/b/a Earnin*, No. 19-cv-
23 05543 (N.D. Cal.) ("Class Counsel have substantial experience in litigating and settling
24 consumer class actions."). KG's tenacity is frequently reflected in the results it achieves
25 for the classes it represents, especially in cases involving similar bank fees. *See, e.g.,*
26 *Roberts v. Capital One*, No. 16-cv-04841 (S.D.N.Y.) (\$17 million settlement approved
27 for the class); *Perks v. TD Bank*, Case No. 18-cv-11176 (S.D.N.Y) (\$41.5 million

1 settlement approved for the class); *Morris et al. v. Bank of America, N.A.*, No. 18-cv-
2 00157 (W.D.N.C.) (\$75 million settlement approved for the class). KG's experience is
3 further detailed in the firm's resume, attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**.

4 **Edelsberg Law**

5. Edelsberg Law is a rapidly growing class action law firm that, since its
6 2019 founding, has distinguished itself in the successful litigation and settlement of
7 hundreds of class actions. Edelsberg Law attorneys have served in important class
8 leadership positions providing relevant experience to be appointed Class Counsel here.
9 Scott Edelsberg has litigated class actions in state and federal courts across the country
10 and has extensive experience with multi-district litigation proceedings. He has
11 successfully obtained more than 10 contested class certification orders, defeated
12 dispositive motions, managed complex discovery involving large datasets, and
13 collaborated with leading experts in economics and information technology to develop
14 sophisticated damages models. His work has led to numerous favorable class-wide
15 settlements, securing millions of dollars in relief for consumers nationwide. Most
16 recently, Mr. Edelsberg and his team have secured notable settlements in the insurance
17 arena: *Volino*, No. 21 Civ. 6243, ECF No. 400 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 7, 2025); (granting final
18 approval to class settlement securing \$48 million for class members, representing over
19 50% of their actual damages); *Brown*, No. 3:2021-cv-00175, ECF No. 246 (N.D. Ga.
20 Feb. 18, 2025) (granting final approval to class settlement secure \$43 million for class
21 members, representing nearly 40% of their actual damages); *South*, Nos. 19-cv-21760,
22 ECF No. 291 (Mar. 31, 2023) (granting final approval to class settlement secure \$38
23 million for class members); *Ubillus*, No. 19-000741-CK (Mich Cir. Ct. Nov. 21, 2024)
24 (granting final approval to class settlement secure \$61 million for class members).
25 Other representative matters include *Gattinella v. Michael Kors*, Case No. 1:14-cv-
26 05731 (S.D.N.Y. 2016) (class settlement for \$4.875 million); *Wildstein v. Seventh
27 Generation, Inc.*, Case No. 3:15-cv-00205 (N.D. Cal. 2016) (class settlement for \$4.75

1 million); and *Gottlieb v. CITGO Petroleum Corporation*, Case No. 9:16-cv-81911
2 (S.D. Fla. 2017) (class settlement for \$8.3 million). Mr. Schwartzbaum is an Edelsberg
3 Law Partner and Chair of Litigation and has been involved in the leadership of several
4 multidistrict litigations and other large, complex matters. As partner to co-lead counsel
5 in the *In re Champlain Towers South Collapse Litigation*, No. 2021-015089-CA-01
6 (Fla. 11th Jud. Cir.), he was deeply involved in many significant aspects of that historic
7 and shocking building collapse litigation which settled for over \$1.1 billion.
8 Additionally, Mr. Schwartzbaum was a member of the team that handled the motions
9 for class certification and summary judgment in *In re FieldTurf Artificial Turf*
10 *Marketing & Sales Practice Litigation*, No. 3:17-md-2779 (MAS) (TJB) (D.N.J.), a
11 multi-district litigation which recently settled after the district court granted plaintiffs'
12 motion for certification of an issue class. As partner to co-lead counsel in *In re Erie*
13 *Covid-19 Business Interruption Protection Insurance Litigation*, No. 1:21-mc-00001
14 (W.D. Pa.), Mr. Schwartzbaum worked as an ad hoc member of the steering committee
15 to advance that multidistrict litigation for many years. Schwartzbaum also helped
16 achieve a \$44 million settlement on behalf of Ponzi scheme victims. See *Gleinn v.*
17 *Wassgren*, No. 8:20-cv-01677-MSS-CPT (M.D. Fla.). Mr. Schwartzbaum has been
18 appointed class counsel in many class actions, including cases where he obtained class
19 certification prior to settlement, and brings a wealth of trial and appellate court
20 experience on both the plaintiff and defense sides.
21 Edelsberg Law's experience is further detailed in the firm's resume, attached hereto as
22 **Exhibit 3.**

23 **Shamis & Gentile, P.A.**

24 6. Edwin Elliott is a partner at Shamis & Gentile, P.A. where his practice
25 focuses on high-level, consumer class actions. Mr. Elliott represents clients in federal
26 and state courts across the nation in class actions involving consumer fraud, deceptive
27 and unfair trade practices, predatory financial services, false advertising, digital

1 privacy, and complex insurance disputes. Mr. Elliott and Shamis & Gentile attorneys
2 are routinely certified class counsel which has resulted in many favorable class
3 settlements. Shamis & Gentile's extensive experience in civil litigation has helped
4 recover over 1 billion dollars for consumers and plaintiffs throughout the country
5 through their relentlessness, expertise, and calculated approach. Some of Shamis &
6 Gentile's successes include the following: *Jones v. Washington State Employee's*
7 *Credit Union*, No. 20-2-06596-5 (Wash. Super. Ct. (Pierce Cnty.) (\$2,400,000 Class
8 Settlement); *Soto-Melendez v. Banco Popular de Puerto Rico*, No. 3:20-cv-01057
9 (D.P.R.) (\$5,500,000 Class Settlement); *Bruin v. Bank of America, N.A.*, No. 3:22-cv-
10 140 (W.D.N.C.) (\$8,000,000 Class Settlement and cease assessing ACH First Party
11 Fees for five years); *Albrecht v. Oasis Power, LLC*, No. 1:18-cv-1061 (N.D. Ill.)
12 (\$7,000,000 Class Settlement); *DeFranks v. Nastygal.com USA Inc.*, No. 19-cv-23028-
13 DPG (S.D. Fla.) (\$4,025,000 Class Settlement); *South v. Progressive Select Ins. Co.*,
14 No. 19-cv-21760 (S.D. Fla.) (\$48,800,000.00 Class Settlement); *Dipuglia v. US*
15 *Coachways, Inc.*, No. 17-23006-Civ, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 72551 (S.D. Fla.)
16 (\$2,600,000 Class Settlement); *Eisenband v. Schumacher Automotive, Inc.*, No. 18-cv-
17 01061 (S.D. Fla) (\$5,000,000 Class Settlement); *Gottlieb v. Citgo Corporation*, No.
18 16-cv-81911 (S.D. Fla.) (\$8,300,000 Class Settlement); *Jacques, et. al. v. Security*
19 *National Insurance Company*, No. CACE-19-002236 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct.) (\$6,000,000
20 Class Settlement); *Volino v. Progressive Casualty Ins. Co.*, No. 1:21-cv-06243
21 (S.D.N.Y.) (\$48,000,000 Class Settlement); *Brown v. Progressive Mountain Ins. Co.*,
22 No. 3:21-cv-00175 (N.D. Ga.) (\$43,000,000 Class Settlement); *Sellers v. Bleacher*
23 *Report, Inc.*, No. 2024-003537-CA-01 (Fla. 11th Cir. Ct.) (\$4,800,000 Class
24 Settlement. Shamis & Gentile's experience is further detailed in the firm's resume,
25 attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**.

26 **Factual Background**

27 7. On October 10, 2023, Stephenson filed his putative class action complaint

1 in this Court against Navy Federal arising out of its handling of electronic fund transfers
2 disputed by members as unauthorized and/or fraudulent. The Complaint alleged claims
3 on behalf of a nationwide class for breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant
4 of good faith and fair dealing, violations of the EFTA, and violation of California's
5 Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 (the "UCL"). ECF. No. 1.
6 Stephenson filed his First Amended Complaint on January 22, 2024, in lieu of
7 responding to Defendant's motion to dismiss. ECF No. 17.

8. On February 21, 2024, Defendant filed a motion to dismiss the First
9 Amended Complaint under Rule 12(b)(6). ECF No. 19. After briefing, the Court
10 entered its order denying in part and granting in part Defendant's motion to dismiss,
11 allowing Plaintiffs' EFTA and breach of contract claims to proceed. ECF No. 25.
12 Plaintiffs filed their Second Amended Complaint (SAC), which added Smith II to the
13 Action; Defendant filed its answer to the SAC, asserting seven affirmative defenses.
14 ECF Nos. 28, 32.

15. The Parties began written discovery, which included the exchange of Rule
16 26(a)(1) initial disclosures, requests for production and interrogatories, engaging in
17 meet-and-confer conferences regarding the same, issuing third-party subpoenas, and
18 production of documents.

19. On December 11, 2024, the Parties participated in an Early Neutral
20 Evaluation with Magistrate Judge Karen S. Crawford, which did not result in
21 settlement. Then, on February 26, 2025, the Parties requested, and the Court granted a
22 stay of the case to allow the Parties to participation in a mediation to see if they could
23 resolve the case without further litigation. ECF. No. 54.

24. 11. On June 4, 2025, the Parties attended a full-day in-person mediation
25 before retired Judge Diane M. Welsh—a well-respected mediator experienced in
26 mediating class actions alleging EFTA claims—which resulted in an agreement to the
27 material terms of this Settlement. Class Counsel Decl. On June 6, 2025, the Parties

1 notified the Court that they had reached an agreement to settle in principle on a class-
2 wide basis and stipulated to stay the case. ECF No. 55. The Parties then negotiated the
3 Agreement now pending preliminary approval, a copy of which is attached to this
4 declaration as **Exhibit 1**.

5 **Settlement**

6 12. Class Counsel believes that the contemplated benefits addressed below
7 adequately compensate the Settlement Classes for the claims they are releasing and, in
8 light of the risks of continued litigation, represent an excellent result for the Settlement
9 Classes.

10 13. Plaintiffs and Class Counsel have adequately and vigorously represented
11 the Settlement Classes throughout the 2.5-year litigation, which involved significant
12 formal and informal discovery, contentious motion practice, and settlement
13 negotiations with the assistance of a third-party neutral mediator.

14 14. Further, Plaintiffs, through their counsel, engaged in a lengthy,
15 independent investigation of their claims, as well as the potential claims of other
16 Settlement Class Members, to properly weigh the pros and cons of continued litigation
17 versus the proposed nationwide settlement of all claims for statutory damages.

18 15. Additionally, the entire settlement process was negotiated in good faith
19 and at arm's-length by highly knowledgeable counsel experienced in complex class
20 action litigation, including consumer disputes against financial institutions.

21 16. Class Counsel has not been paid for their extensive efforts or reimbursed
22 for litigation costs incurred over the last two and a half years.

23 17. The Parties did not discuss attorneys' fees and costs, nor any potential
24 service awards, until they first agreed on the material Settlement terms, including the
25 Settlement Class definitions, the Notice and Notice Program, the claims process and
26 Claim Form, benefits for Settlement Class Members, and scope of the Releases.

18. The risks in prosecuting a class action through trial and the potential delay
in continuing to litigate this case also favors approval of the Settlement. Plaintiffs'
claims would need to survive additional forthcoming motion practice, and they would
have to succeed in certifying a class. Significant time and additional costs would be
required for the Parties and the Court to complete discovery, brief and rule on class
certification, participate in pre-trial proceedings, brief and rule on summary judgment,
etc. And the Parties could appeal the Court's class certification and summary judgment
decisions as well as any verdict at trial, which could take years to resolve and could
result in reversal on appeal.

10 19. This risk is especially acute regarding claims for actual damages, which
11 Navy Federal argued could never be certified due to a lack of predominance on the
12 elements of breach and damages.

13 20. This Settlement does not release any Settlement Class Members' claims
14 for actual damages based on Navy Federal's alleged improper denial of claims.

15 21. The Parties engaged in both formal and informal discovery prior to
16 settling. This information included documents regarding Navy Federal's internal
17 policies and practices on handling account-holders' claims of unauthorized or
18 fraudulent transactions and efforts to comply with federal error resolution
19 requirements; letters denying claims during the Class Period; each Plaintiff's
20 transaction history; and the approximate number of accountholders whose claims were
21 denied (a subset of which claim not to have received supporting documentation upon
22 request).

23 22. The Parties aggressively litigated this case through contentious motion
24 practice and settlement negotiations driven by the exchange of discovery, including
25 with the assistance of a mediator.

26 23. Numerosity is clearly established here as there are approximately 350,000
27 Settlement Class Members (as of a date before the mediation).

1 24. Neither Plaintiff harbors interests antagonistic to the interests of the
2 Settlement Class. Plaintiffs have stayed abreast of the proceedings, attended the Early
3 Neutral Evaluation, and if necessary, would sit for depositions and participate in
4 discovery.

5 25. Further, Class Counsel are highly experienced consumer class action
6 attorneys, have litigated many cases involving breach of contract and EFTA actions
7 against financial institutions, and have vigorously investigated and prosecuted this case
8 since its inception.

9 26. Class Counsel is experienced and knowledgeable in complex consumer
10 class action litigation and well-equipped to vigorously and efficiently represent the
11 proposed Settlement Class. Moreover, Class Counsel has expended a substantial
12 amount of time investigating Navy Federal’s handling of unauthorized electronic fund
13 transfers disputed by members and researching the viability of Plaintiffs’ claims.

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

16 || Executed this 22nd day of July, 2025, at Oakland, California.

/s/ Sophia G. Gold
Sophia G. Gold

20 || Executed this 22nd day of July, 2025, at Washington, D.C.

/s/ Jeffrey D. Kaliel
Jeffrey D. Kaliel

24 || Executed this 22nd day of July, 2025, at Aventura, Florida.

/s/ Scott A. Edelsberg
Scott A. Edelsberg

1 Executed this 22nd day of July, 2025, at Miami, Florida.
2

3 */s/ Adam A. Schwartzbaum*
4 Adam A. Schwartzbaum

5 Executed this 22nd day of July, 2025, at Miami, Florida.
6

7 */s/ Edwin Elliott*
8 Edwin Elliott

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 22nd day of July 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF. I also certify that the foregoing document is being served this day on all counsel of record via transmission of Notice of Electronic Filing generated by CM/ECF.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Scott Edelsberg

EXHIBIT 1

CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement and Release (the “Settlement Agreement” or “Agreement”)¹ is made and entered into this 16th day of July, 2025, by and among (1) Plaintiffs, Jeffrey Stephenson and Billy Smith II, individually and on behalf of the Settlement Class, and (2) Navy Federal Credit Union, subject to Preliminary Approval and Final Approval as required by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. As provided herein, Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, and Navy Federal hereby stipulate and agree that, in consideration of the promises and covenants set forth in this Agreement and upon entry by the Court of a Final Order and Judgment, all claims of the Settlement Class against Navy Federal in the action titled *Jeffrey Stephenson and Billy Smith II v. Navy Federal Credit Union*, S.D. Cal. Case No. 3:23-cv-01851-WQH-KSC (the “Action”), shall be settled and compromised upon the terms and conditions contained herein.

RECITALS

1. This putative class action was originally filed on October 10, 2023, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California against Navy Federal alleging breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, violations of the Electronic Funds Transfer Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1693 *et seq.* (the “EFTA”), and violation of California’s Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 (the “UCL”). Plaintiff Stephenson brought claims individually and on behalf of a nationwide class of credit union members arising from Navy Federal’s handling of electronic fund transfers disputed by members as unauthorized and/or fraudulent. *Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union*, No. 3:2023-cv-01851, ECF No. 1 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 10, 2023) (the “Action”).

¹ All capitalized terms herein have the same meanings as those given to them in Section I below.

2. On February 21, 2024, Defendant filed a motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(6), arguing, *inter alia*, that Plaintiff Stephenson failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted. *Id.* at ECF No. 19. Plaintiff Stephenson filed his opposition brief on March 22, 2024, (*id.* at ECF No. 22), and Defendant filed its reply brief on April 5, 2024 (*id.* at ECF No. 24).

3. On September 20, 2024, the Court largely denied Defendant's motion to dismiss. *Id.* at ECF No. 25. Specifically, the Court upheld the claim for violations of the EFTA and also upheld the breach of express contract claim. The Court granted the motion with respect to the UCL claim, with leave to amend. Plaintiff Stephenson opted not to amend the UCL claim.

4. On October 4, 2024, Plaintiffs Stephenson and Smith II filed the Second Amended Compliant to add Plaintiff Smith. *Id.* at ECF No. 28.

5. Defendant thereafter answered Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint on November 1, 2024, by denying the allegations generally and raising seven (7) affirmative defenses. *Id.* at ECF No. 32.

6. Thereafter, the Parties engaged in written discovery, which included the exchange of initial disclosures pursuant to Rule 26(a)(1), requests for production and interrogatories, meet-and-confer conferences regarding the same, third-party subpoenas, and the production of documents.

7. On December 11, 2024, the parties participated in an Early Neutral Evaluation with Magistrate Judge Karen S. Crawford, which did not result in settlement.

8. On February 26, 2025, the Parties requested a stay of the case in order for the Parties to mediate. ECF No. 54.

9. On June 4, 2025, the Parties engaged in an in-person mediation with JAMS neutral retired Judge Diane M. Welsh (Ret.), a respected mediator experienced in mediating class actions

alleging EFTA claims. With the assistance of Judge Welsh, the parties agreed to the material terms of Settlement, which they memorialized in a term sheet executed on June 6, 2025.

10. The Parties stipulated to stay the case and extend deadlines pending the mediation and the Court granted that stipulation on March 3, 2025. ECF No. 55.

11. The Parties now agree to settle the Action in its entirety, without any admission of liability, with respect to all Released Claims of the Releasing Parties. The Parties intend this Agreement to bind the Plaintiffs, Navy Federal, and all Settlement Class Members.

NOW, THEREFORE, in light of the foregoing, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby mutually acknowledged, the Parties agree, subject to approval by the Court, as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Settlement Agreement, the following terms have the meanings specified below:

1.1 “Account” means the account for which a Navy Federal member has made a claim of an unauthorized electronic fund transfer that was denied during the Class Period.

1.2 “Accountholder” means any person who has or had any interest, whether legal or equitable, in an Account during the Class Period and includes Current Accountholders and Former Accountholders.

1.3 “Action” means *Jeffrey Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union*, Case No. 3:23-cv-01851, pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California.

1.4 “Approved Claim” means a Claim Form submitted by a Settlement Class Member that: (a) is submitted timely and in accordance with the directions on the Claim Form and the provisions of the Settlement Agreement; (b) is fully and truthfully completed by a Settlement Class

Member; (c) is signed by the Settlement Class Member, physically or electronically; and (d) is approved by the Settlement Administrator pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement.

1.5 “Claim Form” means the document substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, or as approved by the Court. The Claim Form, to be completed by Settlement Class Members who wish to file a claim for a payment, shall be available in electronic and paper format in the manner described below.

1.6 “Claims Deadline” means the date by which all Claim Forms must be postmarked or received to be considered timely. The Claims Deadline, proposed to the Court, shall be no later than sixty (60) days after the Notice Date. The Claims Deadline shall be clearly set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order as well as in the Notice and the Claim Form.

1.7 “Class Counsel” means:

EDELSBERG LAW, P.A.
Scott Edelsberg
Adam Schwartzbaum
1925 Century Park East, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90067

SHAMIS & GENTILE, P.A.
Edwin E. Elliott
14 NE 1st Avenue, Suite 705
Miami, FL 33132

KALIEL GOLD PLLC
Jeffrey D. Kaliel
Sophia Goren Gold
490 43rd Street, No. 122
Oakland, CA 94609

1.8 “Class Period” means the period beginning from October 10, 2022, to the date the Court enters the Preliminary Approval Order of the Settlement.

1.9 “Class Representatives” means the named Plaintiffs Jeffrey Stephenson and Billy Smith II.

1.10 “Court” means the United States District Court for the Southern District of California.

1.11 “Current Accountholder” means a Settlement Class Member who continues to have his or her Account or any other open account with Navy Federal as of the date that the Net Settlement Fund is distributed to Settlement Class Members pursuant to this Agreement.

1.12 “Defendant” or “Navy Federal” means Navy Federal Credit Union.

1.13 “Defendant’s Counsel” means Defendant’s counsel of record in the Action.

1.14 “Effective Date” means the 10th business day after which all of the following events have occurred;

(a) The Court has entered without material change the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment; and

(b) The time for seeking rehearing or appellate or other review has expired, and no appeal or petition for rehearing or review has been timely filed; or the Settlement is affirmed on appeal or review without material change, no other appeal or petition for rehearing or review is pending, and the time period during which further petition for hearing, review, appeal, or certiorari could be taken has finally expired and relief from a failure to file same is not available.

1.15 “EFTA Dispute” means each Settlement Class Member’s electronic funds transaction reported as unauthorized or fraudulent under Regulation E and denied by Defendant, and which allegedly supports a claim for violation of the Electronic Funds Transfer Act (“EFTA”), 15 U.S.C. §§ 1693, *et seq.*, and Regulation E of the EFTA, 12 C.F.R. §§1005.1, *et seq.*

1.16 “Email Notice” means a short form of notice that shall be sent by email to Class Members for whom Navy Federal has a valid email address in the form attached as Exhibit B. The Email Notice shall contain an electronic link to the Settlement Website where a Settlement Class

Member can access an online Claim Form pre-filled with the Settlement Class Member's unique claim ID, if possible.

1.17 “Escrow Account” means the escrow account established by the Settlement Administrator under terms acceptable to all Parties at a depository institution insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to receive and maintain funds contributed on behalf of Defendant for the benefit of the Settlement Classes. The Escrow Account shall be maintained by the Settlement Administrator.

1.18 “Fee Award” means the amount of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses awarded by the Court to Class Counsel, which will be paid out of the Settlement Fund.

1.19 “Final Approval” means the date that the Court enters on Order granting final approval to the Settlement, issues a final judgment, and determines the amount of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses awarded to Class Counsel. The proposed Final Approval Order shall be in the form of Exhibit F. In the event that the Court issues separate orders addressing the foregoing matters, then Final Approval means the date of the last such orders.

1.20 “Final Approval Hearing” means the hearing set by the Court to determine the fairness of the Settlement and whether to approve its terms.

1.21 “Final Judgment” means the Final Approval Order and Judgment that the Court enters upon Final Approval, which shall be substantially in the form attached as Exhibit F. In the event that the Court issues separate Orders addressing the matters constituting Final Judgment, then the Final Judgment includes all such Orders.

1.22 “Former Accountholder” means a Settlement Class Member who no longer has his or her Account or any other Navy Federal checking or savings account as of the date that the Net Settlement Fund is distributed to Settlement Class Members pursuant to this Agreement.

1.23 “Long Form Notice” means the form of notice that shall be posted on the Settlement Website and shall be available to the Settlement Class by mail on request made to the Settlement Administrator in the form attached as Exhibit D.

1.24 “Net Settlement Fund” means the Settlement Fund, minus (a) Settlement Administration Costs and (b) Court-approved attorneys’ fees, costs, and expenses.

1.25 “Notice” means the notice of this proposed Class Action Settlement Agreement, which is to be sent to the Settlement Class substantially in the manner set forth in this Agreement, is consistent with the requirements of Due Process, Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, and is substantially in the form of Exhibit B (the “Email Notice”), Exhibit C (the “Postcard Notice”), and Exhibit D (the “Long Form Notice”) hereto as well as the processes of sending Notice set out in Section Four below (collectively, the “Notice Program”).

1.26 “Notice Date” means the date of no later than sixty (60) days following entry of the Preliminary Approval Order by which the Settlement Administrator must commence emailing and mailing of the Notice to Settlement Class Members.

1.27 “Objection/Exclusion Deadline” means the date by which a written objection to this Settlement Agreement or a request for exclusion submitted by a Person within the Settlement Class must be made, which shall be designated as a date no later than forty-five (45) days after the Notice Date, or such other date as ordered by the Court.

1.28 “Parties” means Plaintiffs and Navy Federal.

1.29 “Person” means a natural person, firm, association, organization, partnership, business, trust, limited liability company, corporation, or public entity.

1.30 “Plaintiffs” means Jeffrey Stephenson and Billy Smith II.

1.31 “Plaintiffs’ General Release” means that as of the Effective Date, Plaintiffs, and each of their successors, assigns, heirs, personal representatives, and all those who claim through them or who assert claims on each of their behalf, shall each be deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Approval Order and Judgment shall have, expressly released, waived, and relinquished any and all claims, demands, rights, liabilities, and causes of action each of them has or has ever had against any of the Released Parties, whether for economic damages, noneconomic damages, exemplary damages, penalties, restitution, injunctive or declaratory relief, interest, attorneys’ fees, costs, or any other forms of monetary or non-monetary relief in any way arising out of or relating to any facts, transactions, events, policies, occurrences, acts, disclosures, statements, omissions, or failures to act from the beginning of time to the date each of them signs this Agreement, including but not limited to any claims arising from or related to Navy Federal’s denial of their claims for reimbursement of unauthorized electronic fund transfers. This general release by Plaintiffs shall include all statutory claims, common law claims (including but not limited to those sounding in contract, tort, and equity), claims for compensation to the fullest extent permitted by law, and Unknown Claims (as defined in this Agreement). Plaintiffs each further agree not to sue or otherwise make a claim against any of the Released Parties for any of the claims that are released pursuant to this paragraph.

1.32 “Plan of Allocation” means the manner in which the Net Settlement Fund shall be allocated to Settlement Class Members, as specified in paragraph 2.1(b).

1.33 “Preliminary Approval” means the Court’s certification of the Settlement Class for settlement purposes, preliminary approval of this Settlement Agreement, and approval of the form and manner of the Notice.

1.34 “Preliminary Approval Order” means the order preliminarily approving the Settlement Agreement, certifying the Settlement Class for settlement purposes, and directing notice thereof to the Settlement Class, which will be agreed upon by the Parties and submitted to the Court in conjunction with Plaintiffs’ motion for preliminary approval of the Agreement, which shall be substantially in the form of Exhibit E.

1.35 “Postcard Notice” means the short form of notice that shall be sent by mail to Class Members for whom Navy Federal does not have an email address, or for whom the Settlement Administrator is unable to send Email Notice using the email address provided by Navy Federal, in the form attached as Exhibit C. The Claim Forms provided with Postcard Notice will be pre-filled with a unique claim ID and the Settlement Class Member name.

1.36 “Released Claims” means any and all claims to statutory damages or injunctive relief, regardless of legal basis and on account of any and all claims, suits, obligations, causes of action of every kind and/or nature, liabilities, rights, claims, actions, causes of action, and demands, whether known or unknown, existing or potential, suspected or unsuspected, liquidated or unliquidated, legal, statutory, or equitable, based on contract, tort or any other theory, that result from, arise out of, are based upon, or relate to the conduct, omissions, duties or matters during the Class Period that were or could have been alleged in the Action. The Released Claims exclude any claims for actual damages based on or related to Navy Federal’s purported improper denial of a claim of unauthorized electronic transfer(s). Nothing herein is intended to release any claims any governmental agency or governmental actor may have against Defendant.

1.37 “Released Parties” means Defendant Navy Federal Credit Union, as well as any and all of its respective present or past or future heirs, executors, estates, administrators, predecessors, successors, assigns, parent companies, subsidiaries, licensors, licensees, associates,

affiliates, employers, employees, agents, consultants, independent contractors, insurers, directors, managing directors, officers, partners, principals, members, attorneys, accountants, financial and other advisors, underwriters, shareholders, lenders, auditors, investment advisors, legal representatives, successors in interest, assigns and companies, firms, trusts, and corporations.

1.38 “Releasing Parties” means Plaintiffs, those Settlement Class Members who do not timely opt out of the Settlement Class, and all of their respective present or past or future heirs, executors, estates, administrators, predecessors, successors, assigns, parent companies, subsidiaries, associates, affiliates, employers, employees, agents, consultants, independent contractors, insurers, directors, managing directors, officers, partners, principals, members, attorneys, accountants, financial and other advisors, underwriters, shareholders, lenders, auditors, investment advisors, legal representatives, successors in interest, assigns and companies, firms, trusts, and corporations.

1.39 “Service Award” means any Court-ordered payment to Plaintiffs for serving as Class Representatives.

1.40 “Settlement Administration Costs” means the costs and expenses incurred by the Settlement Administrator in providing Notice, processing claims, responding to inquiries from members of the Settlement Class, mailing checks for Approved Claims, and related services, including notices required by the Class Action Fairness Act. Navy Federal will pay Settlement Administration Costs separate and apart from payment of the Settlement Fund and payments to the Plaintiffs.

1.41 “Settlement Administrator” means Kroll Settlement Administration LLC (Kroll) or such other administration company that has been selected by the Parties and approved by the

Court to oversee the distribution of Notice, as well as the processing and payment of Approved Claims to the Settlement Class as set forth in this Agreement.

1.42 “Settlement Class” or “Settlement Classes” means the following:

(a) **Written Explanation Settlement Class.** All Accountholders whose claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfers were denied by Navy Federal Credit Union between October 10, 2022, and the date the Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement.

(b) **Document Request Settlement Subclass.** All Accountholders in the Written Explanation Settlement Class who requested documents Navy Federal relied on in making its determination and who did not receive them.

1.43 “Settlement Class List” means the list of all Settlement Class Members and their email addresses (to the extent available) and last known postal addresses provided by Navy Federal to the Settlement Administrator for the purposes of disseminating Notice.

1.44 “Settlement Class Member” means any person who falls within the definition of the Settlement Classes as set forth above and who does not submit a valid request for exclusion.

1.45 “Settlement Class Member Payment” means the distribution that will be made from the Net Settlement Fund to each Settlement Class Member who files an Approved Claim by the Settlement Administrator, pursuant to the Plan of Allocation.

1.46 “Settlement Fund” means the amount of one million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$1,700,000.00 USD), which Defendant will be obligated to pay to the Settlement Administrator on behalf of the Settlement Classes, as described herein. From the Settlement Fund, the Settlement Administrator shall pay all Approved Claims made by Settlement Class Members and any Fee Award to Class Counsel.

1.47 “Settlement Website” means the website that the Settlement Administrator will use as a means for Settlement Class Members to obtain notice of and information about the Settlement, through and including hyperlinked access to this Agreement, the Long Form Notice, the Preliminary Approval Order, the Claim Form, and such other documents as the Parties agree to post or that the Court orders posted on the website. These documents shall remain on the Settlement Website at least until the Settlement Administrator has distributed the Net Settlement Fund. The URL of the Settlement Website shall be www.stephensoneftalitigation.com, or such other URL as Class Counsel and Navy Federal agree upon in writing.

1.48 “Unknown Claims” means claims that could have been raised in the Action arising out of or related to EFTA Dispute that Plaintiffs do not know or suspect to exist, which, if known by him or her, might affect their agreement to release the Released Parties or the Released Claims or might affect their decision to agree, object or not to object to the Settlement. Upon the Effective Date, the Plaintiffs shall be deemed to have, and shall have, expressly waived and relinquished, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the provisions, rights and benefits of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which provides as follows:

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.

Upon the Effective Date, Plaintiffs also shall be deemed to have, and shall have, waived any and all provisions, rights and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, or the law of any jurisdiction outside of the United States, which is similar, comparable or equivalent to Section 1542 of the California Civil Code. Plaintiffs acknowledge that they may discover facts in addition to or different from those that they now know

or believe to be true with respect to the subject matter of this release, but that it is their intention to finally and forever settle and release the Released Claims, notwithstanding any Unknown Claims they may have, as that term is defined in this Paragraph.

2. SETTLEMENT RELIEF.

2.1 Payments to Settlement Class Members and Plaintiffs.

(a) **Monetary Payments.** Subject to approval by the Court, under the Settlement, the total monetary consideration to be provided by Navy Federal shall be \$1,720,000: a) \$1,700,000 for settlement of the Settlement Class Member Claims, inclusive of the amount paid to Settlement Class Members, any and all attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses awarded to Class Counsel; b) \$5,000 to each Plaintiff in settlement of their individual claims (as further specified in paragraph 2.1(a)(i), below); and (c) \$5,000 to each Plaintiff as a Service Award approved by the Court. Except as otherwise specified in this Agreement, Navy Federal shall not be responsible for any other payments under this Agreement. In accordance with the timing specified in paragraph 2.1(c), Navy Federal shall: a) deposit into the Escrow Account \$1,700,000 minus the amount of the Settlement Class Member Payments to be credited to the accounts of Current Accountholders; and b) after receipt of W9s from each Plaintiff, credit each Plaintiff's Account in the amount of \$10,000. Distribution of any funds remaining from uncashed checks for those settlement class members without active Navy Federal accounts is set forth in paragraph 2.1(j).

- i. As part of the Settlement, Navy Federal agrees to pay each Plaintiff \$5,000 in exchange for their release of the individual claims against Navy Federal, including their claims for actual damages under the EFTA and for breach of contract, including the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. Payments for Plaintiff's individual claims will be paid separate from the

Settlement Fund through a credit to each Plaintiff's Account within thirty (30) days after the Effective Date.

(b) **Plan of Allocation.** Settlement Class Members shall have until the Claims Deadline to submit an Approved Claim. Each Settlement Class Member with an Approved Claim shall be entitled to a *pro rata* portion of the Net Settlement Fund, distributed by an electronic payment method approved by the Settlement Administrator or by check. Pursuant to the following Plan of Allocation, Settlement Class Members who are members of the Written Explanation Settlement Class will be assigned one (1) Approved Claim for purposes of allocating the Net Settlement Fund, while Settlement Class Members who are also members of the Document Request Settlement Subclass will be assigned two (2) Approved Claims for purposes of allocating the Net Settlement Fund. The value of each *pro rata* portion of the Net Settlement Fund will be calculated by dividing the total number of Approved Claims by the amount of the Net Settlement Fund.

- i. Members of the Written Explanation Settlement Class who timely submit a valid Claim Form, and whose class membership is confirmed by the Settlement Administrator, will be assigned one (1) Approved Claim for purposes of allocating the Net Settlement Fund.
- ii. Individuals who warrant they are members of the Document Request Settlement Subclass may indicate this fact by checking the appropriate box on the Claim Form. The Settlement Administrator will compile a list identifying all individuals who selected this option and will provide that list to Defendant within seven (7) days after the Claims Deadline. Defendant may, at its sole discretion, review its claim files to determine whether any of these

individuals are not, in fact, members of the Document Request Settlement Subclass. If Defendant determines that any individual is not a member of the Document Request Settlement Subclass, it must provide supporting documentation to the Settlement Administrator within twenty-one (21) days, who will review and confirm Defendant's determination. Settlement Class Members who are confirmed to be members of the Document Request Settlement Subclass will be assigned two (2) Approved Claims for purposes of allocating the Net Settlement Fund.

(c) **Settlement Payment Amount Chart.** Within five (5) business days of the Effective Date, the Settlement Administrator will provide Navy Federal with a chart of the payment amount for each Settlement Class Member Account. Within fifteen (15) business days of receipt, Navy Federal will identify the Former Accountholders for the Settlement Administrator and will wire to the Settlement Administrator an amount equal to \$1,700,000 minus the total amount of credits to Current Accountholders.

(d) **Distribution of Settlement Payments.** Within ten (10) business days of receipt of funds from Navy Federal, the Settlement Administrator will mail Settlement Class Member Payments to Former Accountholders via check and Navy Federal will credit accounts of Current Accountholders.

(e) **Credits.** Navy Federal will credit the Settlement Class Member Payments to accounts of Current Accountholders. If the Current Accountholder's Account is no longer open, Navy Federal will credit the Settlement Class Member Payment to any other open savings or checking account maintained by the Current Accountholder at the time of issuing the credit. Navy

Federal will bear any costs associated with implementing the credits and notification to the Settlement Administrator discussed in this paragraph.

(f) If by the deadline for Navy Federal to apply credits of Settlement Class Member Payments to Current Accountholders, Navy Federal is unable to complete certain credits, or it is not feasible or reasonable to make the payment by a credit, Navy Federal shall deliver the total amount of such unsuccessful Settlement Class Member Payment credits to the Settlement Administrator to be paid by check in accordance with paragraphs 2.1(g)-(h) below.

(g) **Checks.** Settlement Fund Payments will be made by check with an appropriate legend, in a form approved by Class Counsel and Navy Federal's counsel, to indicate that it is from the Settlement Fund. Checks will be cut and mailed by the Settlement Administrator and will be sent to the addresses that the Settlement Administrator identifies as valid. Checks shall be valid for ninety (90) days. For jointly held Accounts, checks will be payable to all Accountholders, and will be mailed to the first Accountholder listed on the Account.

(h) The Settlement Administrator will make reasonable efforts to locate the proper address for any intended recipient of Settlement Funds whose check is returned by the Postal Service as undeliverable (such as by running addresses of returned checks through the Lexis/Nexis database that can be used for such purpose), and will re-mail the check once to the updated address, or, in the case of a jointly held Account, and in the Settlement Administrator's discretion, to an Accountholder other than the one listed first. In the event of any complications arising in connection with the issuance or cashing of a check, the Settlement Administrator shall provide written notice to Class Counsel and Navy Federal's counsel. Absent specific instructions from Class Counsel and Navy Federal's counsel, the Settlement Administrator shall proceed to

resolve the dispute using its best practices and procedures to ensure that the funds are fairly and properly distributed to the person or persons who are entitled to receive them.

(i) **Residual Funds.** The amount of the Net Settlement Fund attributable to uncashed or returned checks sent by the Settlement Administrator (the “Residual Funds”) shall be held by the Settlement Administrator for thirty days after the checks become invalid in accordance with sub-paragraph (g) above. During this time, the Settlement Administrator shall make a reasonable effort to locate intended recipients of settlement funds whose checks were returned (such as by running addresses of returned checks through the Lexis/Nexis database that can be utilized for such purpose) to effectuate delivery of such checks. The Settlement Administrator shall make only one such additional attempt to identify updated addresses and re-mail or re-issue a distribution check to those for whom an updated address was obtained.

(j) **Residual Funds Distribution.** Any Residual Funds remaining after the Settlement Administrator completes the process described in the previous subparagraph (the “Remaining Residual Funds”) will be distributed as follows:

i. First, any Remaining Residual Funds will be payable to Navy Federal for the amount that it paid for Settlement Administrative Costs.

ii. Second, if any Residual Funds remain, the Settlement Administrator will distribute these funds to a *cy pres* recipient. The Parties shall identify the proposed *cy pres* recipient in the Motion for Final Approval and seek the Court’s approval. In the Motion for Final Approval, the Parties shall propose as a *cy pres* recipient an entity that works to promote financial literacy, including for members of the military or veterans.

(k) **Taxes.** If required under applicable law, IRS Forms 1099-MISC will be issued in connection with the payments under this Agreement. The payments will also be reported,

if required under applicable law, to any applicable state and local taxing authorities. The Parties acknowledge that no tax advice has been offered or given by any Party, their attorneys, agents, or any other representatives, in the course of these negotiations, and each Party is relying upon the advice of its own tax consultant with regard to any tax consequences that may arise as a result of the execution of this agreement. The Parties and their respective counsel have made no representation with respect to the tax treatment of any payment or transfer made under this Agreement to any Settlement Class Member. Each Class Representative and Settlement Class Member shall be solely responsible for the federal, state, and local tax consequences to him or her of the receipt of funds under this Agreement.

2.2 Injunctive Relief.

(a) **Prospective Relief.** As part of the Settlement, Navy Federal agrees to implement changes to its policies and procedures relating to the handling of claims concerning unauthorized electronic fund transfers. These changes will include revisions to the written explanation sent to members whose claims are denied and enhancements to the procedures for responding to member requests for documents in connection with such denials.

3. RELEASE.

3.1 The obligations incurred pursuant to this Settlement Agreement shall be a full and final disposition of the claims asserted in the Action and any and all Released Claims, as against all Released Parties.

3.2 Upon the Effective Date, the Releasing Parties and each of them, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all Released Claims against the Released Parties, and each of them.

3.3 Upon the Effective Date, the Plaintiffs shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever agreed to Plaintiffs' General Release.

3.4 Bar to Future Suits. Upon the Effective Date, and to the fullest extent permitted by law, each Settlement Class Member, shall, either directly, indirectly, representatively, or in any capacity, be permanently barred and enjoined from filing, commencing, prosecuting, intervening in, or participating (as a class member or otherwise) in any lawsuit, action, or other proceeding in any jurisdiction (other than participation in the Settlement as provided herein) against any Released Party based on the Released Claims.

4. NOTICE TO THE CLASS.

4.1 The Notice shall consist of the following:

(a) *Settlement Class List.* No later than thirty (30) days after Preliminary Approval, Defendant shall produce an electronic list from its records that includes the following information: a) Settlement Class Member Name; b) relationship of Settlement Class Member to each Account so the Settlement Administrator can determine which Settlement Class Member(s) are associated with each Account; c) email address(es) associated with each Account, if any; and d) mailing address(es) associated with each Settlement Class Member. This electronic document shall be called the “Settlement Class List,” and shall be provided to the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall not use the Settlement Class List, or any information contained within it, for any other purposes other than administering the settlement, and shall take reasonable measures to protect the information from any third-party disclosure.

(b) *Direct Notice.* The Settlement Administrator shall send Email Notice to all Class Members for whom it has an email address. For Settlement Class Members for whom the Settlement Administrator does not have an email address, the Settlement Administrator shall run the physical addresses through the National Change of Address Database and shall mail Postcard Notice to all such Settlement Class Members. The initial mailed Postcard and Email Notice shall be referred to as “Initial Mailed Notice.”

(c) The Notices shall include, among other information: a description of the material terms of the Settlement; a date by which Settlement Class Members may exclude themselves from, or opt out of, the Settlement Class; a date by which Settlement Class Members may object to the Settlement; the date on which the Final Approval Hearing is scheduled to occur; and the address of the Settlement Website at which Settlement Class Members may access this Agreement and other related documents and information. Class Counsel and Navy Federal shall work with the Settlement Administrator to insert the correct dates and deadlines in the Notice before the Notice Program commences, based upon those dates and deadlines set by the Court in the Preliminary Approval Order. Notices and publications provided under or as part of the Notice Program shall not bear or include the Navy Federal logo or trademarks or the return address of Navy Federal, or otherwise be styled to appear to originate from Navy Federal.

(d) The Long-Form Notice, which will be written in both English and Spanish, will be available on the Settlement Website and/or by mail upon a Settlement Class Member's request.

(e) The Settlement Administrator shall utilize best practices designed to avoid spam filters, blockers, or any tool designed to prevent receipt of e-mails, and to otherwise design and implement the sending of the e-mail to increase the likelihood that Email Notice will be successfully received into the e-mail inboxes of Settlement Class Members.

(f) *Notice Re-Mailing Process.* The Settlement Administrator shall perform reasonable address traces for all Postcard Notices that are returned as undeliverable. A reasonable tracing procedure would be to run addresses of returned postcards through the Lexis/Nexis database that can be used for such purpose. No later than thirty (30) days after the Notice Date, the Settlement Administrator shall complete one re-mailing of Postcard Notice to those Settlement

Class Members whose new addresses were identified as of that time through address traces or forwarding addresses on returned Postcard Notices (“Notice Re-Mailing Process”). The Settlement Administrator shall also send one Postcard Notice to all Settlement Class Members whose emails were returned as undeliverable and complete such Notice under the deadlines described herein as they relate to the Notice Re-Mailing Process.

(g) The Settlement Administrator shall send a second E-Mail Notice with a hyperlink to the Settlement Website, where a Settlement Class Member can access an electronic Claim Form pre-filled with the Settlement Class Member’s claim ID, if possible, to all Settlement Class Members who, according to the Settlement Administrator’s records, have not made a claim, requested to opt out, or made an objection. The second E-Mail Notice shall occur no later than thirty (30) days after the Notice Date.

(h) *Settlement Website.* On or before the Notice Date, Long Form Notice shall be provided on a website which shall be administered and maintained by the Settlement Administrator and shall include the ability to file Claim Forms on-line. The Long Form Notice provided on the Settlement Website shall be substantially in the form of **Exhibit D** hereto.

(i) *Toll-Free IVR Telephone System.* The Settlement Administrator shall maintain a toll-free IVR telephone system containing recorded answers to frequently asked questions. The recorded answers to frequently asked questions are to be agreed to by the Parties. In the event a Settlement Class Member has a question that is not addressed by the Parties in the frequently asked questions, the Settlement Administrator is to contact counsel for both Parties and a response will be agreed to by the Parties.

(j) *Contact from Class Counsel.* Class Counsel, in their capacity as counsel to Settlement Class Members, may from time-to-time contact Settlement Class Members to provide

information about the Settlement Agreement and to answer any questions Settlement Class Members may have about the Settlement Agreement. Defendant retains the right to communicate with and respond to inquiries from Settlement Class Members orally and/or in writing within the normal course of business, and the Defendant will instruct its employees and agents to direct inquiries about the Settlement to the Settlement Administrator and Settlement Website.

5. PROCEDURES FOR OPT-OUTS AND OBJECTIONS.

5.1 The Notice shall advise the Settlement Class of their rights, including the right to be excluded from and/or object to the Settlement Agreement or any of its terms. To be effective, any request for exclusion or objection to the Settlement must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator at the address provided in the Notice postmarked no later than the Objection/Exclusion Deadline approved by the Court and specified in the Notice.

5.2 Objections from Settlement Class Members. A Settlement Class Member who does not request exclusion but instead wishes to object to this Settlement may do so by submitting the objection to the Settlement Administrator in writing postmarked on or before the Objection/Exclusion Deadline approved by the Court and specified in the Notice. To object to the Settlement, a Person in the Settlement Class must timely send a written notice of intent to object to the Settlement Administrator as specified in the Notice, and it must include: (1) the name of the case and case number; (2) the objector's full name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address; (3) grounds for the objection, including any legal support; (4) 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 benefit from the pursuit of the objection (the "Objecting Attorneys"); (6) a statement indicating whether the objector intends to appear and/or address the Court at the Final Approval Hearing (either personally or through

counsel; and (6) the signature of the objector. No other person may sign on behalf of the objector, including an objector's attorney.

5.3 To the extent any Settlement Class Member objects to the Settlement, and such objection is overruled in whole or in part, such Settlement Class Member will be forever bound by the Final Order and Judgment of the Court. Settlement Class Members can avoid being bound by any judgment of the Court by complying with the exclusion provisions set forth herein.

5.4 The Settlement Administrator shall timely provide Class Counsel and Navy Federal a copy of any objections received by the Settlement Administrator.

5.5 Requests for Exclusion or Opt-Out. A Settlement Class Member may request to be excluded from the Settlement Class by sending a written request postmarked on or before the Objection/Exclusion Deadline approved by the Court and specified in the Notice. To exercise the right to be excluded, a Person in the Settlement Class must timely send a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator as specified in the Notice, and must include: (1) the name of the case; (2) his/her full name; (3) current address; (4) an affirmative statement that he or she wishes to be excluded from the Settlement Class for purposes of this Settlement; and (6) his/her signature. The request for exclusion must be personally signed by the Person requesting exclusion. No other person may sign on behalf of the Person seeking exclusion, including the Person's attorney. So-called "mass" or "class" opt-outs shall not be allowed.

5.6 A request to be excluded that does not include all of this information, or that is sent to an address other than that designated in the Notice, or that is not postmarked within the time specified, shall be invalid, and the Person(s) serving such a request shall be a member(s) of the Settlement Class and shall be bound as a Settlement Class Member by this Agreement, if approved. Any member of the Settlement Class who validly elects to be excluded from this Agreement shall

not: (i) be bound by any orders or the Final Judgment; (ii) be entitled to relief under this Settlement Agreement; (iii) gain any rights by virtue of this Agreement; or (iv) be entitled to object to any aspect of this Agreement.

5.7 Any Settlement Class Member who does not timely and validly request to opt-out shall be bound by the terms of this Agreement. If an Account has more than one Accountholder, and if one Accountholder opts-out himself or herself from the Settlement Class, then all Accountholders on that Account shall be deemed to have opted-out of the Settlement with respect to that Account, and no Accountholder shall be entitled to a payment under the Settlement.

5.8 The Settlement Administrator shall promptly log and prepare a list of all Accountholders who properly requested exclusion from the Settlement Class and all other individuals with an interest in the Accounts who are deemed to have opted out and shall submit a declaration to the Court, which includes and attests to the accuracy of the opt-out list no later than ten (10) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing set by the Court.

5.9 The Final Approval Hearing shall be no earlier than five months after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order.

5.10 Any Settlement Class Member who does not, using the procedures set forth in this Agreement and the Notice, either seek exclusion from the Settlement Class or timely file a valid Claim Form shall not be entitled to receive any payment or benefits pursuant to this Agreement, but will otherwise be bound by all of the terms of this Agreement, including the terms of the Final Judgment to be entered in the Action and the Releases provided for in the Agreement, and will be barred from bringing any action against any of the Released Parties concerning the Released Claims.

6. SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

6.1 The Settlement Administrator shall, under the supervision of the Court, administer the relief provided by this Settlement 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 and Defendant's Counsel upon request. The Settlement Administrator shall also provide reports and other information to the Court as the Court may require. The Settlement Administrator shall provide Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel with information concerning Notice, administration, and implementation of the Settlement Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, the duties of the Settlement Administrator, in addition to other responsibilities that are described in this paragraph and elsewhere in this Agreement, are as follows:

- (a) Use the name, address, and email information for Settlement Class Members provided by Navy Federal in connection with the Notice process approved by the Court, for the purpose of mailing the Postcard Notice and sending the Email Notice, and later mailing distribution checks to Former Accountholder Settlement Class Members, and to Current Accountholders where it is not feasible or reasonable for Navy Federal to make the payment by a credit to the Settlement Class Members' Accounts or any other account they have with Navy Federal;
- (b) Establish and maintain a Post Office box for the receipt of opt out requests and objections;
- (c) Establish and maintain the Settlement Website;

(d) Establish and maintain an automated toll-free IVR line for Settlement Class Members to call with Settlement-related inquiries, and answer the frequently asked question of Settlement Class members who call with or otherwise communicate such inquiries, as described in paragraph 4.1(i);

- (e) Respond to any mailed Settlement Class Member inquiries;
- (f) Process all requests for exclusion from the Settlement Class;
- (g) Process Claim Forms, as described herein, and determine whether each

Claim Form submitted is valid;

(h) Provide weekly reports to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel that summarize the number of Claim Forms submitted, the number of Approved Claims, the total number of exclusion requests and/or objections received to date, and other pertinent information;

(i) Forward to Defendant's Counsel and Class Counsel the number of Claim Forms the Settlement Administrator found to be valid and copies of any Claim Forms found to be invalid as of the Claims Deadline. If the Settlement Administrator receives any Claim Forms after the Claims Deadline, it will forward them to Defendant's Counsel and Class Counsel on a rolling basis prior to the Final Approval Hearing;

(j) Receive requests to be excluded from the Settlement Class and other requests and promptly provide to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel copies thereof. If the Settlement Administrator receives any exclusion forms or other requests after the deadline for the submission of such forms and requests, the Settlement Administrator shall promptly provide copies thereof to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel;

(k) Provide weekly reports to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel, including without limitation, that summarize the number of requests for exclusion and/or

objections received that week, the total number of exclusion requests and/or objections received to date, the number of Claim Forms received, the number approved by the Settlement Administrator, and the categorization and description of Claim Forms rejected, in whole or in part, by the Settlement Administrator, and other pertinent information;

(l) In advance of the Final Approval Hearing, prepare a declaration to submit to the Court at least 10 days before the Final Approval Hearing confirming that the Notice Program was completed and that the Class Action Fairness Act notice requirements have been met, describing how the Notice Program, the process of Approved Claims, and the Plan of Allocation were completed, and providing the names of each Settlement Class Member who timely and properly opted out from the Settlement Class, as well as those Settlement Class Members who timely filed objections, and other information as may be necessary to allow the Parties to seek and obtain Final Approval;

(m) In accordance with the Plan of Allocation, provide Navy Federal with a chart of the payment amount for each Settlement Class Member Account;

(n) Perform all tax-related services for the Escrow Account as provided in the Agreement;

(o) Pay invoices, expenses, and costs upon approval by Class Counsel and Navy Federal, as provided in this Agreement;

(p) Make available for inspection by Class Counsel or Defendant's Counsel certain identified Claim Forms received by the Settlement Administrator upon reasonable notice; and

(q) Any other Settlement-administration-related function at the instruction of Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel, including but not limited to, verifying that the Settlement Fund has been distributed.

6.2 The Settlement Administrator shall be obliged to employ reasonable procedures to screen claims for abuse or fraud and deny Claim Forms where there is evidence of abuse or fraud. The Settlement Administrator will reject any claim that does not comply in any material respect with the instructions on the Claim Form or the terms of Paragraph 2.1(b), above, or is submitted after the Claims Deadline.

6.3 Defendant's Counsel and Class Counsel shall have the right to challenge the acceptance or rejection of a Claim Form submitted by Settlement Class Members and to obtain and review supporting documentation relating to such Claim Form. The Settlement Administrator shall follow any agreed decisions of Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel as to the validity of any disputed submitted Claim Form. To the extent Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel are not able to agree on the disposition of a challenge, the disputed claim shall be submitted to the Honorable Diane M. Welsh of JAMS for binding determination.

6.4 In the exercise of its duties outlined in this Agreement, the Settlement Administrator shall have the right to reasonably request additional information from the Parties or any Settlement Class Member.

7. TERMINATION OF SETTLEMENT.

7.1 Subject to Paragraphs 10.1-10.4 below, Defendant or the Class Representatives on behalf of the Settlement Class, shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by providing written notice of the election to do so ("Termination Notice") to all other Parties hereto within twenty-one (21) days of any of the following events: (i) the Court's refusal to grant Preliminary Approval of this Agreement in any material respect; (ii) the Court's refusal to grant final approval

of this Agreement in any material respect; (iii) the Court's refusal to enter the Final Judgment in connection with the class action settlement in any material respect; (iv) the date upon which the Final Judgment is modified or reversed in any material respect by the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court; (v) the date upon which an Alternative Judgment, as defined in Paragraph 10.1(d) of this Agreement, is modified or reversed in any material respect by the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court.

7.2 The Parties agree that the Court's failure to approve, in whole or in part, the attorneys' fees payment to Class Counsel and/or the Service Award set forth in Section 9 below shall not prevent the Agreement from becoming effective, nor shall it be grounds for termination. The procedures for any application for approval of attorneys' fees, expenses, or Service Awards are to be considered by the Court separately from the Court's consideration of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement.

8. PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER AND FINAL APPROVAL ORDER.

8.1 Promptly after the execution of this Settlement Agreement and by any deadline set by the Court, Class Counsel shall submit this Agreement together with its Exhibits to the Court and shall move the Court for Preliminary Approval of the settlement set forth in this Agreement; certification of the Settlement Class for settlement purposes only; appointment of Class Counsel and the Class Representatives; and entry of a Preliminary Approval Order, which order shall set a Final Approval Hearing date and approve the Notice and Claim Form for dissemination substantially in the form of Exhibits A, B, C, and D hereto. Defendant shall have no obligation to make separate filings in support of the Motion for Preliminary Approval. The Preliminary Approval Order, which shall be substantially similar to Exhibit E, shall also authorize the Parties, without further approval from the Court, to agree to and adopt such amendments, modifications and expansions of the Settlement Agreement and its implementing documents (including all

exhibits to this Agreement) so long as they are consistent in all material respects with the terms of the Settlement Agreement and do not limit or impair the rights of the Settlement Class.

8.2 For Settlement purposes only, Plaintiffs and Navy Federal agree to ask the Court to certify the Written Explanation Settlement Class and the Document Request Settlement Subclass. Defendant retains all of its objections, arguments, and defenses with respect to class certification and any other issue, and reserves all rights to contest class certification and any other issue if the Settlement set out in this Agreement does not result in entry of the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment, if the Court's approval is reversed or vacated on appeal, if this Settlement is terminated as provided herein, or if the Settlement set forth in this Settlement otherwise fails to become effective. The Parties acknowledge that there has been no stipulation to any classes or certification of any classes for any purpose other than effectuating the Settlement, and that if the Settlement set forth in this Settlement Agreement is not finally approved, if the Court's approval is reversed or vacated on appeal, if this Settlement Agreement is terminated as provided herein, or if the Settlement set forth in this Settlement Agreement otherwise fails to become effective, this agreement as to certification of the Settlement Class becomes null and void ab initio, and this Settlement Agreement or any other settlement-related statement may not be cited regarding certification of the Class, or in support of an argument for certifying any class for any purpose related to the Actions or any other proceeding.

8.3 At the time of the submission of this Agreement to the Court as described above, Class Counsel shall request that, after Notice is given, the Court hold a Final Approval Hearing and approve the settlement of the Actions as set forth herein. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will hear argument on Plaintiffs' Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement, and on Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses, and for the Service Award for the

Class Representatives. In the Court's discretion, the Court also will hear argument at the Final Approval Hearing from any Settlement Class Members (or their counsel) who object to the Settlement or to Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, or the Service Awards application.

8.4 Class Counsel shall draft the final approval papers and send Navy Federal's counsel a draft of the papers to review and comment on at least three (3) court days before they are filed. The Final Approval Order and Final Judgment will (among other things):

- (a) find that the Court has personal jurisdiction over all Settlement Class Members and that the Court has subject matter jurisdiction to approve the Agreement, including all exhibits thereto;
- (b) approve the Settlement Agreement and the proposed settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate as to, and in the best interests of, the Settlement Class Members; direct the Parties and their counsel to implement and consummate the Agreement according to its terms and provisions; and declare the Agreement to be binding on, and have *res judicata* and preclusive effect in all pending and future lawsuits or other proceedings maintained by or on behalf of Plaintiffs and Releasing Parties;
- (c) find that the Notice implemented pursuant to the Agreement (1) constitutes the best practicable notice under the circumstances; (2) constitutes notice that is reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise the Settlement Class of the pendency of the Action, their right to object to or exclude themselves from the proposed Agreement, and to appear at the Final Approval Hearing; (3) is reasonable and constitutes due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all persons entitled to receive notice; and (4) meets all applicable requirements of applicable rules

of civil procedure, the Due Process Clause of the United States Constitution, and the rules of the Court;

(d) find that the Class Representatives and Class Counsel adequately represent the Settlement Class for purposes of entering into and implementing the Agreement;

(e) dismiss the remaining action (including all individual claims and Settlement Class claims presented thereby) on the merits and with prejudice, without fees or costs to any party except as provided in the Settlement Agreement;

(f) incorporate the Releases set forth above, make the Releases effective as of the date of the Effective Date, and forever discharge the Released Parties as set forth herein;

(g) permanently bar and enjoin all Settlement Class Members who have not been properly excluded from the Settlement Classes from filing, commencing, prosecuting, intervening in, or participating (as class members or otherwise) in, any lawsuit or other action in any jurisdiction based on the Released Claims;

(h) without affecting the finality of the Final Judgment for purposes of appeal, retain jurisdiction as to all matters relating to administration, consummation, enforcement, and interpretation of the Settlement Agreement and the Final Judgment, and for any other necessary purpose; and

(i) incorporate any other provisions, as the Court deems necessary and just.

9. CLASS COUNSEL'S ATTORNEYS' FEES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES; SERVICE AWARD.

9.1 Defendant agrees that Class Counsel shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs out of the Settlement Fund in an amount determined by the Court as the Fee Award. Counsel will limit its petition for attorneys' fees to no more than one-third (33.33%) of the Settlement Value in addition to reasonable costs and expenses. Payment of the Fee Award

shall be made from the Settlement Fund and should the Court award less than the amount sought by Class Counsel, the difference in the amount sought and the amount ultimately awarded pursuant to this Paragraph shall remain in the Settlement Fund for distribution to eligible Settlement Class Members. Class Counsel's entitlement, if any, to a Fee Award will be determined by the Court. The Parties agree that the Court's failure to approve, in whole or in part, any award for attorneys' fees shall not prevent the Settlement Agreement from becoming Effective, nor shall it be grounds for termination. The terms of any such awards, fees, costs, or expenses were not negotiated until after all material elements of the Settlement were resolved, and the terms of this Settlement are not conditioned upon any attorneys' fee award.

9.2 All Court-approved attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses shall be payable from the Escrow Account by the Settlement Administrator to Class Counsel within fifteen (15) days of receipt of funds by Navy Federal.

9.3 Allocation. The payment of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses of Class Counsel shall be made as designated by Class Counsel. After the fees, costs, and expenses have been paid, Class Counsel shall be solely responsible for distributing each Plaintiff's firm's allocated share of such fees, costs, and expenses to that firm. Navy Federal shall have no responsibility for any allocation, and no liability whatsoever to any person or entity claiming any share of the funds to be distributed for payment of attorneys' fees, costs, or expenses, or any other payments from the Settlement Fund not specifically described herein.

9.4 Class Counsel intends to file a motion for Court approval of an award of \$5,000 to each of the as Service Awards for their role as Class Representatives, to be paid by Defendant and separate from and addition to the Settlement Fund. These payments are in addition to any funds the Class Representative are otherwise eligible to receive from the Settlement if they submit valid

Claim Forms. The Class Representatives will seek no more than \$5,000.00 each as a Service Award. Such awards shall be paid separate from the Settlement Fund through a credit to each Plaintiff's Account within thirty (30) days after the Effective Date. The Parties agree that the Court's failure to approve the Service Award, in whole or in part, shall not prevent the Settlement Agreement from becoming Effective, nor shall it be grounds for termination.

10. CONDITIONS OF SETTLEMENT, EFFECT OF DISAPPROVAL, CANCELLATION OR TERMINATION.

10.1 Termination. This Settlement may be terminated by either Class Counsel or Navy Federal by serving on counsel for the opposing Party and filing with the Court a written notice of termination within fifteen (15) days (or such longer time as may be agreed in writing between Class Counsel and Navy Federal) after any of the following occurrences:

- (a) Class Counsel and Navy Federal agree to termination;
- (b) the Court rejects, materially modifies, materially amends or changes, or declines to preliminarily or finally approve the Settlement;
- (c) an appellate court vacates or reverses the Final Approval Order, and the Settlement is not reinstated and finally approved without material change by the Court on remand within three hundred and sixty (360) days after such reversal;
- (d) any court incorporates into, or deletes or strikes from, or modifies, amends, or changes, the Preliminary Approval Order, Final Approval Order, or the Settlement in a way that Class Counsel or Navy Federal seeking to terminate the Settlement reasonably considers material (entering an "Alternative Judgment");
- (e) the Effective Date does not occur; or
- (f) any other ground for termination provided for elsewhere in this Agreement.

10.2 Navy Federal also shall have the right to terminate the Settlement by serving on Class Counsel and filing with the Court a notice of termination within ten (10) business days after its receipt from the Settlement Administrator of any report indicating 15% or more of the Settlement Class Members timely requested exclusion.

10.3 Effect of a Termination. The grounds upon which this Agreement may be terminated are set forth herein above. In the event of a termination, this Agreement shall be considered null and void; all of Plaintiffs', Class Counsel's, and Navy Federal's obligations under the Settlement shall cease to be of any force and effect; any amounts in the Escrow Account shall be returned to Navy Federal; and the Parties shall return to the status quo ante in the Action as if the Parties had not entered into this Agreement. In addition, in the event of such a termination, all of the Parties' respective pre-Settlement rights, claims, and defenses will be retained and preserved.

10.4 In the event of termination, Navy Federal shall have no right to seek reimbursement from Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, or the Settlement Administrator for Settlement Administration Costs paid by Navy Federal.

10.5 The Settlement shall become effective on the Effective Date unless earlier terminated in accordance with the provisions hereof.

10.6 Certification of the Settlement Class shall have no bearing in deciding whether the claims asserted in the Action are or were appropriate for class treatment in the absence of settlement. If this Agreement terminates or is nullified, the provisional class certification shall be vacated by its terms, and the Action shall revert to the status that existed before execution of this Settlement Agreement. Thereafter, Plaintiffs shall be free to pursue any claims available to them, and Navy Federal shall be free to assert any defenses available to it, including but not limited to,

denying the suitability of this case for class treatment. Nothing in this Agreement shall be argued or deemed to estop any Party from the assertion of such claims and defenses.

10.7 In the event the Settlement is terminated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, any discussions, offers, or negotiations associated with this Settlement shall not be discoverable or offered into evidence or used in the Action or any other action or proceeding for any purpose. In such event, 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.

11. NO ADMISSION OF LIABILITY

11.1 Navy Federal continues to dispute its liability for the claims alleged in the Action, and maintains that its practices and procedures related to its investigation and determination of claimed fraudulent electronic transfer(s), including explanations for denials and provision of documents to members upon request, complied, at all times, with applicable laws and regulations and the terms of the account agreements with its members. Navy Federal has agreed to enter into this Agreement to avoid the further expense, inconvenience, and distraction of burdensome and protracted litigation, and to be completely free of any further claims that were asserted or could possibly have been asserted in the Action.

11.2 Class Counsel believe that the claims asserted in the Action have merit, and they have examined and considered the benefits to be obtained under the proposed Settlement set forth in this Agreement, the risks associated with the continued prosecution of this complex, costly and time-consuming litigation, and the likelihood of success on the merits in the Action. Class Counsel fully investigated the facts and law relevant to the merits of the claims, conducted significant discovery, and conducted independent investigation of the challenged practices. Class Counsel concluded that the proposed Settlement set forth in this Agreement is fair, adequate, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class members.

11.3 The Parties understand and acknowledge that this Agreement constitutes a compromise and settlement of disputed claims. No action taken by the Parties either previously or in connection with the negotiations or proceedings connected with this Agreement shall be deemed or construed to be an admission of the truth or falsity of any claims or defenses heretofore made, or an acknowledgement or admission by any party of any fault, liability, or wrongdoing of any kind whatsoever.

11.4 Neither the Settlement, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of 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 made by the Plaintiffs or Settlement Class Members, 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 of the Released Parties, in the Action or in any proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal.

11.5 In addition to any other defenses Navy Federal may have at law, in equity, or otherwise, to the extent permitted by law, this Agreement may be pleaded as a full and complete defense to, and may be used as the basis for an injunction against, any action, suit or other proceeding that may be instituted, prosecuted or attempted in breach of this Agreement or the Releases contained herein.

12. NO PRESS RELEASE OR PUBLICITY

12.1 Each Party agrees not to make any statements, written or oral, or cause or encourage others to make any statements, written or oral, that defame, disparage or in any way criticize the personal or business reputation, or conduct of the other party, including affiliates, parents, direct and indirect subsidiaries, agents, insurers, and any company or companies under common control with any of them. Before entry of Final Judgment by the Court, neither Plaintiffs nor Class Counsel shall directly or indirectly issue or cause to be issued any statements to the media or

engage in any other press, publicity or disclosure regarding this Settlement Agreement or the settlement of the Action. If contacted by the media after the entry of Final Judgment by the Court, the Party may respond generally by stating that they are happy that the Settlement was reached and that it is a fair and reasonable result. No Party shall issue any press release or shall otherwise initiate press coverage of the Settlement.

13. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

13.1 Gender and Plurals. As used in this Agreement, the masculine, feminine or neuter gender, and the singular or plural number, shall each be deemed to include the others whenever the context so indicates.

13.2 Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors and assigns of the Releasing Parties and the Released Parties.

13.3 Cooperation of Parties. The Parties agree to cooperate in good faith to prepare and execute all documents, to seek Court approval, uphold Court approval, and do all things reasonably necessary to complete and effectuate the Settlement described in this Agreement.

13.4 Obligation To Meet And Confer. Before filing any motion in the Court raising a dispute arising out of or related to the Agreement, the Parties shall consult with each other and certify to the Court that they have consulted.

13.5 Integration. The Agreement constitutes a single, integrated written contract expressing the entire agreement of the Parties relative to the subject matter hereof. No covenants, agreements, representations, or warranties of any kind whatsoever have been made by any Party hereto, except as provided for herein.

13.6 No Conflict Intended. Any inconsistency between the headings used in this Agreement and the text of the paragraphs of this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of the text.

13.7 Governing Law. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Agreement shall be construed in accordance with, and be governed by, the laws of the State of Virginia, without regard to the principles thereof regarding choice of law.

13.8 Jurisdiction. The Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction over the implementation, enforcement, and performance of this Agreement, and shall also have exclusive jurisdiction over any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement that cannot be resolved by negotiation and agreement by counsel for the Parties. The Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction with respect to the administration, consummation, and enforcement of the Agreement. The Court shall also retain exclusive jurisdiction over all questions and/or disputes related to the Notice Program and the Settlement Administrator. As part of the agreement to render services in connection with this Settlement, the Settlement Administrator shall consent to the jurisdiction of the Court for this purpose. The Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction over the enforcement of the Court's injunction barring and enjoining all Releasing Parties from asserting any of the Released Claims and from pursuing any Released Claims against Navy Federal or its affiliate at any time, including during any appeal from the Final Approval order.

13.9 Notices. All notices to Class Counsel provided for herein, shall be sent by email with a hard copy sent by overnight mail to:

EDELSBERG LAW, P.A.
Scott Edelsberg
Adam Schwartzbaum
1925 Century Park East, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Email: scott@edelsberglaw.com
adam@edlesberglaw.com

SHAMIS & GENTILE, P.A.
Andrew J. Shamis
Edwin E. Elliott
14 NE 1st Avenue, Suite 705

Miami, FL 33132
Email: Ashamis@shamisgentile.com
Edwine@shamisgentile.com

KALIEL GOLD PLLC
Jeffrey D. Kaliel
Sophia Goren Gold
490 43rd Street, No. 122
Oakland, CA 94609
Email: jkaliel@kalielpllc.com
sgold@kalielpllc.com

Class Counsel

DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP
Fred Burnside
920 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3300
Seattle, Washington
Email: fredburnside@dwt.com

Nancy R. Thomas
350 South Grand Avenue, 27th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071-3487
Email: nancythomas@dwt.com

Counsel for Navy Federal Credit Union

The notice recipients and addresses designated above may be changed by written notice. Upon the request of any of the Parties, the Parties agree to promptly provide each other with copies of objections, requests for exclusion, or other filings received as a result of the Notice program.

13.10 Modification and Amendment. This Agreement may not be amended or modified, except by a written instrument signed by Class Counsel and counsel for Navy Federal and, if the Settlement has been approved preliminarily by the Court, approved by the Court.

13.11 No Waiver. The waiver by any Party of any breach of this Agreement by another Party shall not be deemed or construed as a waiver of any other breach, whether prior, subsequent, or contemporaneous, of this Agreement.

13.12 Authority. Class Counsel, and counsel for Navy Federal, represent and warrant that the persons signing this Agreement on their behalf have full power and authority to bind every person, partnership, corporation or entity included within the definitions of Plaintiffs and Navy Federal to all terms of this Agreement. Any person executing this Agreement in a representative capacity represents and warrants that he or she is fully authorized to do so and to bind the Party on whose behalf he or she signs this Agreement to all of the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

13.13 Agreement Mutually Prepared. Neither Navy Federal nor Plaintiffs, nor any of them, shall be considered to be the drafter of this Agreement or any of its provisions for the purpose of any statute, case law, or rule of interpretation or construction that would or might cause any provision to be construed against the drafter of this Agreement.

13.14 Independent Investigation and Decision to Settle. The Parties understand and acknowledge that they: (a) have performed an independent investigation of the allegations of fact and law made in connection with this Action; and (b) that even if they may hereafter discover facts in addition to, or different from, those that they now know or believe to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Action as reflected in this Agreement, that will not affect or in any respect limit the binding nature of this Agreement. It is the Parties' intention to resolve their disputes in connection with this Action pursuant to the terms of this Agreement now and thus, in furtherance of their intentions, the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding the discovery of any additional facts or law, or changes in law, and this Agreement shall not be subject to rescission or modification by reason of any changes or differences in fact or law, subsequently occurring or otherwise.

13.15 Settlement Purpose of Agreement. This Settlement Agreement is governed by the terms of Federal Rule of Evidence 408 and is for settlement purposes only, and neither the fact

of, nor any provision contained in this Settlement Agreement or any attachments, nor any action taken hereunder shall constitute, be construed as, or be admissible in evidence as, any admission of the validity of any claim, defense, or any fact alleged by any of the Parties in the Action or in any other pending or subsequently filed action or of any wrongdoing, fault, violation of law, or liability of any kind on the part of any Party, or admission by any Party of any claim, defense, or allegation made in the Action or any other action, nor as an admission by any of Navy Federal, Plaintiffs, or Settlement Class Members of the validity of any fact or defense asserted against them in the Action or any other action.

13.16 If the Court should for any reason fail to approve this Agreement in the form agreed to by the Parties, decline to enter the Settlement Order and Final Judgment in the form described in this Settlement Agreement, or impose any condition to approval of the settlement to which the Parties do not consent, or if the Final Approval Order or Final Judgment are reversed or rendered void, then (a) this Settlement Agreement shall be considered null and void, (b) neither this Settlement Agreement nor any of the related negotiations shall be of any force or effect, and (c) all Parties to this Settlement Agreement shall stand in the same position, without prejudice, as if the Settlement Agreement had been neither entered into nor filed with the Court. Invalidation of any portion of this Settlement Agreement shall invalidate this Settlement Agreement in its entirety unless the Parties agree in writing that the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect. This includes that the provisional certification of the Settlement Class shall have no bearing in deciding whether the claims asserted in the Action are or were appropriate for class treatment in the absence of settlement. If this Agreement terminates or is nullified, the provisional class certification shall be vacated by its terms, and the Action shall revert to the status that existed before the execution of this Settlement Agreement. Upon nullification of this Settlement

Agreement, Plaintiffs shall be free to pursue any claims available to them, and Navy Federal shall be free to assert any defenses available to it, including but not limited to, denying the suitability of this case for class treatment. Nothing in this Agreement shall be argued or deemed to estop any Party from asserting such claims or defenses. In the event the Court should for any reason fail to approve this Settlement Agreement in the form agreed to by the Parties, decline to enter the Final Approval Order or Final Judgment in the form described in this Settlement Agreement, or impose any condition to approval of the settlement to which the Parties do not consent, or if the Final Approval Order or Final Judgment are reversed or rendered void, the Parties will negotiate in good faith to address the issues raised by said events.

13.17 Assignment: Third Party Beneficiaries. None of the rights, commitments, or obligations recognized under this Settlement Agreement may be assigned by any member of the Settlement Class without the express written consent of the other Parties.

13.18 Receipt of Advice of Counsel. Each Party acknowledges, agrees, and specifically warrants that he, she, or it has fully read this Agreement and the Release contained herein, received independent legal advice with respect to the advisability of entering into this Agreement and the Release and the legal effects of this Agreement and the Release, and fully understands the effects of this Agreement and the Release.

13.19 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument, even though all Parties do not sign the same counterparts. Original signatures are not required. Any signature or electronic signature submitted through email of an Adobe PDF or through an electronic signature program such as DocuSign or Adobe Acrobat Sign shall be deemed an original.

IT IS SO AGREED TO BY THE PARTIES:

Dated: July 18, 2025

JEFFREY STEPHENSON

By: 
Jeffrey Stephenson, individually and as
representative of the Class

Dated: July 16, 2025

BILLY SMITH II

By: 
Billy Smith II, individually and as
representative of the Class

Dated: July , 2025

NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

IT IS SO STIPULATED BY COUNSEL:

Dated: July 11, 2025

EDELSBERG LAW, P.A.

By: 
/s/
Scott Edelsberg

Dated: July 11, 2025

SHAMIS & GENTILE, P.A.

By: 
/s/
Andrew J. Shamis

Dated: July 16, 2025

KALIEL GOLD PLLC

By: 
/s/
Sophia Gold

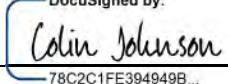
Class Counsel

IT IS SO AGREED TO BY THE PARTIES:

Dated: July ____, 2025

JEFFREY STEPHENSONBy: _____
Jeffrey Stephenson, individually and as
representative of the Class

Dated: July ____, 2025

BILLY SMITH IIBy: _____
Billy Smith II, individually and as
representative of the ClassDated: July 16, 2025**NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**By: 
78C2C1FE394949B...

Name: _____ Colin Johnson

Title: _____ Associate General Counsel

IT IS SO STIPULATED BY COUNSEL:

Dated: July ____, 2025

EDELSBERG LAW, P.A.By: /s/
Scott Edelsberg

Dated: July ____, 2025

SHAMIS & GENTILE, P.A.By: /s/
Andrew J. Shamis

Dated: July ____, 2025

KALIEL GOLD PLLCBy: /s/
Sophia Gold*Class Counsel*

Dated: July 25, 2025

DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP

By: /s/ Fred Burnside

Attorney for Defendant

SCHEDULE OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit	Name of Document
A	Settlement Claim Form
B	Email Notice
C	Postcard Notice
D	Long Form Notice
E	Proposed Preliminary Approval Order
F	Proposed Final Approval Order and Final Judgment

EXHIBIT A

EXHIBIT A

SETTLEMENT CLAIM FORM

Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union

United States District Court for the Southern District of California
Case No. 3:2023-cv-01851

If you are a Settlement Class Member and wish to receive a payment, your completed Claim Form must be submitted online no later than [_____], or postmarked on or before [_____].

Please read the full notice of this settlement (available at www.stephensoneftalitigation.com) carefully before filling out this Claim Form.

ONLINE: Submit this Claim Form.

MAIL: **[ADDRESS]**

PART ONE: CLAIMANT INFORMATION

Provide your name and contact information below. It is your responsibility to notify the Settlement Administrator of any changes to your contact information after the submission of your Claim Form.

FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

EMAIL ADDRESS

PART TWO: ATTESTATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

By signing this form, I attest that, to the best of my knowledge, the following information is true and correct: I submitted a claim of fraudulent transaction(s) on my Navy Federal account that was denied between October 10, 2022 and [Preliminarily Approval Date]. I certify that the information on this Claim Form is true and correct.

Check this box if you made a request to Navy Federal for the documents Navy Federal relied upon to deny your fraud claim but you did not receive the documents:

SIGNATURE

DATE

Please keep a copy of your Claim Form for your records.

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT B

To: <>Class Member Email>>
From: Settlement Administrator <xxxx@XXXXXXX.com>
Subject: Notice of Class Action Settlement

Unique ID: <>UniqueID>>

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Jeffrey Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union
United States District Court for the Southern District of California
Case No. 3:23-CV-01851

If You Had an Account with Navy Federal Credit Union and Submitted a Claim for Unauthorized and/or Fraudulent Transactions That Was Denied Between October 10, 2022, and [Preliminary Approval Date], You May Be Entitled to a Payment from a Class Action Settlement.

A court authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

File a Claim Form [here](#) to be eligible.

IMPORTANT: You must file a claim for your potential payment by Month XX, 20YY.

What is this Notice About? The parties have reached a proposed settlement in a class action lawsuit in which Plaintiffs claim that Navy Federal Credit Union (Navy Federal) violated the Electronic Funds Transfer Act by: a) improperly denying claims by credit union members of unauthorized electronic fund transfer(s), b) failing to provide sufficient explanation regarding the basis for its denial; and c) failing to provide, upon request of a member, documents relied on in making its determination. Navy Federal denies that it did anything wrong, but it agreed to the Settlement to avoid the uncertainties and expenses associated with continuing the case. The Court has not decided which side is right. **This Settlement does not release any claims for actual damages based on or related to Navy Federal's purported improper denial of a claim of unauthorized electronic transfer(s).**

Am I a Settlement Class Member? Our records indicate you may be a Settlement Class member. Settlement Class members are all Accountholders whose claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfers were denied by Navy Federal between October 10, 2022, and [Preliminary Approval Date] (the "Written Explanation Settlement Class"). You may also be a member of the Document Request Settlement Subclass if you requested documents Navy Federal relied on in making its determination and did not receive them.

What are the Settlement Benefits? If approved by the Court, Navy Federal has agreed to provide \$1,700,000 ("Settlement Fund") to fund: (a) payments or account credits to Settlement Class Members who file a valid and timely Claim Form, and (b) any award of attorneys' fees, costs, and

expenses. Navy Federal has also agreed to pay Settlement Administration Costs and Service Awards to the Plaintiffs separate from the Settlement Fund. Settlement Administration Costs are subject to reimbursement in whole or in part if there are uncashed checks remaining after the initial payments and account credits to Settlement Class Members

In addition to this monetary relief, Navy Federal has also agreed to implement changes to its policies and procedures relating to the handling of claims concerning unauthorized electronic fund transfers, including changes to the written communications sent to members whose claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfer(s) are denied and enhancements to the procedures for responding to member requests for documents in connection with such denials.

How Do I Get a Payment? You must submit a timely and complete Claim Form **no later than [claims deadline]**. You can file a claim by clicking [\[here.\]](#)

What are My Other Options? If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlement, you must exclude yourself from the Class postmarked no later than **[objection/exclusion deadline]**. If you exclude yourself, you cannot get a settlement payment, but you keep any rights you may have to sue Navy Federal for the legal claims that are the subject of the lawsuit at your own expense. You and/or your lawyer have the right to appear before the Court and/or object to the proposed settlement, request for attorneys' fees & costs, or the Service Awards. Your written objection must be postmarked no later than **[objection/exclusion deadline]**. Specific instructions about how to object to, or exclude yourself from, the Settlement are available at www.stephensoneftalitigation.com.

If you do nothing, and if the Settlement becomes final, you will not be eligible for a Settlement Payment and you will give up your right to sue Navy Federal for the claims released by Settlement Class Members (see the next section below).

If I Do Not Exclude Myself, What Claims Am I Giving Up? Unless you exclude yourself from the Settlement by submitting a timely and valid request for exclusion, you are agreeing to stay in the Settlement Classes, and you give up any right to sue Navy Federal as part of any other lawsuit about the claims resolved in this Settlement. This means that on the Effective Date of the Settlement, you and related parties (the "**Releasing Parties**") shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all **Released Claims** against the **Released Parties**. The terms in bold are explained in the Settlement Agreement, which you can review by clicking [\[here\]](#).

Who Represents Me, How Will the Lawyers Be Paid, What Will the Plaintiffs Receive? The Court has appointed lawyers from the law firms of Edelsberg Law, P.A., Shamis & Gentile, P.A., and KalielGold PLLC to represent you. These attorneys are called Class Counsel. You will not be charged for these lawyers, they will be paid from the Settlement Fund. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer in this case, you may hire one at your own expense.

Class Counsel will be filing a motion seeking attorneys' fees of up to one-third of the value of the Settlement and reimbursement of litigation costs to be paid out of the Settlement Fund. The Court will determine how much Class Counsel will be paid for fees and expenses.

Class Counsel will also seek a Service Award for Plaintiff Stephenson and Plaintiff Smith as the Class Representatives in the amount of 5,000 each, subject to Court approval. The Service Award will be paid separate and apart from the Settlement Fund. It is intended to compensate the Class Representatives for the time spent participating in the lawsuit and prosecuting the legal claims for the benefit of the Settlement Classes

Navy Federal and the Plaintiffs have reached a settlement of the Plaintiffs' individual claims for actual damages. Under that settlement, Navy Federal will pay each Plaintiff \$5,000, to be paid separately from the Settlement Fund and separately from the Service Award.

When Will the Court Decide Whether to Approve the Settlement? The Court will hold the Final Approval Hearing at [a/p]m. on [Month 00], 2025 at the United Stated District Court for the Southern District of California, James M. Carter and Judith N. Kep United States Courthouse, 333 West Broadway, Courtroom 14B, San Diego, CA 92101. At that hearing, the Court will: consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will also decide whether to approve Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and costs; and decide whether to award the Class Representatives a Service Award.

How Do I Get More Information? For more information, including the full Notice, Claim Form and Settlement Agreement go to www.stephensoneftalitigation.com, contact the Settlement Administrator at 1-[]-[]-[] [address], or visit www.shamisgentile.com.

EXHIBIT C

Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union
Settlement Administrator
PO Box XXXX
[City, State] xxx-xxxx

**BARCODE
NO-PRINT
ZONE**

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
[city, state]
PERMIT NO.xxxx

Court-Approved Legal Notice

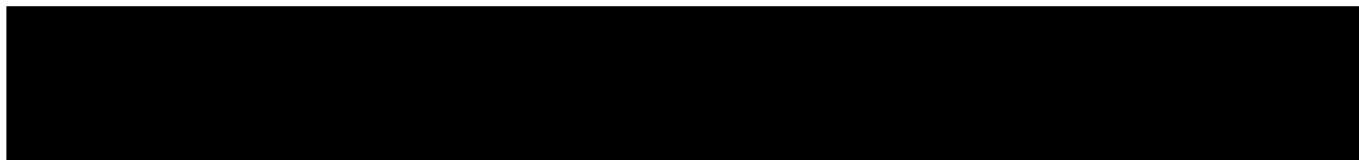
Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union,
Case No. 3:23-CV-01851, United States District
Court for the Southern District of California

**If You Had an Account with Navy Federal
Credit Union and Submitted a Claim for
Unauthorized and/or Fraudulent
Transactions That Was Denied Between
October 10, 2022, and [Preliminary
Approval Date], You May Be Entitled to a
Payment from a Class Action Settlement.**

A Court has authorized this notice.

This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

www.XXXXXXXXXXXXXX.com
1-XXX-XXX-XXXX



<<MAIL ID>>
<<NAME 1>>
<<NAME 2>>
<<ADDRESS LINE 1>>

<<ADDRESS LINE 2>>
<<ADDRESS LINE 3>>
<<ADDRESS LINE 4>>
<<ADDRESS LINE 5>>
<<CITY, STATE ZIP>>
<<COUNTRY>>

Complete and postmark the attached Claim Form by Month __, 20YY to be eligible to receive a payment. (Postage is prepaid)

What does the Settlement Provide? There is a proposed settlement a class action lawsuit alleging Navy Federal violated the Electronic Funds transfer Act by a) improperly denying credit union members' claims for unauthorized transactions, failing to provide sufficient explanation of the basis for its denial, and failing to provide, upon the member's request, documents it relied on in making its determination. If approved by the Court, Navy Federal will provide \$1,700,000 (the "Settlement Fund") for class member payments and any award of attorney's fees and costs. **This Settlement does not release any claims for actual damages related to Navy Federal's purported improper denial of a claim of unauthorized electronic fund transfer(s).**

Other Options. If you do not want to be bound by the Settlement, you must opt-out of the Settlement by **Month XX, 20YY**. If you do not opt-out, you and related parties will give up the right to sue and will release Navy Federal and the Released Parties from the Released Claims in the Action. If you do not opt out, you may object to the Settlement, attorneys' fees & costs request, and Service Awards by **Month XX, 20YY**. The Settlement Website explains how to opt-out or object. If you do nothing, you will get no payment, and you will be bound by the Settlement and any judgments and orders.

Who represents me? The Court has appointed lawyers from Edelsberg Law, P.A.; Shamis & Gentile, P.A.; and KalielGold PLLC to serve as Class Counsel. You do not have to pay them to participate. Instead, if they

recover money for the Settlement Class, the lawyers will ask the Court to be paid from the Settlement Fund. Visit www.stephensoneftalitigation.com to review the attorneys' fee & expense request.

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on **Month XX, 20YY**, to consider whether to approve the Settlement, request for attorneys' fees and expenses, Service Awards, and any objections. You or your lawyer may attend and speak at the hearing, but you are not required to do so.

This notice is a summary. Learn more at www.stephensoneftalitigation.com, or contact the Administrator at 1-XXX-XXX-XXXX] or Class Counsel at www.shamisgentile.com.

<<UNIQUE ID>>

CLAIM FORM

Claims must be postmarked or submitted online by **Month Day, 20YY.**

First Name: <<NAME 1>>

Last Name: <<NAME 2>>

Mailing Address:

<<ADDRESS LINE 1>>
<<ADDRESS LINE 2>>
<<ADDRESS LINE 3>>
<<CITY, STATE ZIP>>

Please update your information below if it is different than above:

First Name:	MI:	Last Name:
<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>
Mailing Address:	<input type="text" value=""/>	
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/> <input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>

By signing this form, I attest that, to the best of my knowledge, the following information is true and correct: I submitted a claim of fraudulent transaction(s) on my Navy Federal account that was denied between October 10, 2022, and [Preliminarily Approval Date]. I certify that the information on this Claim Form is true and correct.

Check this box if you made a request to Navy Federal for the documents Navy Federal relied upon to deny your fraud claim but you did not receive the documents:

Signature: Date:



PREPAID
POSTAGE

Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union
Settlement Administrator
PO Box XXXX
[City, State] xxx-xxxx

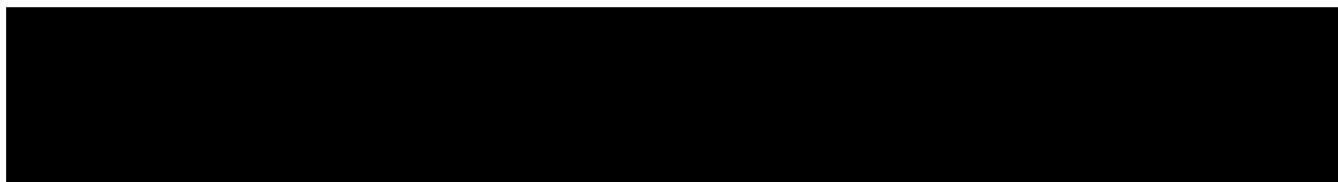


EXHIBIT D

EXHIBIT D

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
Jeffrey Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union
Case No. 3:23-cv-01851

**If You Had an Account with Navy Federal Credit Union and Submitted a
Claim for Unauthorized and/or Fraudulent Transactions That Was Denied
Between October 10, 2022, and [Preliminary Approval Date], You May Be
Entitled to a Payment from a Class Action Settlement.**

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

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY

There is a proposed settlement in the class action lawsuit *Jeffrey Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union*, Case No. 3:23-cv-01851 (the “Class Action”), which claims that Navy Federal Credit Union (Navy Federal) violated the Electronic Funds Transfer Act (EFTA) by: a) improperly denying claims by credit union members of unauthorized electronic fund transfer(s), (b) failing to provide sufficient explanation regarding the basis for its denial, and (c) failing to provide, upon request by a member, documents relied on in making its determination. Navy Federal denies that it did anything wrong, but it agreed to the settlement to avoid the uncertainties and expenses associated with continuing the case. The Court has not decided which side is right.

Settlement Class Members will be eligible to receive a *pro rata* (meaning equal) portion of the Settlement Fund if they submit a valid and timely Claim Form. As part of the Settlement, Navy Federal agreed to implement changes to its policies and procedures relating to the handling of claims concerning unauthorized electronic fund transfers. **This Settlement does not release any claims for actual damages based on or related to Navy Federal’s purported improper denial of a claim of unauthorized electronic transfer(s).**

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on [MONTH DD, 20YY]. The motion for final approval and motion for attorney’s fees and costs will be posted on the Settlement Website by [MONTH DD, 20YY].

**IF YOU ARE A SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBER, YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS ARE AFFECTED
WHETHER YOU ACT OR DON’T ACT**

Your Legal Rights & Options		Deadline
Submit a Claim Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Stay in the Settlement ClassSubmit a timely and valid Claim Form to be eligible for payment or account credit.Be bound by the Settlement.Give up any rights to sue Navy Federal separately for the claims resolved in the Settlement.	Submitted Online or Postmarked by: MONTH DD, 20YY
Exclude Yourself (Opt Out)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remove yourself from the Settlement ClassGet no Settlement Class Member Payment.Keep your right to sue Navy Federal separately about the claims resolved in the Settlement.	Postmarked by: MONTH DD, 20YY
Object to the Settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Stay in the Settlement but tell the Court why you don't agree with the Settlement, the request for attorneys' fees and costs, or the Service Awards to the Plaintiffs.You will be bound by the Settlement if the Court approves it.To object, you must submit a timely written objection.	Postmarked by: MONTH DD, 20YY
Do Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Get no Settlement Class Member Payment.Stay in the Settlement Class.Give up any rights to sue Navy Federal separately about the claims resolved in the Settlement.	

- These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this Notice.
- The Court must decide whether to approve the Settlement, attorneys' fees, expenses and service awards. No Settlement benefits will be provided unless the Court approves the Settlement.

Call 1-**XXX-XXX-XXXX** toll free or visit www.stephensoneftallitigation.com for more information.

What Is a Class Action?

A class action is a lawsuit in which one or more individuals called Plaintiffs sue on behalf of other persons or entities who have similar legal claims. These persons or entities are referred to as a class or class members. In a class action, one Court resolves the issues, legal claims, and/or defenses for all class members in a single lawsuit, except for those persons or entities who ask in writing to be excluded from the class.

What Is this Lawsuit About?

Plaintiffs Jeffrey Stephenson and Billy Smith II allege that Navy Federal violated certain provisions of the EFTA and the Navy Federal Account Agreement by: improperly denying their claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfer(s); b) failing to provide sufficient written explanation regarding the basis for the denial; and (c) failing to provide, on request by them, the documents it relied on in denying their claims. The Second Amended Complaint in this Action is posted on the Settlement Website and contains the allegations and claims asserted against Navy Federal.

Navy Federal denies that it violated any law or did anything wrong but has agreed to settle the lawsuit to avoid the cost, delay, and uncertainty of litigation. The Settlement is not an admission of wrongdoing. The Court has not determined who is right.

Plaintiffs filed this case as a proposed class action. When the parties reached this proposed Settlement, the Court had not decided whether the case could proceed as a class action.

What benefits does the Settlement provide?

Settlement Class Members are eligible for the following benefits:

Monetary Relief: Navy Federal has agreed provide \$1,700,000 (Settlement Fund) to fund (a) payments or Account credits to Settlement Class Members who file a valid and timely Claim Form, and (b) any award of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses.

Other Payments. Navy Federal has also agreed to pay Settlement Administration Costs and Service Awards to the Plaintiffs separate and apart from the Settlement Fund. Settlement Administration Costs are subject to reimbursement in whole or in part if there are uncashed checks remaining after the initial payments and credits to Settlement Class Members.

Prospective Changes: In addition to this monetary relief, Navy Federal has agreed to implement changes to its policies and procedures relating to the handling of claims concerning unauthorized electronic fund transfers, including changes to the written communications sent to members whose claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfers) are denied and enhancements to the procedures for responding to member requests for documents in connection with such denials.

A detailed description of the settlement benefits can be found in the Settlement Agreement. [insert hyperlink]

How Do I Know if I'm a Member of the Settlement Classes?

If you received Notice of the Settlement from a postcard or email addressed to you, then the Parties believe you may be in the Settlement Classes.

You are a member of the Settlement Classes if you fall into one of these two categories:

(1) Written Explanation Settlement Class. All Accountholders whose claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfers were denied by Navy Federal Credit Union between October 10, 2022, and [insert Preliminary Approval Date].

(2) Document Request Settlement Subclass. All Accountholders in the Written Explanation Settlement Class who requested documents Navy Federal relied on in making its determination and who did not receive them.

If I Am a Settlement Class Member, What Are My Options?

If you are a Settlement Class Member, you have four options.

Option 1: Submit a Claim Form for Payment.

To be eligible for a payment or account credit, you must submit a timely and valid Claim Form. Settlement Class Members who submit timely and valid Claim Forms will receive a pro rata (meaning equal) portion

of the Settlement Fund, after the deduction of Court-approved attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses. You can submit a claim by signing the Claim Form you receive in the mail, carefully tearing at the perforation, and putting the Claim Form in the mail. You can call 1-XXX-XXX-XXXX to ask the Settlement Administrator to send you a Claim Form or visit www.stephensoneftallitigation.com to access and submit the Claim Form online.

If you submit a Claim Form in the mail, it must be postmarked no later than **[CLAIMS DEADLINE]** and mailed to:

Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union
Settlement Administrator
[ADDRESS]

If the address you submit on your Claim Form changes, you must contact the Settlement Administrator to provide a current address or you may not receive your Settlement Class Member Payment if it's made by check instead of account credit.

You can also submit a Claim Form online at www.stephensoneftallitigation.com by entering your Claimant ID. Online Claim Forms must be submitted by 11:59pm EST on **[Date]**. Your Claimant ID can be found on the postcard and/or email notice you received.

If you submit a Claim Form, even if the Settlement Administrator finds the Claim Form is invalid, you are agreeing to stay in the Settlement Class and give up any right to sue Navy Federal as part of any other lawsuit about the claims resolved in the Settlement.

Option 2. Exclude yourself from the Settlement.

You have the right to not be part of the Settlement by excluding yourself or "opting out" of the Settlement Classes. If you wish to exclude yourself, you must do so on or before **[OBJECTION/EXCLUSION DEADLINE]** as described below. You do not need to hire your own lawyer to request exclusion from the Settlement Classes. If you exclude yourself from the Settlement Classes, you give up your right to receive any monetary benefits as part of this Settlement, and you will not be bound by any judgments or orders of the Court, whether favorable or unfavorable. However, you will keep any rights you may have to sue Navy Federal separately for the same legal claims that are the subject of this lawsuit at your own expense.

To exclude yourself from this lawsuit and/or preserve any right you may have to bring a separate lawsuit, you must make a request to be excluded in writing and, with sufficient postage, mail the request to:

Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union
Settlement Administrator
[ADDRESS]

A request for exclusion must be postmarked on or before **[OBJECTION/EXCLUSION DEADLINE]**.

Your request for exclusion must contain the following:

1. The name of the case, *Stephenson v Navy Federal Credit Union*;
2. Your name and address;
3. A statement that you wish to be excluded from the Settlement Classes, such as: "I request exclusion from the Settlement"; and
4. Your signature.

If an Account has more than one Account Holder, and one Account Holder opts out, then all Account Holders on that Account will be deemed to have opted out of the Settlement with respect to that Account, and no Account Holder will be entitled to a payment or credit under the Settlement.

The Settlement Administrator will file your request for exclusion with the Court. A request for exclusion must be exercised individually and not on behalf of a group.

Option 3: Object to the Settlement.

The full terms of the Settlement can be found www.stephensoneftallitigation.com. If you think the terms of the Settlement, the requested attorneys' fees and expenses, and/or the Service Awards to the Plaintiffs and costs are not fair, not reasonable, or not adequate to the Settlement Class Members, you may submit a written objection. If you object to the terms of the Settlement, you cannot request exclusion from the Settlement. If you object to the terms of the Settlement you will still be bound by the terms of the Settlement and all rulings and orders from the Court.

To object to the terms of the Settlement, Class Counsel's request for attorney's fees and costs or Service Awards to the Plaintiffs, you must send a written objection postmarked by **DATE** to the following:

Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Credit Union
Settlement Administrator
[ADDRESS]

The objection should include:

1. The name of the case;
2. Your name, address, telephone number, and email (if any);
3. Information identifying you as a Settlement Class Member;
4. A written statement of the grounds for the objection, including any legal support;
5. The name, address, bar number, email address, and telephone number of any lawyer who represents you related to your objection;
6. A statement advising whether you and/or your lawyer intend to appear and/or address the Court at the Final Approval Hearing; and
7. Your signature.

If you submit an objection and the Court approves the Settlement, you will be bound by any decisions and orders from the Court and by the terms of the Settlement. If you do not want to be bound by the decisions and rulings by the Court, you must file a request for exclusion and not an objection.

Option 4. Do Nothing Now. Stay in the Lawsuit.

You have the right to do nothing. If you do nothing, and if the Settlement becomes final, you will not be eligible for a Settlement Payment and you will give up your right to sue Navy Federal for the claims released by Settlement Class Members (see the next section below).

If I Do Not Exclude Myself from the Settlement, What Claims Am I Giving Up?

Unless you exclude yourself from the Settlement by submitting a timely and valid request for exclusion, you are agreeing to stay in the Settlement Classes and you give up any right to sue Navy Federal as part of any other lawsuit about the claims resolved in this Settlement. This means that on the Effective Date of the Settlement, you and related parties (the "Releasing Parties") shall be deemed to have, and by

operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all **Released Claims** against the **Released Parties**.

The **Releasing Parties** means Plaintiffs, those Settlement Class Members who do not timely opt out of the Settlement Class, and all of their respective present or past or future heirs, executors, estates, administrators, predecessors, successors, assigns, parent companies, subsidiaries, associates, affiliates, employers, employees, agents, consultants, independent contractors, insurers, directors, managing directors, officers, partners, principals, members, attorneys, accountants, financial and other advisors, underwriters, shareholders, lenders, auditors, investment advisors, legal representatives, successors in interest, assigns and companies, firms, trusts, and corporations.

The **Released Claims** means any and all claims to statutory damages or injunctive relief, regardless of legal basis and on account of any and all claims, suits, obligations, causes of action of every kind and/or nature, liabilities, rights, claims, actions, causes of action, and demands, whether known or unknown, existing or potential, suspected or unsuspected, liquidated or unliquidated, legal, statutory, or equitable, based on contract, tort or any other theory, that result from, arise out of, are based upon, or relate to the conduct, omissions, duties or matters during the Class Period that were or could have been alleged in the Action. **The Released Claims exclude any claims for actual damages based on or related to Navy Federal's purported improper denial of a claim of unauthorized electronic transfer(s).** Nothing herein is intended to release any claims any governmental agency or governmental actor may have against Defendant

The **Released Parties** means Defendant Navy Federal Credit Union, as well as any and all of its respective present or past or future heirs, executors, estates, administrators, predecessors, successors, assigns, parent companies, subsidiaries, licensors, licensees, associates, affiliates, employers, employees, agents, consultants, independent contractors, insurers, directors, managing directors, officers, partners, principals, members, attorneys, accountants, financial and other advisors, underwriters, shareholders, lenders, auditors, investment advisors, legal representatives, successors in interest, assigns and companies, firms, trusts, and corporations.

Bar to Future Suits. Upon the Effective Date, and to the fullest extent permitted by law, each Settlement Class Member, shall, either directly, indirectly, representatively, or in any capacity, be permanently barred and enjoined from filing, commencing, prosecuting, intervening in, or participating (as a class member or otherwise) in any lawsuit, action, or other proceeding in any jurisdiction (other than participation in the Settlement as provided herein) against any Released Party based on the Released Claims.

Who Is Representing the Settlement Class Members, How Will the Lawyers Be Paid, and What Will the Plaintiffs Receive?

The Court has appointed lawyers from the law firms of Edelsberg Law, P.A., Shamis & Gentile, P.A., and KalielGold PLLC to represent you and the other Settlement Class Members. These attorneys are called Class Counsel. These lawyers are experienced in handling class action lawsuits, including actions on behalf of accountholders at financial institutions. More information about Class Counsel is available on their websites. They believe, after conducting an extensive investigation, that the Settlement Agreement is fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class. You will not be charged for these lawyers. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer in this case, you may hire one at your expense.

Class Counsel will be filing a motion seeking attorneys' fees of up to one-third of the value of the Settlement and reimbursement of litigation costs to be paid out of the Settlement Fund. The Court will determine how much Class Counsel will be paid for fees and expenses.

Class Counsel will also seek a Service Award for Plaintiff Stephenson and Plaintiff Smith as the Class Representatives in the amount of \$5,000 each, subject to Court approval. The Service Award will be paid separately from the Settlement Fund. It is intended to compensate the Class Representatives for the time spent participating in the lawsuit and prosecuting the legal claims for the benefit of the Settlement Classes, and in exchange for a general release of any and all of the Plaintiffs' individual claims against the Released Parties.

Navy Federal and the Plaintiffs have also reached a settlement of the Plaintiffs' individual claims for actual damages. Under that settlement, Navy Federal will pay each Plaintiff \$5,000 total, to be paid separately from the Settlement Fund and separately from the Service Award.

When and Where will the Court Decide Whether to Approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a **Final Approval Hearing** on [HEARING DATE], at [HEARING TIME] EST at the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, James M. Carter and Judith N. Kep United States Courthouse, 333 West Broadway, Courtroom 14B, San Diego, CA 92101. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will also decide Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and expenses and the Class Representatives' application for Service Awards. We do not know how long these decisions will take. The Court may change the date or time of the Final Approval Hearing without further notice, so please check the Settlement Website for any changes.

Do I need to Attend the Final Approval Hearing?

No. Settlement Class Members are not required to attend the Final Approval Hearing, but you may attend and speak at the hearing if you wish. Class Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have at the Final Approval Hearing. However, you may come at your own expense if you would like to attend the hearing. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary.

If you submit a written objection, you do not have to come to the Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time and followed the instructions above, the Court will consider it.

How Do I Find Out More About This Lawsuit?

This Notice only summarizes the Settlement. The Settlement Agreement includes additional details. You can review or download a copy of the Settlement Agreement, the Claim Form, and other important documents from the Settlement website at www.stephensoneftallitigation.com. You can also call the Settlement Administrator toll-free at 1-XXX-XXX-XXXX or write to [INSERT ADDRESS].

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT, THE CLERK OF THE COURT, NAVY FEDERAL, OR NAVY FEDERAL'S COUNSEL REGARDING THIS NOTICE.

EXHIBIT E

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

JEFFREY STEPHENSON and BILLY SMITH II, individually, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

Defendant.

Case No. 3:23-CV-01851-WQH-KSC

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

Hon. William Q. Hayes

Hon. Karen S. Crawford

Before the Court is Plaintiffs' unopposed motion to grant preliminary approval of a proposed class action settlement and direct class notice in this action, the terms of which are set forth in a Class Action Settlement Agreement with accompanying exhibits (the "Agreement").¹

The Court has considered the Agreement, Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement and exhibits thereto, and all papers filed in support of the motion and the entire docket in this matter. Having fully considered the matter, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e), it is hereby ORDERED that:

¹ All defined terms have the same meaning as set forth in the Agreement, which is attached to the Declaration of _____ as Exhibit _____ (ECF No. _____.)

1. The Court has jurisdiction over this action's subject matter and has personal jurisdiction over the Parties and the Settlement Class members defined and described below.

Preliminary Approval of Proposed Settlement

2. Subject to the Final Approval Hearing and any objections lodged by Settlement Class Members, the Court will likely be able to approve the Settlement as set forth in the Agreement as fair, reasonable, adequate under Rule 23(e), including the releases contained therein, the Claims process, and the proposed Plan of Allocation described therein.

3. The Court further finds that the Settlement substantially fulfills the purposes and objectives of the class action and provides beneficial relief to the Settlement Classes, considering the risks and delay of continued litigation and all other relevant factors. The Court finds the Settlement (a) is the result of arm's-length negotiations involving experienced counsel, with the assistance of a neutral mediator; (b) is sufficient to warrant notice of the Settlement and the Final Approval Hearing to the Settlement Classes; and (c) preliminarily meets all applicable requirements of law, including Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and the Class Action Fairness Act ("CAFA"), 28 U.S.C. § 1715, for settlement purposes only.

Preliminary Certification of Settlement Classes

4. Under Rules 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and in accord with the Settlement Agreement and solely for purposes of Settlement, the Court preliminarily approves the following Settlement Classes:

Written Explanation Settlement Class. All Accountholders whose claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfers were denied by Navy Federal Credit Union between October 10, 2022, and the date the Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement

Document Request Settlement Subclass. All Accountholders in the Written Explanation Settlement Class who requested documents Navy Federal relied on in making its determination and who did not receive them.

5. Excluded from the Settlement Classes are (1) any judge presiding over this Action and members of their families; and (2) Defendant, its subsidiaries, parent companies, successors, predecessors, and any entity in which Defendant or its parents have a controlling interest and their current or former officers, directors, agents, attorneys, and employees.

6. All persons who are members of the Settlement Classes and who do not submit a valid request for exclusion are referred to collectively as “Settlement Class Members” or individually as a “Settlement Class Member.”

7. For purposes of the settlement only, the Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Classes satisfy the requirements of Rule 23(a) and (b)(3) in that: (1) the number of Settlement Class Members is so numerous that joinder is impracticable; (2) there are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class members; (3) the claims of the Class Representatives are typical of the claims of the

1 Settlement Class members; (4) the Class Representatives are adequate representatives
2 for the Settlement Class, and have retained experienced counsel to represent them;
3 (5) the questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class members
4 predominate over any questions affecting any individual Settlement Class member;
5 and (6) a class action is superior to the other available methods for the fair and
6 efficient adjudication of the controversy.
7

8. The Court appoints Plaintiffs Jeffrey Stephenson and Billy Smith II as
9 Class Representatives for the Settlement Classes and the following counsel are hereby
10 appointed as Class Counsel for the Settlement Classes: Scott Edelsberg and Adam
11 Schwartzbaum of Edelsberg Law, P.A.; Edwin E. Elliott of Shamis & Gentile, P.A.;
12 and Sophia Gold and Jeffrey D. Kaliel of Kaliel Gold PLLC.
13

14. The Court preliminarily finds for purposes of settlement only that the
15 above attorneys are competent and capable of exercising the responsibilities of Class
16 Counsel, and that Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will adequately protect the interests of
17 the Settlement Classes within the meaning of Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4) and (g).
18

19
20
Notice and Administration
21

22 10. The Court approves Kroll Settlement Administration LLC (Kroll) as the
23 Settlement Administrator and directs Kroll to perform the functions and duties of the
24 Settlement Administrator set forth in the Settlement—including providing notice to
25 the Settlement Classes and effectuating the Notice Program—and to provide such
26
27
28

1 other administration services as are reasonably necessary to facilitate the completion
2 of the Settlement.

3
4 11. The Court has carefully considered the forms and methods of notice to
5 the Settlement Classes as set forth in the Settlement. The Court finds the Notice
6 Program satisfies the requirements of due process and complies with Rule 23 of the
7 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Namely, the Notice Program described in Section
8 Four of the Settlement Agreement is reasonably calculated to apprise Settlement
9 Class members of the nature of this Action, the scope of the Settlement Classes, the
10 terms of the Settlement Agreement, the rights of Settlement Class members to submit
11 a claim, object to or opt out of the Settlement and the process for doing so, and the
12 date, time, and location of the Final Approval Hearing. The Court therefore approves
13 the Notice Program and directs the Parties and the Settlement Administrator to
14 proceed with providing notice to Settlement Class members pursuant to the terms of
15 the Settlement Agreement and this Order.

16
17 12. The Court hereby approves the Notice Program and the form, content,
18 and requirements of the Notices annexed as exhibits to the Agreement.² The Court
19 finds the Notice Program fully satisfies the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil
20 Procedure 23 and due process, constitutes the best notice practicable under the
21
22
23
24
25

26 ² The Parties, by agreement, may revise the Notices in ways that are not material, or in ways that
27 are appropriate to update those documents for purposes of accuracy or formatting, consistent with
28 this Order.

1 circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled
2 thereto.
3

4 13. The Settlement Administrator shall send the agreed-upon Notices to the
5 Settlement Class within sixty (60) calendar days following the entry of this Order (the
6 “Notice Date”) and will carry out all requirements of the Notice Program set out in
7 Section Four of the Agreement. The Settlement Administrator shall maintain the
8 Settlement Website to provide full information about the Settlement.

9 14. No later than 10 days before the Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel
10 shall file with the Court a declaration executed by the Settlement Administrator
11 attesting to the timely completion of the Notice Program, describing how the Notice
12 Program and the Claim Form process were completed, and providing the names of
13 members of the Settlement Class who timely and properly opted out from the
14 Settlement Class, as well as those Settlement Class Members who timely filed
15 objections, and other information as may be necessary to allow the Parties to seek
16 and obtain Final Approval.

17 **Requests for Exclusion, Objections, and Appearances**

18 15. Any Settlement Class member who wishes to request to be excluded
19 from the Settlement must send a written request for exclusion to the Settlement
20 Administrator at the following address: *Stephenson, et al. v. Navy Federal Settlement*
21 Administrator, [address]. To be valid, the Request for Exclusion must be postmarked
22 on or before forty-five (45) days after the Notice Date; must include: the case name;
23

1 a statement indicating the Settlement Class member's desire to be excluded from the
2 Settlement Class, the Settlement Class member's name, current address, and
3 signature. If an Account has more than one Accountholder, and if one Accountholder
4 opts-out himself or herself from the Settlement Class, then all Accountholders on that
5 Account shall be deemed to have opted-out of the Settlement with respect to that
6 Account, and no Accountholder shall be entitled to a payment under the Settlement.
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9 16. Settlement Class members who timely request exclusion from the
10 Settlement will relinquish their rights to benefits under the Settlement and will not
11 release any claims against Defendant.
12

13 17. If a request for exclusion is not postmarked on or before forty-five (45)
14 days after the Notice Date, it will be invalid and the Settlement Class Member will
15 be bound by the terms of the Settlement and the Final Approval Order and Final
16 Judgment even if the Settlement Class Member has previously initiated or
17 subsequently initiate individual litigation or any other proceedings against Defendant.
18 A Settlement Class member who does not file a timely request for exclusion shall be
19 bound by all subsequent proceedings, orders, and judgments in this Action.
20
21

22 18. The Settlement Administrator shall promptly provide counsel for all
23 Parties with copies of any request for exclusion.
24

25 19. Settlement Class Members have a right to object to approval of the
26 proposed Settlement, to the award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, or to the
27 Service Awards to the Class Representatives. Any Settlement Class Member who
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1 wishes to do so must file with the Court a written statement (along with any
2 supporting papers), postmarked or filed on or before forty-five (45) days after the
3 Notice Date. To be valid, objections must contain materially the following
4 information: (i) the name of the Action, (ii) the objector's name, address, telephone
5 number, and e-mail address; (iii) grounds for the objection including any legal
6 support; (iv) the name and contact information of any attorneys representing,
7 advising, or assisting the objector in connection with the preparation or submission
8 of the objection or who may profit from the pursuit of the objection (the "Objecting
9 Attorneys"); (v) a statement advising whether the Settlement Class Member or his/her
10 attorney intends to appear and/or testify at the Final Approval Hearing; and (vi) the
11 objector's signature.
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14 20. Any Settlement Class Member who does not make an objection to the
15 Settlement in the manner provided herein or appear and state an objection at the Final
16 Approval Hearing shall be deemed to have waived and forfeited any and all rights he
17 or she may have to object, appear, present witness testimony, and/or submit evidence;
18 shall be precluded from seeking review of the Settlement by appeal or other means;
19 and shall be bound by all terms of the Settlement and by all proceedings, orders, and
20 judgments in the Action.
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Final Approval Hearing

23 21. The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on [date] at [time] at the
24 United States District Court for the Southern District of California, James M. Carter
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1 and Judith N. Kep United States Courthouse, 333 West Broadway, Courtroom 14B,
2 San Diego, CA 92101, for the following purposes:

- 3 (a) to finally determine whether the applicable prerequisites for
4 settlement class action treatment under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure
5 23(a) and (b)(3) are met;
- 6 (b) to determine whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate,
7 and should be granted final approval by the Court;
- 8 (c) to determine whether the Judgment as provided under the Settlement
9 Agreement should be entered dismissing the claims of the Settlement
10 Class Members with prejudice;
- 11 (d) to consider the application for an award of attorneys' fees and
12 litigation expenses of Class Counsel;
- 13 (e) to consider the application for service awards to the Settlement Class
14 Representatives; and
- 15 (g) to rule upon such other matters as the Court deems appropriate.

16 22. At least fifteen (15) days prior to the Exception/Exclusion Deadline,
17 Class Counsel shall file their motion for final approval and any application for
18 attorneys' fees, litigation expenses and Service Awards to the Class Representatives.
19 The Settlement Administrator is directed to post such fee petition to the Settlement
20 Website. At least fourteen days before the Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel
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1 shall file any supplemental papers in support of Final Approval of the Settlement,
2 including a response to any objections filed by Settlement Class Members, if any.
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4 23. The Final Approval Hearing may be postponed, adjourned, transferred,
5 or continued by order of the Court without further notice to the Settlement Classes,
6 except that any postponement, rescheduling, continuation, or transfer shall be posted
7 to the Settlement Website. At, or following the Final Approval Hearing, the Court
8 may enter a Final Approval Order and Final Judgment in accordance with the
9 Settlement Agreement that will adjudicate the rights of all Settlement Class Members.
10

11 24. For clarity, the deadlines the Parties and members of the Settlement
12 Classes shall adhere to are as follows:
13

14 **DEADLINES SUMMARY**
15

Event	Date
Deadline for Navy Federal to provide Settlement Class List to Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator	No later than 30 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order
Deadline for commencing emailing and mailing of the Notice to Settlement Class Members and posting the Notice and Claim Form on the Settlement website (the "Notice Date")	No later than 60 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order
Deadline for Plaintiffs to file application for attorneys' fees and expenses and Service Awards	30 calendar days after the Notice Date (up to 90 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order)
Deadline for submitting of exclusion requests or objections	Postmarked no later than 45 calendar days after the Notice Date (up to 105 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order)
Deadline for submitting Claim Forms	Postmarked or electronically filed no later than 60 calendar days after the Notice Date (up to 120 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order)
Deadline for any response to any timely and valid objections and any supplemental brief re: final approval	70 days after the Notice Date (up to 130 calendar days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order)

1	Deadline for Settlement Administrator 2 to Submit Declaration Identifying Opt 3 Outs and Confirming Compliance with Notice Plan	At least 10 days before Final Approval Hearing
4	Final Approval Hearing	At least 5 months after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order

5
6 25. Settlement Class Members do not need to appear at the Final Approval
7 Hearing or take any other action to indicate their approval.

8 **Further Matters**

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10 26. In order to protect its jurisdiction to consider the fairness of the
11 Settlement and to enter a Final Approval order and Final Judgment having binding
12 effect on all Settlement Class Members, the Court hereby enjoins all members of the
13 Settlement Classes, and anyone who acts or purports to act on their behalf, from
14 pursuing or continuing to pursue all other proceedings in any state or federal court or
15 any other proceeding that seeks to address Releasing Parties' or any Settlement Class
16 Member's rights or claims relating to, or arising out of, any of the Released Claims.
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19 27. The Settlement does not constitute an admission, concession, or
20 indication by the Parties of the validity of any claims or defenses in the Action or of
21 any liability, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind by Defendant, which vigorously denies
22 all the claims and allegations raised in the Action.

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24 28. In the event that the Settlement is terminated under the terms of the
25 Settlement Agreement, or if for any reason whatsoever the Settlement is not finally
26 approved, is not upheld on appeal, or is otherwise terminated for any other reason,
27 then: (i) the Settlement shall be null and void, including any provisions related to the
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1 award of attorneys' fees and costs, shall have no further force and effect with respect
2 to any Party in this Action, and may not be referred to or used as evidence or for any
3 other purpose whatsoever in the Action or any other action or proceeding; (ii) all
4 negotiations, proceedings, documents prepared, and statements made in connection
5 therewith shall be without prejudice to any person or Party hereto, shall not be
6 deemed or construed to be an admission by any Party of any act, matter, or
7 proposition, and shall not be used in any manner of or for any purpose in any
8 subsequent proceeding in this Action or in any other action in any court or other
9 proceeding, provided, however, that the termination of the Settlement shall not shield
10 from subsequent discovery any factual information provided in connection with the
11 negotiation of this Settlement that would ordinarily be discoverable but for the
12 attempted settlement; (iii) this Order shall be vacated and of no further force or effect
13 whatsoever, as if it had never been entered; and (iv) any Party may elect to move the
14 Court to implement the provisions of this paragraph, and none of the non-moving
15 Parties (or their counsel) shall oppose any such motion.

21 29. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further matters arising out
22 of or connected with the Settlement. The Court may approve the Settlement, with
23 such modifications as may be agreed to by the Parties, if appropriate, without further
24 notice to the Settlement Classes.

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28 IT IS SO ORDERED.

1 DATED:

2 Hon. William Q. Hayes
3 United States District Court Judge

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EXHIBIT F

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

JEFFREY STEPHENSON and BILLY SMITH II, individually, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

Defendant.

Case No. 3:23-CV-01851-WQH-KSC

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
ORDER GRANTING FINAL
APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT
AND ENTERING FINAL
JUDGMENT**

Hon. William Q. Hayes
Hon. Karen S. Crawford

Date: TBD

Time: TBD

Courtroom: 14B

Before the Court is Plaintiffs' unopposed motion to certify a settlement class, grant final approval of the proposed class action settlement, and enter final judgment in this action (Plaintiffs' Unopposed Motion) (ECF No. __), the terms of which are set forth in a Settlement Agreement with accompanying exhibits.

On [REDACTED], 2025, the Court entered a Preliminary Approval Order. Among other things, the Preliminary Approval Order (i) preliminarily approved the Settlement; (ii) determined that, for purposes of the settlement only, the Action should proceed as a class action pursuant to Rules 23(a) and 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; (iii) appointed Plaintiffs as Class Representatives; (iv) appointed as Class Counsel for the Settlement Classes: Scott Edelsberg and Adam Schwartzbaum of Edelsberg Law, P.A.; Edwin E. Elliott of Shamis & Gentile, P.A.;

1 and Sophia Gold and Jeffrey D. Kaliel of Kaliel Gold PLLC; (v) preliminarily
2 approved the form and manner of the Notice Program, the Claims process, and the
3 Plan of Allocation; and (vi) set a hearing date to consider Final Approval of the
4 Settlement. The Court has considered the Agreement, papers filed, and proceedings
5 held in connection with the Settlement, and all the other files, records, proceedings
6 in the Action, and arguments of counsel. Having fully considered the matter, the
7 Court GRANTS Plaintiffs' Motion under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e) as
8 follows:

9 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action and over
10 all parties to the Action, including all Settlement Class Members.

11 2. This Order incorporates the definitions in the Settlement Agreement,
12 and all capitalized terms used in this Order have the same meanings as set forth in the
13 Settlement Agreement, unless otherwise defined herein.

14 3. **Class Certification for Settlement Purposes Only.** The Court
15 reaffirms its earlier findings that class certification is appropriate for settlement
16 purposes and hereby certifies the following Settlement Classes for purposes of
17 judgment on the Settlement only:

18 **Written Explanation Settlement Class.** All Accountholders whose
19 claims of unauthorized electronic fund transfers were denied by Navy
20 Federal Credit Union between October 10, 2022, and the date the Court
21 grants preliminary approval of the Settlement

22 **Document Request Settlement Subclass.** All Accountholders in the
23 Written Explanation Settlement Class who requested documents Navy
24 Federal relied on in making its determination and who did not receive
25 them.

1 4. Excluded from the Settlement Classes are (1) any judge presiding over
2 this Action and members of their families; and (2) Defendant, its subsidiaries, parent
3 companies, successors, predecessors, and any entity in which Defendant or its parents
4 have a controlling interest and their current or former officers, directors, agents,
5 attorneys, and employees and any member of the Settlement Class who submitted a
6 timely and valid request for exclusion.

9 5. **Final Settlement Approval.** The Settlement is in all respects fair,
10 reasonable, and adequate, including the releases, Claims process, and Plan of
11 Allocation. The Court makes final its preliminary findings that, for purposes of
12 settlement only, the Settlement satisfies the requirements of Rule 23.

14 6. In reaching this conclusion, the Court considered the complexity,
15 expense, and duration of the litigation, the Settlement Classes' reaction to the
16 Settlement, and the result achieved. The Agreement was the product of informed,
17 arms-length negotiations among competent, able counsel. The Settlement was made
18 based upon a record that is sufficiently developed to have enabled the Parties to
19 adequately evaluate and consider their positions.

22 7. The Settlement provides sufficient benefits to Settlement Class
23 Members in consideration of the maximum statutory damages set out in the
24 Electronic Funds Transfer Act. [In addition, there were no objections to the
25 Settlement, and there were a small number of opt-outs, indicating an overwhelming
26 positive reaction from the Settlement Class].

1 8. The Claims process and Plan of Allocation are fair, reasonable, and
2 adequate.
3

4 9. **Class Notice.** The Settlement Administrator completed the delivery of
5 Notice to the Settlement Class according to the Agreement terms. This Notice was
6 the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constituted due and sufficient
7 notice of the proceedings and matters set forth therein, to all persons entitled to notice.
8 The Notice and the Notice Program fully satisfied the requirements of due process,
9 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, and all other applicable law and rules.
10

11 10. **Class Action Fairness Act Notice.** The Settlement Administrator
12 satisfied all notices and requirements of the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005
13 (CAFA), 28 U.S.C. § 1715. The Court has reviewed such notification and
14 accompanying materials and finds that the notification complies fully with the
15 applicable CAFA requirements. [No written objection or response to the Settlement
16 was filed by any federal or state official, including any recipient of the foregoing
17 notices. No federal or state official, including any recipient of the foregoing notices,
18 appeared or requested to appear at the Fairness Hearing.]
19

20 11. **Class Representatives and Class Counsel.** The appointment of the
21 Plaintiffs Jeffrey Stephenson and Billy Smith II as Class Representatives is affirmed.
22

23 12. The appointment of Scott Edelsberg and Adam Schwartzbaum of
24 Edelsberg Law, P.A.; Edwin E. Elliott of Shamis & Gentile, P.A.; and Sophia Gold
25 and Jeffrey D. Kaliel of Kaliel Gold PLLC is affirmed.
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1 13. The Class Representatives and Class Counsel have fairly and adequately
2 represented and will continue to adequately represent and protect the interests of
3 Settlement Class Members in connection with the Settlement.

5 14. **Opt Outs.** A list of the individuals who have opted out of the Settlement
6 is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. Those individuals will not be bound by the Settlement
7 or the Releases contained therein.

9 15. **Implementation of Settlement.** Because the Court approves the
10 Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement as fair, reasonable, and adequate,
11 the Court authorizes and directs that the Parties and the Settlement Administrator
12 implement the Settlement according to the Agreement terms.

14 16. If, consistent with the Plan of Allocation set forth in the Settlement
15 Agreement, any Residual Funds remain after the first distribution, the Residual Funds
16 will reimburse Defendant for Settlement Administration Expenses. Any remaining
17 Residual Funds after reimbursing Defendant will go to an appropriate *cy pres*
18 recipient, either a consumer protection or financial services charity, to be decided by
19 the Court. All Parties to this Action, and all Settlement Class Members, are bound
20 by the Settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement and this Order.

24 17. **Releases.** Upon the Effective Date, the Releasing Parties fully and
25 irrevocably release and forever discharge All Released Claims against the Released
26 Parties. The Released Claims are dismissed with prejudice and released regardless
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1 of whether these claims are known or unknown, actual or contingent, liquidated or
2 unliquidated.
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4 18. Upon the Effective Date, the Plaintiffs shall be deemed to have, and by
5 operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever agreed to
6 Plaintiffs' General Release.
7

8 19. **No Admissions.** Neither the Settlement Agreement, nor this Order, nor
9 the fact of the Settlement, is an admission or concession by Defendant or the Released
10 Parties of any fault, wrongdoing or liability whatsoever, or as an admission of the
11 appropriateness of class certification for trial or dispositive motion practice. This
12 Order is not a finding of the validity or invalidity of any of the claims asserted or
13 defenses raised in the Action. Nothing relating to the Settlement shall be offered or
14 received in evidence as an admission, concession, presumption or inference against
15 Defendant or the Released Parties in any proceeding, other than such proceedings as
16 may be necessary to consummate or enforce the Settlement Agreement or to support
17 a defense based on principles of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, good faith
18 settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue
19 preclusion or similar defense.
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22 20. **Continuing Jurisdiction.** The Court hereby retains and reserves
23 exclusive jurisdiction over: (a) implementation of this Settlement and any
24 distributions from the Settlement Fund; (b) the Action, until the Effective Date, and
25 until each and every act agreed to be performed by the Parties shall have been
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1 performed pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement,
2 including the exhibits appended thereto; and (c) all Parties, for the purpose of
3 enforcing and administering the Settlement.

5 21. In the event that the Effective Date of the Settlement Agreement, does
6 not occur, the Settlement shall be rendered null and void to the extent provided by
7 and in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, and this Order shall be vacated. In
8 such event, all orders entered and releases delivered in connection with the Settlement
9 shall be null and void and the Action shall return to its status immediately prior to
10 execution of the Settlement Agreement.

13 22. **Final Judgment.** Judgment shall be, and hereby is, entered dismissing
14 the Action with prejudice, on the merits, and without taxation of costs in favor of or
15 against any Party.

17 23. With the exception of those listed on Exhibit A, the Court adjudges that
18 the Class Representatives and all Settlement Class Members shall be bound by this
19 Final Approval Order.

21 24. There being no just reason for delay, the Clerk of Court is hereby
22 directed to enter final judgment forthwith pursuant to Rule 54(b) of the Federal Rules
23 of Civil Procedure.

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1 IT IS SO ORDERED.
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3 DATED:
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Hon. William Q. Hayes
United States District Court Judge

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EXHIBIT 2



KALIELGOLD PLLC

KalielGold PLLC was founded in 2017 and is a 100% contingency Plaintiff-side law firm. Our attorneys have decades of combined experience and have secured hundreds of millions of dollars for their clients. Our firm's practice focuses on representing consumers in class action litigation and specifically on cases in the consumer financial services sector. In the four years since our firm was founded, our firm has been appointed lead counsel or co-lead counsel in numerous class action and putative class action lawsuits in state and federal courts nationwide including most recently in *Roberts v. Capital One*, No. 1:16-cv-04841 (S.D.N.Y.); *Walters v. Target Corp.*, No. 3:16-cv-00492 (S.D. Cal.); *Robinson v. First Hawaiian Bank*, Civil No. 17-1-0167-01 GWBC (1st Cir. Haw.); *Liggio v. Apple Federal Credit Union*, No. 18-cv-01059 (E.D. Va.); *Morris et al. v. Bank of America, N.A.*, No. 3:18-cv-00157-RJC-DSC (W.D.N.C.); *Brooks et al. v. Canvas Credit Union*, 2019CV30516 (Dist. Ct. for Denver Cnty., Colo.); *Figueroa v. Capital One, N.A.*, Case No. 3:18-cv-00692-JM-BGS (S.D. Cal.); *White v. Members 1st Credit Union*, Case No. 1:19-cv-00556-JEJ (M.D. Pa.); *Plummer v. Centra Credit Union*, Case No. 03D01-1804-PL-001903 (Cnty. Of Bartholomew, Ind.); *Holt v. Community America Credit Union*, Case No. 4:19-cv-00629-FJG (W.D. Mo.); *Trinity Management v. Charles Puckett*, Case No. GCG-17-558960 (Super. Ct., San Francisco Cnty, Cal.); *Martin v. L&N Federal Credit Union*, No. 19-CI-022873 (Jefferson Cir. Ct., Div. One); *Clark v. Hills Bank and Trust Company*, No. LACV080753 (Iowa Dist. Ct. Johnson Cnty.); *Morris v. Provident Credit Union*, Case No. CGC-19-581616 (Super. Ct., San Francisco Cnty., Cal.).

As shown in the biographies of our attorneys and the list of class counsel appointments, Kaliel Gold PLLC is well versed in class action litigation and zealously advocates for its clients. To learn more about Kaliel Gold PLLC, or any of the firm's attorneys, please visit www.kalielgold.com.

◎KalielGold

JEFFREY D. KALIEL

Jeffrey Kaliel earned his law degree from Yale Law School in 2005. He graduated from Amherst College summa cum laude in 2000 with a degree in Political Science, and spent one year studying Philosophy at Cambridge University, England.

Over the last 10 years, Jeff has built substantial class action experience. He has received "Washington D.C. Rising Stars Super Lawyers 2015" recognition.

Jeff has been appointed lead Class Counsel in numerous nationwide and state-specific class actions. In those cases, Jeff has won contested class certification motions, defended dispositive motions, engaged in data-intensive discovery and worked extensively with economics and information technology experts to build damages models. Jeff has also successfully resolved numerous class actions by settlement, resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars in relief for millions of class members.

Currently Jeff is actively litigating several national class action cases, including actions against financial services entities and other entities involved in predatory lending and financial services targeting America's most vulnerable populations.

Jeff's class action successes extend beyond financial services litigation. He seeks to lead cases that serve the public interest. Jeff has worked with nonprofits such as the Humane Society, Compassion Over Killing, and the National Consumers League to fight for truth in the marketplace on food and animal products.

Jeff has over a decade of experience in high-stakes litigation. He was in the Honors Program at the Department of Homeland Security, where he worked on the Department's appellate litigation. Jeff also helped investigate the DHS response to Hurricane Katrina in preparation for a Congressional inquiry. Jeff also served as a Special Assistant US Attorney in the Southern District of California, prosecuting border-related crimes.

Jeff is a former Staff Sergeant in the Army, with Airborne and Mountain Warfare qualifications. He is a veteran of the second Iraq war, having served in Iraq in 2003.

Jeff is admitted to practice in California and Washington, DC, and in appellate and district courts across the country.

Jeff lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife, Debbie, and their three children.

◎KalielGold

SOPHIA GOREN GOLD

Sophia Goren Gold is a third-generation Plaintiff's lawyer. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Wake Forest University and the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, Sophia has spent her entire career fighting for justice.

A fierce advocate for those in need, Sophia's practice centers around taking on financial institutions, insurance companies, and other large corporate interests. Sophia has participated in hundreds of individual and class cases in both state and federal courts across the country. Collectively, she has helped secure tens of millions of dollars in relief on behalf of the classes she represents.

In addition to providing monetary relief, Sophia's extensive litigation experience has resulted in real-world positive change. For example, she brought litigation which resulted in the elimination of the Tampon Tax in the State of Florida, and she was influential in changing the state of Delaware's Medicaid policy, resulting in greater access to life-saving medication.

Sophia is currently representing consumers in numerous cases involving the assessment of improper fees by banks and credit unions, such as overdraft fees, insufficient funds fees, and out of network ATM fees. She is also currently representing consumers who have been the victims of unfair and deceptive business practices.

Sophia is admitted to practice in California and Washington, D.C. When not working, Sophia enjoys spending time with her husband, daughters, and their goldendoodle.

◎KalielGold

BRITTANY BERTOLINI

Brittany Bertolini attended the University of Central Florida in Orlando and graduated in 2012 with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and a minor in Spanish. Brittany earned her Juris Doctorate from California Western School of Law in 2015 and graduated magna cum laude in the top 10% of her class.

Throughout the course of her law school career, she served as a judicial extern to the Honorable Anthony J. Battaglia for the United States District Court, Southern District of California and worked multiple semesters as a certified legal intern for the San Diego County District Attorney's Office. Brittany was awarded Academic Excellence Awards in law school for receiving the highest grade in Trial Practice, Health Law & Policy, and Community Property.

Before joining KalielGold PLLC, Brittany worked as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Anthony J. Battaglia and as an associate attorney for Carlson Lynch LLP, specializing in consumer complex litigation.

◎KalielGold

AMANDA ROSENBERG

Amanda Rosenberg graduated *cum laude* from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in 2011 and the University of California, San Diego in 2008, where she earned departmental Honors with Highest Distinction in history.

Before joining KalielGold PLLC, Amanda represented and advised small businesses and financial institutions in litigation matters including employment disputes, merchant disputes, credit and charge card disputes, wrongful foreclosures, and securities. She has successfully litigated cases in California, Illinois, and Michigan.

Amanda is an active volunteer in her community and has helped numerous individuals understand and navigate their rights in the workplace.

In law school, Amanda worked as an extern for the Honorable Judge Vaughn Walker in the United States District Court, Northern District of California. Amanda was awarded academic excellence awards for receiving the highest grades in Trial Advocacy and Litigating Class Action Employment.

When not working, Amanda loves exploring Michigan's outdoors with her husband, kids, and rescue dog.

◎KalielGold

SARAH LEVIN

Sarah Levin helps clients navigate complex litigation. She has represented clients in state and federal court, as well as arbitration, and maintains an active pro bono practice. She serves on several local and national committees working to advance gender equity and reproductive health care.

Before joining KalielGold, Ms. Levin practiced at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York, NY and the Legal Aid Society as the Skadden Pro Bono Fellow. She also served as a law clerk for the Honorable Jane A. Restani of the U.S. Court of International Trade.

Sarah graduated from New York University School of Law. During law school, she was Managing Editor of the Journal of International Law and Politics; a research assistant to Professor Robert Howse; a legal extern in the Southern District of New York for Judge Edgardo Ramos; and a legal intern for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France. Before law school, she worked for Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Cargill, Inc.

Sarah received her undergraduate degree from Hamilton College *magna cum laude* and *Phi Beta Kappa*, and was awarded the Judge John Wells Fellowship for Graduate Study for outstanding undergraduate research. She received her M.A. in International Affairs from the George Washington University, Elliott School of International Affairs.

Ms. Levin is admitted to practice in New York and Florida, as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern District of New York and the Southern District of New York.

◎KalielGold

CLASS COUNSEL APPOINTMENTS

- *Roberts v. Capital One*, No. 1:16-cv-04841 (S.D.N.Y.);
- *Walters v. Target Corp.*, No. 3:16-cv-00492 (S.D. Cal.);
- *Figueroa v. Capital One, N.A.*, Case No. 3:18-cv-00692-JM-BGS (S.D. Cal.);
- *Robinson v. First Hawaiian Bank*, Civil No. 17-1-0167-01 GWBC (1st Cir. Haw.);
- *Brooks et al. v. Canvas Credit Union*, 2019CV30516 (Dist. Ct. for Denver Cnty., Colo.);
- *Liggio v. Apple Federal Credit Union*, Civil No. 18-cv-01059 (E.D. Va.);
- *Morris et al. v. Bank of America, N.A.*, Civil No. 3:18-cv-00157-RJC-DSC (W.D.N.C.);
- *White v. Members 1st Credit Union*, Case No. 1:19-cv-00556-JEJ (M.D. Pa.);
- *Plummer v. Centra Credit Union*, Case No. 03D01-1804-PL-001903 (Bartholomew Cnty., Ind.);
- *Holt v. Community America Credit Union*, Case No. 4:19-cv-00629-FJG (W.D. Mo.);
- *Trinity Management v. Charles Puckett*, Case No. GCG-17-558960 (Super. Ct., San Francisco, Cnty., Cal.);
- *Martin v. L&N Federal Credit Union*, No. 19-CI-022873 (Jefferson Cir. Ct., Division One);
- *Clark v. Hills Bank and Trust Company*, No. LACV080753 (Iowa Dist. Ct. Johnson Cnty.);
- *Morris v. Provident Credit Union*, Case No. CGC-19-581616 (Super. Ct. San Francisco Cnty., Cal.);
- *Bodnar v. Bank of America, N.A.*, 5:14-cv-03224 (E.D. Pa.);
- *In re Higher One One Account Marketing and Sales Practice Litigation.*, No. 12-md-02407-VLB (D. Conn.);
- *Shannon Schulte, et al. v. Fifth Third Bank.*, No. 1:09-cv-06655 (N.D. Ill.);
- *Kelly Mathena v. Webster Bank*, No. 3:10-cv-01448 (D. Conn.);
- *Nick Allen, et al. v. UMB Bank, N.A., et al.*, No. 1016 Civ. 34791 (Cir. Ct. Jackson Cnty., Mo.);
- *Thomas Casto, et al. v. City National Bank, N.A.*, 10 Civ. 01089 (Cir. Ct. Kanawha Cnty., W. Va.);
- *Eaton v. Bank of Oklahoma, N.A., and BOK Financial Corporation, d/b/a Bank of Oklahoma, N.A.*, No. CJ-2010-5209 (Dist. Ct. for Tulsa Cnty., Okla.);
- *Lodley and Tehani Taulva, et al., v. Bank of Hawaii and Doe Defendants 1-50*, No. 11-1-0337-02 (Cir. Ct. of 1st Cir., Haw.);
- *Jessica Duval, et al. v. Citizens Financial Group, Inc., et al.*, No. 1:10-cv-21080 (S.D. Fla.);
- *Mascaro, et al. v. TD Bank, Inc.*, No. 10-cv-21117 (S.D. Fla.);
- *Theresa Molina, et al., v. Intrust Bank, N.A.*, No. 10-cv-3686 (18th Judicial Dist., Dist. Ct. Sedgwick Cnty., Kan.);
- *Trombley v. National City Bank*, 1:10-cv-00232-JDB (D.D.C.); *Galdamez v. I.Q. Data International, Inc.*, No. l:15-cv-1605 (E.D. Va.);
- *Brown et al. v. Transurban USA, Inc. et al.*, No. 1:15-CV-00494 (E.D. Va.);
- *Grayson v. General Electric Co.*, No. 3:13-cv-01799 (D. Conn.);
- *Galdamez v. I.Q. Data International, Inc.*, No. l:15-cv-1605 (E.D. Va.).

EXHIBIT 3

EDELSBERG LAW

MIAMI

**20900 NE 30TH AVE #417 AVENTURA, FL 33180
786 289 9471 | EDELSBERGLAW.COM**

THE EDELSBERG LAW PROMISE

OUR MISSION

SETTLEMENTS

Never shying away from litigating large consumer national class actions, Edelsberg Law is trusted by clients across the country to represent their interests and resolve their legal matters.

The attorneys and legal professionals at Edelsberg Law take pride in offering the highest caliber legal representation. We strive to help those that need help vindicating their rights and do not shy away from the difficult cases. If we take your case, we promise to work hard, efficient, and in your best interest.

Defranks V. Nastygal Class Settlement For \$5 Million Case No. 19-Cv-23028 (S.D. Fla 2020), Picton V. Greenway Dodge Class Settlement For \$2,745,000 Case No. 19-Cv-196-Orl (M.D. Fla 2020), Ostendorf V. Grange Indem. Ins. Co. Class Settlement For \$12 Million Case No. 2:19-Cv-1147, 2020 WI 134169 (S.D. Ohio 2020), Banks V. Fucciloo Affiliates Of Florida Class Settlement For \$1,854,260 Case No. 19-Cv-00227 (M.D. Fla 2020), Goldschmidt V. Rack Room CLASS SETTLEMENT FOR \$25.9 MILLION Case No. 18-CV-21220 (S.D. FLA 2020), PENA V. LEX LAW CLASS SETTLEMENT FOR \$11.5 MILLION Case No. 18-CV-24407 (S.D. FLA 2020), Cortazar V. Ca Ventures Class Settlement For \$600,000 Case No. 19-Cv-22075 (S.d. Fla 2020), Albrecht V. Oasis Power Class Settlement For \$11 Million Case No. 18-Cv-1061 (S.D. Fla 2020), Robley V. Ids Property Casualty Ins. Co. Class Settlement For \$275,000 Case No. 2019-022263-Ca-01 (Fla. 11th Cir. Ct.), Bracero V. Mendota Ins. Co. Class Settlement For \$1.1 Million Case No. 2019-015886-Ca-01 (Fla. 11th Cir. Ct.), Avila-Preciado V. Horace Mann Property & Casualty Insurance Co. Class Settlementfor \$290,000 Case No. 19-Ca-004683 (Fla. 20th Cir. Ct.), Colon V. Direct General Ins. Co. Class Settlement For \$780,000 Case No. 2019-Ca-1636 Oc, (Fla. 9th Cir. Ct.), Junior Et Al. V. Infinity Auto Insurance Company Over \$20 Million Settlement For Unpaid Sales Tax And Certain Fees, Final Approval Pending Case No. 6:18-Cv-01598-Wwbejk (M.D. Fla), Smart Et Al. V. Auto Club Insurance Et Al. Class Settlement For Over \$850,000 Case No. 19-Ca-005580 (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct.), Suarez V. Mapfre Insurance Co. Of Florida Class Settlement For \$800,000 Case No. 2019-020729-Ca-01 (Fla. 11th Cir. Ct.), George V. Peachtree Casualty Insurance Co. Class Settlement For \$580,000 Case No. Ca-19-674 (Fla. 7th Cir. Ct.), Dunleavy V. Surinse Detox Class Settlement For \$500,000 Case No. 18-Cv-25090 (S.D. Fla 2019), Eisenband V. Schumacher Automative Class Settlement For \$5 Million Case No. 9:18-Cv-80911 (S.D. Fla 2019), Poirier V. Cubamax Class Settlement For \$800,000 Case No. 1:18-Cv-23240 (S.D. Fla 2019), Mclean V. Osborn Class Settlement For \$800,000 Case No. 18-Cv-81222 (S.D. Fla 2019), Bloom V. Jenny Craig Class Settlement For \$3 Million Case No. 1:18-Cv-21820 (S.D. Fla 2019), Papa V. Greico Ford Class Settlement For \$4.9 Million Case No. 18-21897 (S.D. Fla 2019), Wijesinha V. Susan B. Anthony Class Settlement For \$1,017,430 Case No. 18-Cv-22880 (S.D. Fla 2019), Halperin V. Youfit Heath Clubs Class Settlement For \$1,418,635 Case No. 18-Cv-61722 (S.D. Fla 2019), Dipuglia V. U.S. Coachways, Inc. Class Settlement For \$2.6 Million Case No. 17-23006-Civ (S.D. Fla 2018), Gottlieb V. Citgo Class Settlement For \$8.3 Million Case No. 9:16-81911 (S.D. Fla 2017), Masson V. Tallahassee Dodge Jeep Chrysler, Llc. Class Settlement For \$850,000 Case No. 1-17-Cv-22967 (S.D. 2017), Stathakos V. Columbia Sportswear Company Obtained Classwide Injunctive Relief Case No. 4:15-Cv-04543 (N.D. California 2017).

SCOTT EDELSBERG

PARTNER

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Scott Edelsberg's broad-based litigation experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants provides him with an invaluable perspective when prosecuting claims on behalf of consumers who have been harmed by corporate wrongdoing.

Scott Edelsberg is the founding partner of Edelsberg Law, PA and focuses his practice in the areas of class actions, consumer fraud and personal injury.

In connection with his representation in class action matters, Edelsberg has litigated cases in multiple state and federal jurisdictions throughout the country, including two multi-district litigation proceedings. In those cases, Edelsberg has won contested class certification motions, defended dispositive motions, engaged in data-intensive discovery and worked extensively with economics and information technology experts to build damages models. His efforts have lead to numerous class settlements, resulting in millions of dollars in relief for millions of class members.

Edelsberg is a native of South Florida and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan. While at Michigan, he was awarded the Michigan Merit Scholar award and served as an intern for the Washtenaw County Public Defender's office. Edelsberg went on to receive a Juris Doctor degree, Cum Laude, from the University of Miami School of Law. While attending law school, he was on the Dean's List, a member of the International and Comparative Law Review, a Merit Scholarship recipient and served as an Equal Justice for America Fellow.

EDUCATION

University of Miami School of Law,
J.D. - 2012

University of Michigan, B.A. - 2009

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida
California

COURT ADMISSIONS

Southern District of Florida
Middle District of Florida

PRIMARY PRACTICE

Class Action



ADAM SCHWARTZBAUM

PARTNER

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Adam Schwartzbaum is a Partner at Edelsberg Law in Miami, Florida, where he plays a leading role representing individuals in class action litigation across the country. Adam has a wealth of experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal court and at the trial and appellate levels. Adam's passion for using the law to better the lives of ordinary people makes him a fierce advocate for his clients and a champion for justice. Further, Adam has helped recover over \$1.6 billion for his clients over the course of his legal career.

Adam was previously a partner at The Moskowitz Law Firm, where he worked on some of the country's largest class actions and multi-district litigation cases. Adam directly represented many survivors of the Champlain Towers South Condominium Collapse Litigation in the firm's role as lead counsel for the economic loss victims and helped achieve a historic \$1.1 billion settlement. Adam also worked directly with Co-Lead Counsel to help organize and run two federal multi-district litigations: the FieldTurf Artificial Turf Marketing and Sales Practices Litigation, and the Erie COVID-19 Business Interruption Insurance Protection Litigation. Other representative matters include the Transamerica and Lincoln cost of insurance litigation; the COVID-19 student fee cases against Florida public schools, including appeals in all of Florida's District Courts of Appeal; several Ponzi scheme cases on behalf of investors against both principals and aiders and abettors; suits challenging illegal and deceptive and unfair business practices in the insurance industry; and a certified issue class concerning the Fort Lauderdale Water Main Break against Florida Power & Light and several of its subcontractors that was affirmed on appeal and resulted in a trial victory for the certified class. Adam also chaired the firm's busy appellate practice, utilizing his twelve years of appellate experience to lead over a dozen appeals in the Florida District Courts of Appeal and the federal Circuit Courts of Appeal. For example, Adam helped lead a team of lawyers to brief and argue *Cherry v. Dometic*, 986 F.3d 1296 (11th Cir. 2021), an appeal that resulted in an opinion clarifying and revising the "ascertainability" standard to the benefit of class action plaintiffs across the country.

Adam began his legal career with a defense-oriented practice split between appellate and trial level advocacy. At Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, Adam represented many local governments, as well as businesses and individuals, in both state and federal court, in a variety of commercial disputes and lawsuits involving complex constitutional and statutory issues. Prior to that, Adam practiced complex commercial litigation at White & Case.

Adam was raised in the Cuban-Jewish community in Miami Beach. He attended Brandeis University as a Justice Brandeis Scholar where he earned a Bachelor of Arts with highest honors and graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. Adam performed a year of national service in Washington, D.C. with City Year before attending the University of Pennsylvania Law School as a Levy Scholar. Adam was a Senior Editor of the University of Pennsylvania Law Review (which published his scholarship) and a member of the Penn Moot Court Board. Adam was President of the Penn Law student chapter of the American Constitution Society and was honored for his outstanding contributions to pro bono work on behalf of workers and children in Philadelphia.

Since 2015, Adam has served on the Board of Directors of Nu Deco Ensemble, Miami's 21st Century chamber orchestra, and is currently the corporate Secretary. Adam is the founder and Team Captain for Jewish Community Service's Miami Marathon and Half Marathon Team Blue Card, which since 2013 has raised over half a million dollars to support indigent Holocaust Survivors. Adam also sits on the Board of Directors of Temple Menorah in Miami Beach.

EDUCATION

Brandeis University, B.A., 2007

University of Pennsylvania Law School, 2011

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida Bar

Southern District of Florida

Middle District of Florida

Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals

Third Circuit Court of Appeals

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Rising Star, Super Lawyer Magazine, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

Miami Dade County Bar Association "40 Under 40" Award (2023)

Palm Beach Media Group Top Lawyers, 2023

PRIMARY PRACTICE

Class Action



GABRIEL MANDLER

PARTNER

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Gabriel Mandler is a Senior Associate at Edelsberg Law. His practice focuses on multi-state consumer class action litigation, representing clients in both state and federal courts at the trial and appellate levels.

Gabriel has experience litigating a broad range of class action disputes, including employment discrimination, insurance disputes and mass torts. Gabriel previously worked at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP, where he was part of a team in the remedial phase of a Title VII class action that recovered approximately \$2 billion for African American and Latino teachers who were discriminated against by New York City's Board of Education. Gabriel also has extensive experience handling complex commercial litigation disputes through trial.

A Miami native, Gabriel graduated magna cum laude from the University of Miami School of Law, where he was a member of the Business Law Review and Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board. During this time, Gabriel interned for the Honorable Jonathan Goodman, a United States Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Florida. Prior to law school, Gabriel earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism and Communications from the University of Florida.

EDUCATION

University of Miami Law School, J.D.
University of Florida, B.A.



RACHEL DAPEER

OF COUNSEL

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Rachel Dapeer's practice focuses on multi-state consumer class action litigation and complex commercial litigation. She handles a broad range of disputes involving insurance policies, fraudulent business practices, labeling claims, and other consumer matters.

Rachel is of-counsel at Edelsberg Law and manages her own law firm, Dapeer Law, P.A. where her litigation practice spans a variety of industries including real estate, automotive, banking and retail. Prior to joining Edelsberg law, Rachel was an Associate at Greenspoon Marder, LLP., where she represented businesses and individuals in a variety of disputes involving breach of contract, commercial transactions, fraud, business torts, deceptive and unfair trade practices, tax lien and real estate litigation.

Rachel attended undergraduate school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (B.S.B.A., 2007) and obtained a Juris Doctorate degree from Cardozo Law School (J.D., 2011). Before returning home to Miami, Rachel practiced in New York City at Windels, Marx, Lane & Mittendorf, LLP, representing lenders, financial institutions, and servicers with complex tax lien and mortgage foreclosure proceedings.

EDUCATION

Cardozo Law School, J.D. - 2011
University of North Carolina,
B.S., B.A. - 2007



EXHIBIT 4



SHAMIS & GENTILE, P.A.
CLASS ACTION LAW FIRM

Our Firm

Shamis & Gentile, P.A. has and continues to provide outstanding legal services in the Florida, New York, New Jersey, Texas, Georgia, Illinois, Ohio, Arizona, Missouri, and Washington communities. Shamis & Gentile, P.A. distinguishes itself because of our experience and legal resources to handle virtually any case involving class action, mass tort, mass arbitration, personal injury, personal injury protection, and contract disputes. Specifically, as it relates to class actions, Shamis & Gentile, P.A. has filed and litigated thousands of banking, insurance, data privacy, deceptive and unfair trade practice and product liability cases, often through contested class certification and even until trial. At Shamis & Gentile, P.A. our seasoned attorneys are some of the most innovative and progressive attorneys in the profession. Often, Shamis & Gentile, P.A. is called upon to litigate and settle cases that other law firms may not be able to handle on their own.

Shamis & Gentile, P.A. is committed to practicing law with the highest level of integrity in an ethical and professional manner. We are a diverse firm with lawyers and staff from all walks of life. Our lawyers and other employees are hired and promoted based on the quality of their work and their ability to treat others with respect and dignity.

Who We Are

Andrew Shamis is the managing partner at Shamis & Gentile, P.A. Mr. Shamis heads the class action and mass torts divisions of the firm, where his extensive experience in civil litigation has gained him the reputation of an attorney who can deliver where it matters the most, monetary results for his clients. Mr. Shamis has recovered over 1 billion dollars for consumers and plaintiffs throughout the country through his relentless, expertise, and calculated approach. Mr. Shamis is routinely certified class counsel and has successfully litigated over 10,000 civil cases in his young career.

Mr. Shamis is admitted to practice law in the states of Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Texas, and Washington as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Southern, Middle, and Northern Districts of Florida, Northern, Eastern, Western, and Southern Districts of New York, Northern, Southern, Central Districts of Illinois, Northern, Middle, and Southern Districts of Georgia, Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan, Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin, Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio, Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri, Eastern, Western, and Northern Districts of Oklahoma, Northern, Western, Eastern, and Southern Districts of Texas, Southern District of Indiana, U.S. District Court of Colorado, U.S. District Court of Connecticut, U.S. District Court of Arizona, and the U.S. District Court of Nebraska.

Mr. Shamis specializes in Consumer Protection Class Action Litigation, Mass Torts, Mass Arbitration, Personal Injury, Wrongful Death, as well as General Civil Litigation.

Angelica Gentile is a named partner at Shamis & Gentile P.A. Ms. Gentile heads the catastrophic injury, personal injury, and personal injury protection divisions of Shamis & Gentile, P.A. Ms. Gentile is recognized throughout the legal community as an extremely professional and efficient attorney. Ms. Gentile is admitted to practice law in both Florida and Texas and has extensive civil litigation experience, involving hundreds of depositions and motions throughout the state of Florida. Ms. Gentile not only prides herself in collecting millions of dollars in benefits owed to clients, but also in forging long lasting, successful relationships with clients.

Ms. Gentile specializes in Personal Injury, Personal Injury Protection, Class Action Litigation (TCPA, banking, insurance breach of contract, data breach, unfair and deceptive trade practices), Wrongful Death, Wrongful Termination, as well as General Civil Litigation.

Edwin Elliott is a partner at Shamis & Gentile, P.A. Mr. Elliott's practice involves all aspects of complex, high-level class action litigation. Mr. Elliott represents clients in federal and state courts across the nation in class actions involving consumer fraud, deceptive and unfair trade practices, false advertising, predatory financial services, digital privacy, and complex insurance disputes. Having prosecuted numerous class actions through all stages of the litigation process, Mr. Elliott's work has contributed to hundreds of millions in recoveries for consumers.

Leanna Loginov is a partner at Shamis & Gentile, P.A. and leads the firms' Data Privacy department. Ms. Loginov's practice primarily focuses on protecting individuals impacted by data breaches by ensuring their highly sensitive personal and health-related information is safeguarded. Ms. Loginov represents clients in federal and state courts across the nation. Ms. Loginov's work has helped consumers recover millions of dollars.

Our staff sets the standard on being innovative and technologically savvy. This innovation and use of fully customized cutting-edge case management software allows us to create an unparalleled level of customer service and attention to detail with our clients, which has led to an exceptional growth rate rarely seen in law firms.

Shamis & Gentile, P.A. has the resources, infrastructure and staff to successfully represent large putative classes. The attorneys and staff are not simply litigators, but directors of creating successful results with the ultimate level of satisfaction by the clients.

Class Actions

Shamis & Gentile, P.A. has initiated and served as both lead counsel and co-lead counsel in hundreds of class actions, many of which have generated internet articles. Currently, the firm serves as lead counsel or co-counsel on over 300 class action lawsuits. The lawsuits range from all Districts of Florida to the Central District of California. Shamis & Gentile, P.A. has also successfully settled many Class Action cases prior to verdict.

Prominent Class Action Settlements

Over the years, Shamis & Gentile attorneys have obtained outstanding results in some of the most well-known cases.

- *Andrews v. State Auto Mut. Ins. Co.*, No. 2:21-CV-5867 (S.D. Ohio 2023) (\$6,500,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Angell, et al. v. GEICO Advantage Insurance Company, et al.*, No. 4:20-CV-00799 (S.D. Tex. 2024) (\$33,000,000 Class Settlement)
- *Arevalo, et. al. v. USAA Casualty Insurance Company, et. al.*, No. 2020CI16240 (Bexar County, Texas 2023) (\$4,089,287.50 Class Settlement)
- *Albrecht v. Oasis Power, LLC*, No. 1:18-cv-1061 (N.D. Ill. 2018) (\$7,000,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Bobo v. Clover Network, LLC*, No. 2023CH000168 (DuPage County, Illinois 2024) (\$15,000,000 Class Settlement)
- *Brown v. Progressive Mountain Ins. Co.*, No. 3:21-cv-00175 (N.D. Ga. 2025) (\$43,000,000 Class Settlement)
- *Bruin, et al. v. Bank of America, N.A.*, Case No. 1:21-cv-02272 (S.D. NY 2024) (\$8,000,000 Class Settlement)
- *Davis, et. al. v. Geico Casualty Company, et. al.*, No. 19-cv-02477 (S.D. Ohio 2023) (\$5,756,500.00 Class Settlement)
- *DeFranks v. Nastygal.com USA Inc.*, No. 19-cv-23028-DPG (S.D. Fla. 2019) (\$4,025,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Dipuglia v. US Coachways, Inc.*, No. 17-23006-Civ, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 72551 (S.D. Fla. 2018) (\$2,600,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Eisenband v. Schumacher Automotive, Inc.*, No. 18-cv-01061 (S.D. Fla 2018) (\$5,000,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Gottlieb v. Citgo Corporation*, No. 16-cv-81911 (S.D. Fla. 2016) (\$8,300,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *In re: GEICO General Insurance Co.*, No. 4:19-cv-03768 (N.D. Cal. 2022) (\$19,500,000 Class Settlement)
- *Jacques, et. al. v. Security National Insurance Company*, No. CACE-19-002236 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct.) (\$6,000,000.00 Class Settlement)

- *Jones v. Washington State Employee's Credit Union*, No. 20-2-06596-5 (Superior Court of the State of Washington, County of Pierce) (\$2,400,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Johnson, et al. v. American Family Insurance Company, et al.*, No. 24SL-CC00378 (St. Louis County, Missouri 2024) (\$22,000,000 Class Settlement)
- *McPheeters v. United Services Automobile Association and Garrison Property and Casualty Ins. Co.*, No. 1:20-CV-00414-TSB (S.D. Ohio 2022) (\$10,250,00.00 Class Settlement)
- *Middleton v. Liberty Mut. Ins. Co.*, No. 1:20-cv-00668-DRC (S.D. Ohio 2023) (\$14,404,00.00 Class Settlement)
- *Hinds-Thomas et al. v. LM General Insurance Company et al.*, No. 22SL-CC04131 (Circuit Court of St. Louis County, MO) (\$8,669,083.00 Class Settlement)
- *Ostendorf v. Grange Indem. Ins. Co.*, No. 2:19-CV-1147 (S.D. Ohio 2020) (\$12,000,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Papa v. Greico Ford Fort Lauderdale, LLC*, No. 1:18-cv-21897 (S.D. Fla. 2018) (\$4,800,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Pena v. John C. Heath, Attorney at Law, PLLC, d/b/a Lexington Law Firm*, No. 18-cv-24407-UU (S.D. Fla. 2018) (\$11,450,863.00 Class Settlement)
- *Petit Beau, et. al., v. Ocean Harbor Casualty Insurance Company*, No. CACE-18-029268 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct.) (\$4,500,000.000 Class Settlement)
- *Sellers, et al. v. Bleacher Report, Inc.*, No. 2024-003537-CA-01 (Miami-Dade County, Florida 2024) (\$4,800,000 Class Settlement)
- *Soto-Melendez v. Banco Popular de Puerto Rico*, No. 3:20-cv-01057 (D.P.R. 2023) (\$5,500,00.00 Class Settlement)
- *South, et. al. v. Progressive Select Insurance Company, et. al.*, No. 19-cv-21760 (S.D. Fla. 2023) (\$48,800,000.00 Class Settlement)
- *Volino v. Progressive Casualty Ins. Co.*, No. 1:21-cv-06243 (S.D.N.Y. 2025) (\$48,000,000 Class Settlement)

More About Shamis & Gentile, P.A.

To learn more about our firm, please visit www.shamisgentile.com, or view links to our blogs at <https://www.sflinjuryattorneys.com/blog/>.