

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

PETRINA SMITH et al.,

and

DREXEL ANDERSON et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE UNITED STATES,

Defendant.

Nos. 19-1348C; 20-1878C
(Filed: January 10, 2023)

ORDER

On January 10, 2023, the Court held a joint status conference to discuss appointment of a collective action administrator, the parties' revised proposed legal notice, and a schedule for future proceedings. *See also* Jan. 3, 2023 Joint Status Rep., ECF No. 80. Consistent with the parties' consent at the conference, the Court **APPROVES** Plaintiffs' proposed class administrator, **APPROVES** the attached "Legal Notice of Collective Action and Opportunity to Join," and **APPROVES** a schedule for future proceedings in this matter.

I. Appointment of Class Administrator

Plaintiffs propose CPT Group, Inc. as the third-party administrator for issuance of notice. Currently, there are 48 opt-in plaintiffs between the consolidated cases, with approximately 350 additional Assistant Canteen Chiefs potentially eligible to opt-in to the collective action. The Government agrees with appointment of an administrator and does not object to Plaintiffs' proposal. Accordingly, CPT Group, Inc. is approved as the collective action administrator. The parties are requested to file with chambers a detailed summary of the firm's experience.

II. Legal Notice

The Court may "supervise the collective action notice process through approval of the notice and notice procedures." Nov. 19, 2021 Order, ECF No. 35 (citing *Hoffman-La Roche Inc. v. Sperling*, 493 U.S. 165, 170–71 (1989)). Following consolidation, the parties jointly submitted a revised "Legal Notice of Collective Action and Opportunity to Join" reflecting the matter's expanded scope and consolidation. *See* Jan. 3, 2023 Joint Status Rep. Exs. A, B. The proposed legal notice is substantively identical to the legal notice previously approved in this matter. *See* Nov. 19, 2021 Order (approving legal notice); Legal Notice, ECF No. 35-1.

Accordingly, the attached revised legal notice is approved, with appropriate contact information for the administrator and applicable dates.

III. Schedule

Pursuant to the parties' agreement at the joint status conference, the Court approves the following schedule:

Event	Date
Defendant will produce the last known mail and email addresses for all ACCs who worked for VCS during the relevant period from December 2, 2019 to the present	January 16, 2023
Plaintiffs' deadline to file a consolidated complaint	January 20, 2023
Defendant will respond to Plaintiffs' consolidated complaint	February 3, 2023
Administrator will issue the notice via United States Mail and e-mail, and Plaintiffs will file notice with the Court advising of the date of notice issuance.	Within 21-days after Defendant provides collective action member contact information
The parties will submit a joint scheduling report with dates for a discovery plan and settlement conference	14-days after the close of the plaintiff opt-in period

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/ Carolyn N. Lerner
CAROLYN N. LERNER
Judge