

FILED
 Clerk
 District Court

NOV 08 2021

for the Northern Mariana Islands
 By _____
 (Deputy Clerk)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BETTY JOHNSON, on behalf of herself, and as
 a representative of a class of similarly-situated
 persons,

Plaintiffs,

v.

RALPH DELEON GUERRERO TORRES,
 Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern
 Mariana Islands (“CNMI”), *et al.*,

Defendants.

CIVIL CASE NO. 09-00023

ORDER

re Payment of Trustee’s Invoices
 (January 2021- August 2021)

On September 25, 2013, the court appointed Civile and Tang, PLLC, acting by and through its principal representative Joyce C.H. Tang, as the Trustee for the Settlement Fund. *See* Order re Appointment of Trustee, ECF No. 526. Pursuant to the terms of the appointment, the Trustee now requests compensation for work performed and expenses incurred during the months of January 2021 through August 2021. The Trustee’s invoices are summarized as follows:

Date of Invoice	Invoice No.	Professional Services	Expenses	BGRT	Total
Feb. 10, 2021	49900	\$3,872.50	\$3.50	\$96.81	\$3,972.81
Mar. 11, 2021	50159	\$8,902.50	\$74.63	\$222.56	\$9,199.69
April 8, 2021	50419	\$8,462.50	\$80.60	\$211.56	\$8,754.66
May 14, 2021	50683	1317.5.50		\$32.94	\$1,350.44
June 10, 2021	50932	\$5,292.50	\$25.58	\$132.31	\$5,450.39
July 13, 2021	51177	\$2,012.50		\$50.32	\$2,062.82

Aug. 12, 2021	51420	\$2,792.50		\$69.82	\$2,862.32
Sept. 13, 2021	51670	\$1,605.00		\$40.13	\$1,645.13
TOTAL		\$34,257.50	\$184.31	\$856.45	\$35,298.26

Attached to this Order as Exhibits 1 through 8 are unredacted versions of these invoices, while the redacted¹ versions of the invoices are appended as Exhibits A through H. The court orders the Clerk of Court to file Exhibits 1 through 8 under seal.

The court has reviewed these invoices and finds the request for compensation and reimbursement of expenses to be reasonable. The court is satisfied with the work performed by the Trustee during this time frame. Therefore, pursuant to the terms of the Order re Appointment of Trustee, the court orders the Settlement Fund to pay the Trustee the sum of **Thirty-One Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars and Fifty-One Cents (\$31,872.51)**. This amount represents ninety percent (90%) of the Trustee's professional fees and all expenses and gros receipts taxes incurred during the months of January 2021 through August 2021 (invoices dated February 2021 to September 2021).

The court further orders the Settlement Fund to hold in trust to the credit of the Trustee the sum of **Three Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars and Seventy-five Cents (\$3,425.75)**, which represents ten percent (10%) of the Trustee's professional fees for this time period. The Trustee may petition for release of this 10% retainer on a quarterly basis, subject to the court's satisfaction of the Trustee's work and any objections to the Trustee's compensation requests. *See* Order of Appointment of Trustee at 6, ECF No. 526. Objections to the Trustee's request for remuneration may be made within ten (10) days of this Order by the Plaintiff, Class Counsel and counsel for the CNMI Government. *Id.*

Finally, the Trustee petitions for release of the 10% retainer withheld from its invoices for services rendered during the months of August 2020 through December 2020. *See* Order re Payment of Trustee's Invoices, ECF No. 806. There being no objection to said invoices and the

¹ The Trustee has redacted from the invoices personal identifiers and information that may affect pending litigation and the research of other confidential issues.

1 court being satisfied with the Trustee's work, the court orders the Settlement Fund to pay the
2 Trustee the additional sum of **Four Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$4,425.00)**.

3 IT IS SO ORDERED.



/s/ **Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood**
Designated Judge
Dated: Nov 08, 2021