

FILED
Clerk
District Court

JUN 10 2019

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 to May 2019)

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 December 2018 through April 2019. The Trustee’s invoices are summarized as follows:

Month of Invoice	Invoice No.	Professional Fees	Expenses	Total
January 2019	42562	\$1,497.50		\$1,497.50
February 2019	39063	\$3,655.00		\$3,655.00
March 2019	42439	\$4,827.50		\$4,827.50
April 2019	42780	\$5,912.50	\$238.89	\$6,151.39
May 2019	43117	\$3,412.50	\$19.84	\$3,432.34
TOTAL		\$19,305.00	\$258.73	\$19,563.73

1 Attached to this Order as Exhibits 1 through 5 are unredacted versions of these invoices,
2 while the redacted¹ versions of the invoices are appended as Exhibits A through E. The court orders
3 the Clerk of Court to file Exhibits 1 through 5 under seal.

4 The court has reviewed these invoices and finds the request for compensation and
5 reimbursement of expenses to be reasonable. The court is satisfied with the work performed by the
6 Trustee during this time frame. Accordingly, pursuant to the terms of the Order re Appointment
7 of Trustee, the court hereby orders the Settlement Fund to pay the Trustee the sum of **Seventeen**
8 **Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars and Twenty-Three Cents (\$17,633.23)**. This
9 amount represents ninety percent (90%) of the Trustee's professional fees and all expenses incurred
10 during the months of December 2018 through April 2019 (invoices dated January 2019 to
11 May 2019).

12 The court further orders the Settlement Fund to hold in trust to the credit of the Trustee the
13 sum of **One Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$1,930.50)**, which
14 represents ten percent (10%) of the Trustee's professional fees for this time period. The Trustee
15 may petition for release of this 10% retainer on a quarterly basis, subject to the court's satisfaction
16 of the Trustee's work and any objections to the Trustee's compensation requests. *See* Order of
17 Appointment of Trustee at 6, ECF No. 526. Objections to the Trustee's request for remuneration
18 may be made within ten (10) days of this Order by the Plaintiff, Class Counsel and counsel for the
19 CNMI Government. *Id.*

20 Furthermore, the Trustee also petitions for release of the 10% retainer withheld from its
21 invoices for services rendered and expenses incurred during the months of April 2018 to
22 November 2018. *See* Order re Payment of Trustee's Invoices, ECF No. 776. There being no
23 objection to said invoices and the court being satisfied with the Trustee's work, the court orders the
24 Settlement Fund to pay the Trustee the additional sum of **Five Thousand Five Hundred Thirty**
25 **Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$5,530.50)**.

26 IT IS SO ORDERED.



27 /s/ Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood
28 Designated Judge
Dated: Jun 10, 2019

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