

FILED
 Clerk
 District Court
 SEP 02 2020

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
 (December 2019 to July 2020)

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 November 2019 to July 2020. The Trustee’s invoices are summarized as follows:

Date of Invoice	Invoice No.	Professional Services	Expenses	BGRT	Total
Dec. 7, 2019	45320	\$7,232.50	\$366.74	\$180.81	\$7,780.05
Jan. 8, 2020	45815	\$3,655.00	\$18.34	\$91.38	\$3,764.72
Feb. 10, 2020	46189	\$1,847.50		\$46.19	\$1,893.69
Mar. 10, 2020	47706	\$2,350.00		\$58.75	\$2,408.75
Apr. 7, 2020	47707	\$5,822.50		\$145.56	\$5,968.06
May 12, 2020	47708	\$17,542.50	\$456.03	\$438.56	\$18,437.09

June 8, 2020	47709	\$31,482.50	\$1,139.09	\$787.06	\$33,408.65
July 14, 2020	47925	\$22,430.00	\$329.39	\$560.75	\$23,320.14
July 31, 2020	48045	\$22,860.00		\$571.50	\$23,431.50
TOTAL		\$115,222.50	\$2,309.59	\$2,880.56	\$120,412.65

Attached to this Order as Exhibits 1 through 9 are unredacted versions of these invoices, while the redacted¹ versions of the invoices are appended as Exhibits A through I. The court orders the Clerk of Court to file Exhibits 1 through 9 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. Accordingly, pursuant to the terms of the Order re Appointment of Trustee, the court hereby orders the Settlement Fund to pay the Trustee the sum of **One Hundred Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Dollars and Forty Cents (\$108,890.40)**. This amount represents ninety percent (90%) of the Trustee's professional fees and all expenses incurred during the months of November 2019 through July 2020 (invoices dated December 2019 to July 2020).

The court further orders the Settlement Fund to hold in trust to the credit of the Trustee the sum of **Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Two Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents (\$11,522.25)**, 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.*

Furthermore, the Trustee also petitions for release of the 10% retainer withheld from its invoices for services rendered during the months of May 2019 through October 2019. *See* Order re Payment of Trustee's Invoices, ECF No. 793. 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 **Seven Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars and**
3 **Fifty Cents (\$7,397.50).**

4 IT IS SO ORDERED.



5 /s/ Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood
6 Chief Judge
7 Dated: Sep 02, 2020
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