

AUG 30 2023

SHANA GUDGEL and CRAIG WOOLARD,
on behalf of themselves and all others similarly
situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

REYNOLDS CONSUMER PRODUCTS,
INC. and REYNOLDS CONSUMER
PRODUCTS, LLC,

Defendant.

Case No. 23LA00000486

Eric Courtney Weinstein
CIRCUIT CLERK

PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER

This matter having come before the Court on Plaintiffs' unopposed motion for preliminary Approval of class action settlement, the Court having reviewed and considered the motion, the supporting memorandum of law and attached exhibits, including the class action Settlement Agreement and its attachments, and the Court being fully advised,

IT IS ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. All capitalized terms have the same meaning as capitalized terms in the Settlement Agreement.
2. Plaintiffs bring this action as a class action pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-801.
3. The Court finds, on a preliminary basis, that the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate.
4. For settlement purposes, the Court grants preliminary approval to this class action pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-801.
5. The Settlement Agreement was negotiated at arm's-length between counsel for the Parties who are experienced in class action litigation.
6. The Court finds, on a preliminary basis, that Settlement Class Counsel has adequately represented the proposed Settlement Class Members, which are defined as follows:

All persons in the United States who purchased Hefty Recycling Bags or Great Value Recycling Bags during the Class Period within the United States (the "Class"). Excluded from the Classes are persons who made such purchases for purpose of resale, all Court personnel involved in the handling of this case, Defendants, their respective officers, directors and employees, and any entity that has a controlling interest in Defendants.

7. The Court finds that distribution of notice to the proposed Settlement Class Members is justified because Plaintiffs have shown that the Court will likely be able to (i) approve the Settlement under 735 ILCS 5/2-801 and (ii) certify the proposed class for purposes of settlement.
8. For settlement purposes, the Court appoints Shana Gudgel and Craig Woolard as the Settlement Class Representatives.
9. For settlement purposes, the Court appoints as Settlement Class Counsel: Michael Reese of Reese LLP and William Wright of The Wright Law Office, P.A.
10. The Court appoints Epiq Class Action & Claims Solutions, Inc. as the Claims Administrator to perform all duties described in the Settlement Agreement and ordered by this Court.
11. The Court finds that distribution of the proposed notice of the class action Settlement with a digital/internet notice program (digital notice and social media) is the best practicable means of providing notice under the circumstances and, when completed, shall constitute due and sufficient notice of the proposed Settlement and the Final Approval Hearing to all persons affected by or entitled to participate in the Settlement, in full compliance with the notice requirements of 735 ILCS 5/2-801, due process, the Constitution of the United States, and other applicable laws. The proposed notice is accurate, objective, and informative. It provides Settlement Class Members with all of the information necessary to evaluate the fairness of the Settlement and to make an informed decision regarding whether to participate in the Settlement.

12. Any Settlement Class Member may request to be excluded from the Settlement by submitting a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator as described in the Notice at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the initially scheduled Final Approval Hearing.
13. Any Settlement Class Member who excludes himself or herself from the Settlement will not be entitled to any recovery under the Settlement and will not be bound by the Settlement or have any right to object, appeal, or comment on it.
14. Any Settlement Class Member who does not request to be excluded from the Settlement may object to the Settlement by submitting a written statement to the Settlement Administrator as described in the Notice at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the initially scheduled Final Approval Hearing.
15. Class Counsel shall file a motion for attorney fees, litigation costs, settlement administration costs, and the Class Representative's Service Award ("Fee Petition") within fourteen (14) days prior to the objection deadline. The Claims Administrator shall post the Fee petition on the Settlement website.
16. Class Counsel shall file a motion for final approval of the Settlement within fourteen (14) days prior to the final hearing. The motion for final approval shall include any objections submitted and identify any Class Members who have requested to be excluded from the Settlement.
17. The Court schedules a Final Approval Hearing for November 15, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. to consider, among other things, (1) whether to approve the Settlement; (2) whether to approve Class Counsel's request for attorney fees and litigation costs; (3) whether to approve the Claims Administrator's costs; and (4) whether to approve the Class Representatives' request for Service Awards. Settlement Class Members may, but are not required to, appear at the Final Approval Hearing and request to speak in favor or against the Settlement. Prior to the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will inform the Parties whether the Final Approval Hearing will take place by phone or in Court. Within seven days of the Final Approval Hearing, Class Counsel shall ensure the Settlement Administrator posts the Final Approval Hearing details on the Settlement website.

18. The Final Approval Hearing may be postponed, adjourned, transferred, or continued by order of the Court without further notice to Settlement Class Members. At or following the Final Approval Hearing, the Court may enter a final judgment approving the Settlement and entering a Final Approval Order in accordance with the Settlement that adjudicates the rights of all Settlement Class Members.

Dated:

Entered:



Joseph V. Salvi

Judge Joseph V. Salvi
Circuit Judge