

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

ERIC SHAPIRO, Individually and on
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ALLIANCE MMA, INC., PAUL K.
DANNER, III, and JOHN PRICE

Defendants.

Case No.: 1:17-cv-02583-RBK-AMD

**STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT
OF SETTLEMENT**

Hon. Robert B. Kugler

This Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (the “Stipulation”) dated March 26, 2018, is hereby submitted to the Court pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Subject to the approval of the Court, this Stipulation is entered into among (i) Lead Plaintiffs Daniel Ciccarelli, Michael Desantis, Michael Malcolm, Thomas Bendheim and Anthony Shenk (the “Lead Plaintiffs”), on behalf of themselves and the putative Settlement Class (collectively, “Plaintiffs”); and (ii) Alliance MMA, Inc. (“Alliance”), Paul K. Danner, III (“Danner”), John Price (“Price”); and Network 1 Financial Securities, Inc. (“Network 1”) (collectively, the “Defendants”), by and through their respective counsel.

1. WHEREAS, a class action complaint styled *Shapiro v. Alliance MMA, Inc., et al.*, No. 1:17-cv-02583-RBK-AMD, alleging violations of federal securities laws by Alliance, Danner, and Price was filed in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey (the “Court”) on April 17, 2017;

2. WHEREAS, by Order dated November 30, 2017 the Court appointed Daniel Ciccarelli, Michael Desantis, Michael Malcolm, Thomas Bendheim and Anthony Shenk as Lead Plaintiffs and approved their selection of The Rosen Law Firm, P.A. as Lead Counsel;

3. WHEREAS, on January 16, 2018, Lead Plaintiffs filed the Amended Class Action Complaint (“Complaint”) alleging violations of Section 11, Section 12(a)(2), and Section 15 of the Securities Act of 1933 (the “Securities Act”) against Alliance, Danner, Price, and Network 1 (Dkt. No. 33);

4. WHEREAS, on March 2, 2018, Defendants filed motions to dismiss the Complaint (Dkt. Nos. 48, 49);

5. WHEREAS, on March 8, 2018, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants participated in a mediation conference;

6. WHEREAS, Defendants have denied and continue to deny each and all of the claims alleged by Plaintiffs in the above-captioned action (the “Litigation”); have expressly denied and continue to deny all charges of wrongdoing or liability against it arising out of any of the conduct, statements, acts, or omissions alleged, or that could have been alleged, in this litigation; have denied and continue to deny, among other allegations, the allegations that Plaintiffs have suffered any damage as a result of actions alleged in the Complaint;

7. WHEREAS, in recognition of the attendant risks and costs of continued litigation and the benefits of resolving this litigation, the parties hereto desire to settle and resolve any and all actual or potential claims by, between, or among Plaintiffs, on the one hand, and Defendants, on the other hand, arising out

of or relating to the subject matter of the Litigation, which includes all allegations by Plaintiffs in the Complaint. This Stipulation shall in no event be construed as, or be deemed to be evidence of, an admission or concession on the part of Defendants with respect to any actual or potential claim, liability, wrongdoing, or damage whatsoever, or any infirmity in the defenses that were or could have been asserted on behalf of Defendants. Defendants hereby deny any wrongdoing whatsoever. This Stipulation also shall not be construed as or be deemed to be a concession by the Lead Plaintiffs of any infirmity in the claims asserted in the Litigation. The parties to this Stipulation (the “Settling Parties”) wish to settle and compromise any dispute regarding the Litigation or its subject matter, including but not limited to whether the Litigation was filed by the Lead Plaintiffs and defended by Defendants in good faith and with adequate basis in fact under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The Settling Parties agree that the Litigation is being voluntarily settled after advice of counsel and that the terms of the Settlement (as defined below) are fair, adequate, and reasonable;

8. WHEREAS, Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel has conducted an investigation relating to the claims and the underlying events and transactions alleged in the Litigation. Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel has analyzed the facts and the applicable law with respect to the claims of the Lead Plaintiffs and the potential defenses thereto,

which in the Lead Plaintiffs' judgment have provided an adequate and satisfactory basis for the evaluation of an agreement to settle, as described herein;

9. WHEREAS, counsel for the Lead Plaintiffs and counsel for Defendants participated in a mediation conference with an experienced mediator, Hon. Faith Hochberg (ret.), on March 8, 2018. At the mediation, the participants engaged in extensive arm's-length negotiations with each other, such negotiations bearing fruit in this Stipulation;

10. WHEREAS, based upon the investigation conducted by Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel, Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel has concluded that the terms and conditions of this Stipulation are fair, reasonable, and adequate to Plaintiffs, and in their best interests, and Lead Plaintiffs have agreed to settle the claims asserted in the Litigation pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Stipulation, after considering: (a) the substantial benefits that Plaintiffs will receive from settlement of the Litigation; (b) the attendant risks of litigation; and (c) the desirability of permitting the Settlement to be consummated as provided by the terms of this Stipulation;

11. AND WHEREAS, Defendants conditionally stipulate, for the limited purposes of this Stipulation and the creation of a settlement class, that the Litigation shall be certified for class treatment under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules

of Civil Procedure and that the stipulated settlement class consists of Settlement Class Members, as defined below. This conditional stipulation as to the creation of a settlement class is contingent upon the execution of this Stipulation by the Settling Parties and its final approval by the Court. If this Stipulation is for any reason not finally approved, or is otherwise terminated, Defendants reserve any and all available objections and defenses to certification of any class;

12. NOW THEREFORE, without any admission or concession on the part of the Lead Plaintiffs of any lack of merit in the Litigation whatsoever, and without any admission or concession on the part of Defendants of any liability, wrongdoing, or lack of merit in the defenses asserted in the Litigation whatsoever, it is hereby STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and among the Settling Parties, through their respective attorneys, subject to approval of the Court pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, in consideration of the benefits flowing to the Settling Parties from the Settlement, that any and all claims made, or that could have been made, including all Settled Claims (as defined below), by Plaintiffs against the Released Parties (as defined below) shall be compromised, settled, released, and dismissed with prejudice as provided in this Stipulation, to the extent as hereafter provided, without costs as to Plaintiffs or Defendants,

subject to the approval of the Court, upon and subject to the following terms and conditions:

A. CERTAIN DEFINITIONS

As used in this Stipulation, the following terms have the meanings specified below:

1. “Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses” means the portion of the Gross Settlement Fund approved by the Court for payment to Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel, including attorneys’ fees, costs, litigation expenses, and fees and expenses of experts (excluding Notice and Administration Expenses).
2. “Authorized Claimant” means any Claimant (as defined below) whose claim for recovery has been allowed pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation or by order of the Court.
3. “Award to Lead Plaintiffs” means any award by the Court to Lead Plaintiffs of reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly relating to the representation of the Settlement Class pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4(a)(4).
4. “Claimant” means any Settlement Class Member who files a Proof of Claim and Release (as defined below) in such form and manner, and within such time, as set forth in this Stipulation, or as the Court shall prescribe.

5. “Claims Administrator” means the accounting and claims administration firm, Strategic Claims Services, that Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel requests be appointed by the Court to administer the Settlement and disseminate notice to the Settlement Class.

6. “Court” means the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.

7. “Defendants” means Alliance MMA, Inc., Paul K. Danner, III, John Price, and Network 1 Financial Securities, Inc.

8. “Effective Date” means the date on which all of the conditions set forth below in paragraph K.1. shall have been satisfied and the Court’s Order and Final Judgment (as defined below), substantially in the form of Exhibit B hereto, becomes “Final.” The Court’s Order and Final Judgment shall be deemed to be “Final” when either of the following has occurred: (a) if an appeal or review is not sought by any person from the Order and Final Judgment, the day following the expiration of the time to appeal or petition from the Order and Final Judgment; or (b) if an appeal or review is sought from the Order and Final Judgment, the day after such Order and Final Judgment is affirmed or the appeal or review is dismissed or denied and such Order and Final Judgment is no longer subject to further judicial review.

9. “Escrow Account” means the account selected by the Escrow Agent. The Escrow Account shall be managed by the Escrow Agent for the benefit of Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class until the Effective Date of the Settlement.

10. “Escrow Agent” means Strategic Claims Services or its appointed agents.

11. “Gross Settlement Fund” means the Settlement Amount plus any interest earned thereon.

12. “Lead Plaintiffs” means Daniel Ciccarelli, Michael Desantis, Michael Malcolm, Thomas Bendheim and Anthony Shenk.

13. “Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel” means The Rosen Law Firm, P.A.

14. “Net Settlement Fund” means the Gross Settlement Fund, less: (a) Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses; (b) Notice and Administration Expenses; (c) taxes; (d) any Award to Lead Plaintiffs; and (e) other fees and expenses authorized by the Court.

15. “Notice and Administration Account” means the account to be established from the Gross Settlement Fund and maintained by Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel. The Notice and Administration Account may be drawn upon by Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel for Notice and Administration Expenses without further order of the Court.

16. “Notice and Administration Expenses” means all expenses incurred (whether or not paid) in connection with the preparation, printing, mailing, and publication of the Notice to the Settlement Class of the proposed settlement, and all expenses of Settlement administration; provided, however, that none of these expenses shall be deemed to include Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses through the Effective Date. All such Notice and Administration Expenses shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Fund.

17. “Order and Final Judgment” means the order and judgment entered by the Court, including a bar order, approving the Settlement and dismissing the Litigation as against the Defendants with prejudice and without costs to any party.

18. “Person” means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company or partnership, limited partnership, professional corporation, association, affiliate, joint stock company, trust, estate, unincorporated association, government, or any political subdivision or agency thereof, any other type of legal or political entity, any legal representative, and, as applicable, his, her, or its respective spouses, heirs, predecessors, successors, representatives, and assigns.

19. “Plaintiffs” means the Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class.

20. “Plan of Allocation” means the plan for allocating the Net Settlement Fund (as set forth in the Notice of Pendency and Settlement of Class Action (the

“Notice”), attached as Exhibit A-1 to the Order of Preliminary Approval of Settlement (“Preliminary Approval Order”) to Authorized Claimants after payment of Notice and Administration Expenses, Taxes and Tax Expenses (as defined below), and Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses. Any Plan of Allocation is not part of the Stipulation, and the Released Parties (as defined below) shall have no liability with respect thereto.

21. “Released Parties” means all Defendants in this Litigation and all entities owned, affiliated with or controlled by them, their parents, subsidiaries, divisions, joint ventures, all current and former Alliance directors, officers, and employees, and each of their and Defendants’ respective agents, employees, members, consultants, insurers, attorneys, advisors, successors, heirs, assigns, executors, personal representatives, spouses, and immediate family members, or any trust of which any Defendant is the settlor or which is for the benefit of any Defendant or member(s) of his or her family.

22. “Settled Claims” means any and all claims, debts, demands, liabilities, rights, and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever (including, but not limited to, any claims for damages, interest, attorneys’ fees, expert or consulting fees, and any other costs, expenses, or liabilities whatsoever), whether based on federal, state, local, statutory or common law, or any other law, rule, or

regulation, whether fixed or contingent, accrued or unaccrued, liquidated or unliquidated, at law or in equity, matured or unmatured, whether class or individual in nature, including both known claims and Unknown Claims (as defined below): (a) that have been or could have been asserted in the Litigation by the Lead Plaintiffs and/or Settlement Class Members or any of them against any of the Released Parties, including, without limitation, any claims relating to any statements made by any of the Defendants that Plaintiffs allege or could have alleged in the Litigation were false or misleading, or any of the alleged acts, omissions, representations, facts, events, matters, transactions, or occurrences asserted in or relating to the Litigation, or otherwise alleged, asserted, or contended in the Litigation; or (b) that relate to the purchase of Alliance common stock or common stock of Alliance's respective businesses, affiliates, subsidiaries, parents and affiliated corporations, divisions, predecessors, shareholders, partners, joint venturers, or principals, including, without limitation, claims for fraud, negligent misrepresentation, or claims based upon or related in any way to the purchase, acquisition, or sale of Alliance common stock from Alliance's Initial Public Offering ("IPO") and during the period from October 6, 2016 through and including April 12, 2017 (the "Class Period")¹ by the Lead Plaintiffs or any

¹ The "Class Period" shall include the IPO and the period between October 6, 2016

Settlement Class Member, on behalf of themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns against the Released Parties or any of them.

Settled Claims also include any and all claims arising out of, relating to, or in connection with the Settlement or resolution of the Litigation against the Released Parties (including Unknown Claims, as defined below, that arise out of, relate to, or are in connection with the Settlement or resolution of the Litigation against the Released Parties), except claims to enforce any of the terms of this Stipulation.

23. “Settled Defendants’ Claims” means all claims, demands, rights, remedies, liabilities, and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, whether based on federal, state, local, statutory, or common law, or any other law, rule, or regulation, including both known and Unknown Claims, that (a) have been or could have been asserted in the Litigation by Defendants or their successors and assigns, against any of the Lead Plaintiffs, Settlement Class Members, or any of their attorneys, and (b) arise out of or relate in any way to the institution, prosecution, or Settlement of this Litigation or the Settled Claims, including but not limited to all claims for malicious prosecution or sanctions. “Settled Defendants’ Claims” does not include claims to enforce any of the terms of this Stipulation or of the Order and Final Judgment.

and April 12, 2017, both dates inclusive.

24. “Settlement Class” and “Settlement Class Members” mean, for purposes of this Settlement, all persons and entities that purchased or otherwise acquired Alliance common stock in Alliance’s IPO, or purchased Alliance common stock thereafter in the stock market pursuant and/or traceable to Alliance’s registration statement and prospectus issued in connection with the IPO during the period between October 6, 2016 and April 12, 2017. Excluded from the Settlement Class are Defendants, all current and former directors of Alliance, and any family member, trust, entity, or affiliate controlled or owned by any of the excluded persons or entities referenced above. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are those persons who file valid and timely requests for exclusion in accordance with the Court’s Order of Preliminary Approval of Settlement (“Preliminary Approval Order”).

25. “Settlement Class Distribution Order” means the order entered by the Court, upon application of Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel following the occurrence of the events identified in paragraph D.13. below, which authorizes the Claims Administrator to distribute the Net Settlement Fund to the Settlement Class.

26. “Settlement Class Period” means Alliance’s IPO and the period from October 6, 2016 to April 12, 2017, both dates inclusive.

27. “Settlement” means the settlement contemplated by this Stipulation.

28. “Settlement Amount” means a fund in the amount of \$1,550,000 (One Million Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars).

29. “Settlement Hearing” means the final hearing to be held by the Court to determine: (a) whether the proposed Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate; (b) whether all Settled Claims should be dismissed with prejudice; (c) whether an order approving the Settlement should be entered thereon; (d) whether the allocation of the Settlement Fund should be approved; and (e) whether the application for an award of Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses and an Award to Lead Plaintiffs should be approved.

30. “Unknown Claims” means (a) any Settled Claim that the Lead Plaintiffs or any Settlement Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Parties, which if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to the Settlement, including, but not limited to, the decision not to object to the Settlement, provided such claim arises out of or relates to the purchase or sale of Alliance common stock, and (b) any Settled Defendants’ Claims that any Settled Defendant does not know or expect to exist in its or his favor, which if known by it or him might have affected its or his decision with respect to the Settlement. With respect to any and all Settled Claims and Settled Defendants’ Claims, the Settling

Parties stipulate and agree that upon the Effective Date, the Settling Parties shall expressly waive, and each of the Settlement Class Members shall be deemed to have waived and by operation of the Order and Final Judgment shall have waived, any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law that is similar, comparable, or equivalent to Cal. Civ. Code § 1542, which provides: “A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him or her must have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor.”

B. SCOPE AND EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT AND RELEASES

1. The obligations incurred pursuant to this Stipulation shall be in full and final disposition of any and all Settled Claims as against all Released Parties and any and all Settled Defendants’ Claims as against the Lead Plaintiffs, the Settlement Class Members, and their attorneys.

2. Pursuant to the Order and Final Judgment, upon the Effective Date of this Settlement, the Settlement Class Members on behalf of themselves, their current and future heirs, executors, administrators, successors, attorneys, insurers, agents, representatives, and assigns, and any person they represent, shall, with respect to each and every Settled Claim, release and forever relinquish and

discharge, and shall forever be enjoined from prosecuting, all Settled Claims and any and all claims arising out of, relating to, or in connection with the Settlement, or the resolution of the Litigation as against the Released Parties, whether or not such Settlement Class Member executes and delivers the Proof of Claim and Release, except claims to enforce any of the terms of this Stipulation. Further, all Settlement Class Members on behalf of themselves, their current and future heirs, executors, administrators, successors, attorneys, insurers, agents, representatives, and assigns, expressly covenant not to assert, or suggest or assist in the assertion of instituting, prosecuting or commencing any such claim or action against any of the Released Parties that: (a) arises out of or relates to the purchase or sale of Alliance common stock, or (b) that could have been alleged, asserted, or contended in any forum by the Settlement Class Members or any of them against any of the Released Parties; arising out of or relating to the purchase or sale of Alliance common stock or the resolution of the Litigation against the Released Parties, and shall forever be enjoined from commencing, instituting, prosecuting or continuing to prosecute any such claim, so long as such claim relates to the purchase or sale of Alliance common stock.

3. The Proof of Claim and Release to be executed by the Settlement Class Members shall be substantially in the form and content contained in Exhibit A-3 to the Preliminary Approval Order attached hereto as Exhibit A.

4. Pursuant to the Order and Final Judgment, upon the Effective Date of this Settlement, Defendants shall release and forever discharge each and every one of the Settled Defendants' Claims, and shall forever be enjoined from prosecuting the Settled Defendants' Claims as against any of the Lead Plaintiffs, Settlement Class Members, or their attorneys, including but not limited to claims for malicious prosecution or sanctions.

C. THE SETTLEMENT CONSIDERATION

1. Subject to the terms of this Stipulation, Defendants shall pay or cause to be paid the sum of \$1,550,000 (One Million Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars) into the Escrow Account within fourteen (14) calendar days after the Court issues the Preliminary Approval Order. Of this amount, Alliance, Danner, and Price shall pay or cause their insurers to pay \$1,520,000 (One Million Five Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars); Network 1 shall pay or cause their insurers to pay \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars). That payment shall constitute the Settlement Amount. If Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel has not provided all required funding information and a tax identification number before the Court issues the

Preliminary Approval Order, the fourteen (14) days referenced in this paragraph shall not begin to run until Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel provides the required funding information and tax identification number.

2. The Gross Settlement Fund, net of any Taxes (as defined below) on the income thereof and any Tax Expenses (as defined below), shall be used to pay: (a) the Notice and Administration Expenses as authorized by this Stipulation; (b) Attorneys' Fees and Expenses authorized by the Court; (c) any Award to Lead Plaintiffs authorized by the Court; and (d) other fees and expenses authorized by the Court. The balance of the Gross Settlement Fund remaining after the above payments shall be the Net Settlement Fund, which shall be distributed to the Authorized Claimants in accordance with this Stipulation.

3. Any sums required to be held in escrow hereunder shall be held by the Escrow Agent for the benefit of the Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class until the Effective Date. Until the date the Order and Final Judgment is entered, all payments made from the Settlement Fund shall require the signature of an authorized representative of both the Escrow Agent and Defendants' counsel. After the Order and Final Judgment is entered, payments made from the Settlement Fund shall require only the signature of an authorized representative of the Escrow Agent and shall not require the signature of Defendants' counsel. All funds held

by the Escrow Agent shall be deemed to be in *custodia legis* and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court until such time as the funds shall be distributed or returned pursuant to this Stipulation and/or further order of the Court. Other than amounts disbursed for providing notice to the Settlement Class, customary administration costs, and Taxes and Tax Expenses, and the Attorneys' Fees and Expenses (which shall be paid to Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel within two (2) business days after the Court executes an order awarding such fees and expenses), the Settlement Fund shall not be distributed until the Effective Date. The Escrow Agent shall not disburse the Gross Settlement Fund, or any portion thereof, except as provided in this Stipulation, or upon Order of the Court.

4. The Escrow Agent shall invest any funds in excess of \$150,000 in short-term United States Treasury Securities (or a mutual fund invested solely in such instruments), and shall collect and reinvest all interest accrued thereon. The Released Parties will have no rights with regard to or liability for the management, investment or distribution of the Gross Settlement Fund or Net Settlement Fund or any losses suffered by, or fluctuations in the value of them; provided, however, that nothing herein limits Defendants' right to receive repayment of the Gross Settlement Fund if there is not an Effective Date or the Settlement does not become final. Any funds held in escrow in an amount of less than \$150,000 may

be held in a bank account insured, to the extent possible, by the FDIC. Interest earned on the money deposited into the Escrow Account shall be part of the Gross Settlement Fund.

5. The Notice and Administration Expenses shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Fund. In order to pay Notice and Administration Expenses, \$125,000 shall be withdrawn from the Gross Settlement Fund and deposited into a Notice and Administration Account upon the Court's entry of the Preliminary Approval Order. Any monies from the Notice and Administration Fund that remain after administration shall be returned to the Net Settlement Fund. The Notice and Administration Account shall be administered solely by the Escrow Agent. Any taxes or other expenses incurred in connection with the Notice and Administration Account shall be paid from the Notice and Administration Account or from the remainder of the Gross Settlement Fund. The Released Parties shall not have any obligation for payment of taxes or other expenses associated with the Notice and Administration Account. Notice and Administration Expenses in excess of \$125,000 shall not be paid out of the Gross Settlement Fund until after the Effective Date. In no event shall an amount more than the Settlement Amount be paid for Notice and Administration Expenses, and in no event shall the Released Parties be responsible to pay any amount for Notice and Administration Expenses.

6. Defendants shall have access to all records of the Escrow Account, and upon request made to the Escrow Agent, shall receive copies of all records of disbursements, deposits, and statements of accounts.

7. After the Effective Date, the Released Parties shall have no interest in the Gross Settlement Fund or in the Net Settlement Fund. The Released Parties shall not be liable for the loss of any portion of the Settlement Fund, nor have any liability, obligation, or responsibility for the payment of claims, taxes, legal fees, or any other expenses payable from the Gross Settlement Fund or Net Settlement Fund.

D. ADMINISTRATION AND CALCULATION OF CLAIMS, FINAL AWARDS, AND DISTRIBUTION OF NET SETTLEMENT FUND

1. The Claims Administrator shall administer and calculate the claims that shall be allowed and oversee distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, under the supervision of Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel, and subject to appeal to, and jurisdiction of, the Court. The Released Parties shall have no liability, obligation, or responsibility for the administration of the Gross Settlement Fund or Net Settlement Fund, or for the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund.

2. Except as otherwise provided below, on and after the Effective Date, the Gross Settlement Fund shall be applied as follows:

- a. To the extent not paid from the Notice and Administration Account, to pay following an order of the Court approving any such payment, the expenses incurred in connection with providing notice to Settlement Class Members, administering and distributing the Net Settlement Fund to Settlement Class Members, processing Proofs of Claim, processing requests for exclusion, escrow fees and costs, and any applicable taxes;
- b. Subject to the approval and further order(s) of the Court, the Net Settlement Fund shall be allocated to Authorized Claimants as set forth in paragraph F. below.
- c. After the Claims Administrator calculates the recognized losses of each Authorized Claimant, Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel shall file a motion for distribution of the Settlement Fund with the Court listing each Authorized Claimant, the amount of each claim that Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel believes should be allocated and distributed to each such Authorized Claimant, accounting for all Notice and Administration Expenses, and requesting Court approval to distribute the Settlement Fund to the Authorized Claimants and pay any further Notice and Administration Expenses.

3. Each Settlement Class Member wishing to participate in the Settlement shall be required to submit a Proof of Claim and Release (in substantially the form set forth in Exhibit A-3 hereto, which, *inter alia*, releases all Settled Claims against all Released Parties), signed under penalty of perjury by the beneficial owner(s) of the securities that are the subject of the Proof of Claim and Release, or by someone with documented authority to sign for the beneficial owners and supported by such documents as specified in the instructions accompanying the Proof of Claim and Release.

4. All Proofs of Claim must be postmarked or received within the time prescribed in the Preliminary Approval Order unless otherwise ordered by the Court. Any Settlement Class Member who fails to submit a properly completed Proof of Claim within such period as shall be authorized by the Court shall be forever barred from receiving any payments pursuant to this Stipulation or from the Net Settlement Fund (unless Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel in its discretion deems such late filing to be a formal or technical defect, or unless by Order of the Court a later submitted Proof of Claim by such Settlement Class Member is approved), but will in all other respects be subject to the provisions of this Stipulation and Order and Final Judgment, including, without limitation, the release of the Settled Claims and dismissal of the Litigation. Provided that it is received before the motion for

the Settlement Class Distribution Order is filed, a Proof of Claim shall be deemed to have been submitted when posted if received with a postmark date indicated on the envelope and if mailed by first-class mail and addressed in accordance with the instructions thereon. In all other cases, the Proof of Claim shall be deemed to have been submitted when actually received by the Claims Administrator.

5. Each Proof of Claim shall be submitted to the Claims Administrator who shall determine, under the supervision of Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel, in accordance with this Stipulation and any other applicable orders of the Court, the extent, if any, to which each claim shall be allowed, subject to appeal to the Court. No later than seven (7) business days prior to disbursement of the Net Settlement Fund, Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel shall provide Defendants' counsel with a list of Proofs of Claim received by the Claims Administrator indicating which Proofs of Claim have been allowed by the Claims Administrator.

6. Following notice to Defendants' counsel, Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel shall have the right, but not the obligation, to waive what they deem to be formal or technical defects in any Proofs of Claim filed, where doing so is in the interest of achieving substantial justice.

7. Proofs of Claim that do not meet the filing requirements may be rejected. Prior to rejection of a Proof of Claim, the Claims Administrator shall

communicate with the Claimant in order to remedy curable deficiencies in the Proof of Claim submitted. The Claims Administrator, under the supervision of Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel, shall notify in a timely fashion and in writing, all Claimants whose Proofs of Claim they propose to reject in whole or in part, setting forth the reasons thereof, and shall indicate in such notice that the Claimant whose claims are to be rejected has the right to review by the Court if the Claimant so desires and complies with the requirements of paragraph D.8., below.

8. If any Claimant whose claim has been rejected in whole or in part desires to contest such rejection, the Claimant must, within ten (10) days after the date of mailing of the notice required by paragraph D.7., above, serve upon the Claims Administrator a notice and statement of reasons indicating the Claimant's ground for contesting the rejection along with any supporting documentation, and requesting a review thereof by the Court. If a dispute concerning a claim cannot be otherwise resolved, Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel shall thereafter present the request for review to the Court.

9. The administrative determination of the Claims Administrator accepting and rejecting claims shall be presented to the Court, on notice to Defendants' counsel, for approval by the Court in the Settlement Class Distribution Order.

10. Each Claimant shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the Claimant's claim, and the claim will be subject to investigation and discovery under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, provided that such investigation and discovery shall be limited to that Claimant's status as a Settlement Class Member and the validity and amount of the Claimant's claim. No discovery shall be allowed on the merits of the Litigation or Settlement in connection with processing of the Proofs of Claim, nor shall any discovery from or of the Released Parties be permitted on any topic.

11. Payment pursuant to this Stipulation shall be deemed final and conclusive against all Settlement Class Members. All Settlement Class Members whose claims are not approved by the Court shall be barred from participating in distributions from the Net Settlement Fund, but are otherwise bound by all of the terms of the Order and Final Judgment to be entered in the Litigation and the releases provided for herein, and will be barred from bringing any action against the Released Parties arising out of or relating to the Settled Claims.

12. All proceedings with respect to the administration, processing, and determination of claims described by this paragraph of this Stipulation and the determination of all controversies relating thereto, including disputed questions of

law and fact with respect to the validity of claims, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Court.

13. The Net Settlement Fund shall be distributed to Authorized Claimants by the Claims Administrator upon application to the Court by Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel for a Settlement Class Distribution Order only after all of the following having occurred: (a) the Effective Date; (b) all claims have been processed, and all Claimants whose claims have been rejected or disallowed, in whole or in part, have been notified and provided the opportunity to be heard concerning such rejection or disallowance; (c) all objections with respect to all rejected or disallowed claims have been resolved by the Court, and all appeals therefrom have been resolved or the time therefore has expired; (d) all matters with respect to Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, costs, and disbursements have been resolved by the Court, and all appeals therefrom have been resolved or the time therefore has expired; and (e) all costs of administration have been paid.

14. If any funds remain in the Net Settlement Fund by reason of uncashed checks or otherwise, then, after the Claims Administrator has made reasonable and diligent efforts to have Settlement Class Members who are entitled to participate in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund cash their distribution checks, any balance remaining in the Net Settlement Fund one (1) year after the initial

distribution of such funds shall be re-distributed, after payment of any unpaid costs or fees incurred in administering the Net Settlement Fund for such re-distribution, to Settlement Class Members who have cashed their checks and who would receive at least \$10.00 from such re-distribution. If any funds shall remain in the Net Settlement Fund six months after such re-distribution, then such balance shall be contributed to one or more non-sectarian, not-for-profit organization(s) exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code designated by Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel, subject to approval by Defendants' counsel.

15. Before the Effective Date, Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel shall file with the Court a declaration under penalty of perjury describing how notice of the Settlement was given to the Settlement Class and listing the names and addresses of all persons to whom individual notice of the Settlement was mailed.

16. Defendants and the other Released Parties shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to the distribution of the Gross Settlement Fund or the Net Settlement Fund, the Plan of Allocation, the determination, administration, or calculation of claims, the payment or withholding of Taxes, or any losses incurred in connection therewith. No Person shall have any claim of any kind against the Defendants or the other Released Parties with respect to the matters set forth in Paragraph D.; and the Settlement Class Members, the

Lead Plaintiffs, and Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel release the Defendants and the other Released Parties from any and all liability and claims arising from or with respect to the investment or distribution of the Settlement Fund.

E. TAX TREATMENT

1. The Parties agree to treat the Gross Settlement Fund as being at all times a qualified settlement fund within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1 and Section 468B of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, for the taxable years of the Gross Settlement Fund, beginning with the date it is created. In addition, the Escrow Agent and, as required, the Settling Parties, shall jointly and timely make such elections as are necessary or advisable to carry out the provisions of this paragraph, including the "relation-back election" (as defined in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1(j)(2)) back to the earliest permitted date. Such elections shall be made in compliance with the procedures and requirements contained in such regulations. It shall be the responsibility of Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel to timely and properly prepare and deliver the necessary documentation for signature by all necessary parties, and thereafter to cause the appropriate filing to occur.

2. For purposes of Section 468B of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, the “administrator” shall be Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel. Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel shall timely and properly file all tax returns necessary or advisable with respect to the Gross Settlement Fund, and make all required tax payments, including deposits of estimated tax payments in accordance with Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(k). Such returns (as well as the election described in paragraph E.1. hereof) shall be consistent with this paragraph and reflect that all taxes (including any interest or penalties) on the income earned by the Gross Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Fund as provided in paragraph E.3. hereof.

3. All (a) taxes (including any interest or penalties) arising with respect to the income earned by the Gross Settlement Fund, including any taxes or tax detriments that may be imposed upon the Defendants with respect to any income earned by the Gross Settlement Fund for any period during which the Gross Settlement Fund does not qualify as a qualified settlement fund for Federal or state income tax purposes (“Taxes”); and (b) expenses and costs incurred in connection with the operation and implementation of this paragraph (including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and/or accountants, and mailing and distribution costs and expenses relating to filing (or failing to file) the returns

described in this paragraph) (“Tax Expenses”), shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Fund. In all events, the Released Parties shall have no liability for Taxes or the Tax Expenses, and Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel agree to indemnify and hold the Released Parties harmless for Taxes and Tax Expenses. Further, Taxes and Tax Expenses shall be treated as, and considered to be, a cost of administration of the Settlement and shall be timely paid by the Escrow Agent out of the Gross Settlement Fund without prior order from the Court. The Escrow Agent shall be obligated (notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary) to withhold from distribution to the Settlement Class Members any funds necessary to pay such Taxes and Tax Expenses, including the establishment of adequate reserves for any Taxes and Tax Expenses (as well as any amounts that may be required to be withheld under Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(1)(2)). The Released Parties shall have no responsibility or liability therefor.

F. ALLOCATION OF NET SETTLEMENT FUND

1. The Plan of Allocation is based upon Lead Plaintiffs’ Counsel’s assessment of the merits and the relative strengths and weaknesses, including recoverable damages, of the claims of the Settlement Class Members.
2. Defendants do not and shall not take any position as to the proposed Plan of Allocation.

3. The Released Parties shall have no responsibility for and no obligations or liabilities of any kind whatsoever in connection with the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of claims to Settlement Class Members.

4. Defendants shall have no involvement in the solicitation of, or review of Proofs of Claim, or involvement in the administration process itself, which shall be conducted by the Claims Administrator in accordance with this Stipulation and the Order and Final Judgment to be entered by the Court. No Claimant or Authorized Claimant shall have any claim against the Released Parties or their counsel based on, or in any way relating to, the distributions from either the Gross Settlement Fund or the Net Settlement Fund.

5. No Authorized Claimant shall have any claim against Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel or the Claims Administrator based on, or in any way relating to, the distributions from the Net Settlement Fund that have been made substantially in accordance with this Stipulation and any applicable orders of the Court.

6. Any change in the allocation of the Net Settlement Fund ordered by the Court shall not affect the validity or finality of this Settlement.

G. OBLIGATIONS OF AND LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY OF ESCROW AGENT

The Escrow Agent shall not be responsible for the payment of any sums due to Authorized Claimants or other Persons, except to the extent of maintaining account of and properly paying sums as required by this Stipulation to the limited extent that such sums have been delivered into the Escrow Account or Notice and Administration Account as required by this Stipulation. The Escrow Agent shall be liable only for acts of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

H. LEAD PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL'S REQUEST FOR AN AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES

1. Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel intends to submit an application to the Court, on notice to Defendants' counsel, not later than thirty-five (35) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing (unless ordered otherwise by the Court), for the payment of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, including: (a) an award of attorneys' fees up to 1/3 (one-third) of the Settlement Amount; (b) reimbursement of litigation costs and expenses, plus interest, including fees and expenses of experts, incurred in connection with the prosecution of the Litigation; and (c) an Award to Lead Plaintiffs (for reimbursement of time and expenses).

2. Any Attorneys' Fees and Expenses and Award to Lead Plaintiffs awarded by the Court shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Fund within two (2) business days after the Court executes an order awarding such fees and expenses. If, and when, as a result of any appeal and/or further proceedings on remand, or

successful collateral attack, the Attorneys' Fees and Expenses award is overturned or lowered, or if the settlement is terminated or is not approved by the Court, or if there is an appeal and any order approving the settlement does not become final and binding upon the Settlement Class, then, within five (5) business days from receiving notice from Defendants' counsel or from a court of appropriate jurisdiction, Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel shall refund to the Settlement Fund such fees and expenses previously paid to them from the Settlement Fund plus interest thereon at the same rate as earned on the Settlement Fund in an amount consistent with such reversal or modification. Each such Plaintiffs' counsel's law firm receiving fees and expenses, as a condition of receiving such fees and expenses, on behalf of itself and each partner and/or shareholder of it, agrees that the law firm and its partners and/or shareholders are subject to the jurisdiction of the Court for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this paragraph.

3. Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel waives the right to make an additional application or applications for payment from the Gross Settlement Fund for fees and expenses incurred after the Settlement Hearing. Defendants shall take no position on any application concerning Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel's request or award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses, or Award to Lead Plaintiffs, provided the amounts sought are consistent with applicable precedent.

4. It is agreed that the procedure for and the allowance or disallowance by the Court of any applications by Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, including fees for experts and consultants to be paid out of the Gross Settlement Fund, and any order or proceeding relating thereto, shall not operate to terminate or cancel this Stipulation or affect its finality, and shall have no effect on the terms of this Stipulation or on the enforceability of this Settlement.

I. THE PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER

1. Promptly after execution of this Stipulation, Defendants and Lead Plaintiffs shall submit the Stipulation together with its exhibits to the Court and shall jointly apply for entry of a Preliminary Approval Order in connection with settlement proceedings substantially in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit A, providing for, among other things, preliminary approval of the Settlement and notice to the Settlement Class of the Settlement Hearing. The Preliminary Approval Order to be submitted to the Court shall contain exhibits substantially in the form set forth in: (a) the Notice of Pendency and Settlement of Class Action (the "Notice") (Exhibit A-1 to the Preliminary Approval Order); (b) the Summary Notice of Pendency and Settlement of Class Action ("Summary Notice") (Exhibit A-2 to the Preliminary Approval Order); and (c) the Proof of Claim and Release (Exhibit A-3 to the Preliminary Approval Order).

2. The Released Parties are not liable or responsible for the method of, or representations made in, the Notice or the Summary Notice.

J. ORDER AND FINAL JUDGMENT TO BE ENTERED BY THE COURT APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT

Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants shall seek to have the Court enter an Order and Final Judgment substantially in the form of Exhibit B hereto.

K. CONDITIONS OF SETTLEMENT

1. The Effective Date of the Settlement shall be conditioned upon the occurrence of ALL of the following events:

a. The Court shall enter the Preliminary Approval Order in all material respects, as required by paragraph I. above;

b. No party shall have exercised within the required time period any right to terminate the Settlement as permitted by paragraph L. below;

c. The Court shall enter the Order and Final Judgment in all material respects, as required by paragraph J. above;

d. The Court's Order and Final Judgment, substantially in the form of Exhibit B, shall have become "Final," as defined in paragraph A.8. above; and

e. The sum of \$1,550,000 (One Million Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars) shall have been paid, as set forth in paragraph C.1. above.

2. Upon occurrence of ALL of the events referenced in paragraph K.1. above, Lead Plaintiffs shall have, and each and all of the members of the Settlement Class shall hereby be deemed to have, and by operation of the Order and Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever, released, settled, and discharged, in accordance with the terms of paragraph B. above, the Released Parties from and with respect to the Settled Claims, whether or not such members of the Settlement Class execute and deliver a Proof of Claim.

3. Upon occurrence of ALL of the events referenced in paragraph K.1. above, the obligation of the Escrow Agent to return funds from the Gross Settlement Fund to Defendants pursuant to paragraph L.4. below or any other provision hereof shall be absolutely and forever extinguished.

L. RIGHTS OF TERMINATION AND EFFECTS THEREOF

1. Defendants and Lead Plaintiffs shall each have the right to terminate the Settlement and this Stipulation by providing written notice of their election to do so (“Termination Notice”) to all other counsel of the Settling Parties within thirty (30) days after the date on which any of the following occurs:

- a. the Court issues an order declining to enter the Preliminary Approval Order in any material respect;
- b. the Court issues an order declining to approve this Stipulation or any material part of it;
- c. the Court declines to enter the Order and Final Judgment in any material respect as required by paragraph J. above;
- d. the Order and Final Judgment is modified or reversed in any material respect by a Court of Appeals or the United States Supreme Court; or
- e. in the event that the Court enters an order and final judgment in a form other than that provided above (an “Alternative Judgment”) and none of the Settling Parties elects to terminate this Settlement, the date that such Alternative Judgment is modified or reversed in any material respect by a Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court.

2. If prior to the Settlement Hearing, (a) Persons who otherwise would be Settlement Class Members have filed with the Court valid and timely requests for exclusion (“Requests for Exclusion”) from the Settlement Class in accordance with the provisions of the Preliminary Approval Order and the notice given pursuant thereto, and such Persons in the aggregate purchased Alliance common

stock during the Settlement Class Period in an amount greater than the amounts specified in a separate Supplemental Agreement between the parties (the “Supplemental Agreement”), or (b) Persons file lawsuits alleging fraud in connection with the purchase of more than the number of Alliance common stock specified in the Supplemental Agreement, then Defendants shall have the option to terminate this Stipulation and Settlement in strict accordance with the requirements and procedures set forth in the Supplemental Agreement (“Opt-out Termination Option”). The Supplemental Agreement shall not be filed with the Court unless and until a dispute among the parties concerning its interpretation or application arises, and in such case will be filed under seal. Copies of all Requests for Exclusion received, together with copies of all written revocations of Requests for Exclusion, shall be delivered to Defendants’ counsel so as to be received no later than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing. The required procedure for and consequences of exercising an Opt-out Termination Option are as follows:

- a. To exercise the Opt-out Termination Option, Defendants must serve written notice, signed by their counsel, upon counsel for Lead Plaintiffs, not less than seven (7) calendar days before the Settlement

Hearing, provided that all Requests for Exclusion have been timely received by Defendants in accordance with Paragraph L-2 above;

b. If Defendants exercises the Opt-out Termination Option as provided herein, this Stipulation shall be null and void, and the provisions of paragraph L.1. hereof shall apply.

3. If the Settlement Amount payable pursuant to paragraph C.1. of this Stipulation is not paid, then the Lead Plaintiffs, in their sole discretion, may elect, within fourteen (14) calendar days thereafter, terminate the settlement and return the parties to the position they had in the Litigation as of March 8, 2018.

4. Upon termination of the Stipulation pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, the Escrow Agent shall refund the Gross Settlement Fund, including interest thereon, less amounts already expended for notice to the Settlement Class pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, to Defendants within ten (10) business days thereafter (the "Returned Settlement Amount").

5. If this Stipulation is terminated pursuant to its terms, and at the request of Defendants or Lead Plaintiffs, the Escrow Agent or his designee shall apply for any tax refund owed to the Gross Settlement Fund and pay the percentage of the proceeds of the tax refund, after deduction of any fees and expenses incurred in connection with such application(s) for refund, to Defendants.

6. If this Stipulation is terminated pursuant to its terms, all of the Settling Parties shall be deemed to have reverted to their respective status as of March 8, 2018, and they shall proceed in all respects as if this Stipulation had not been executed and the related orders had not been entered, preserving in that event all of their respective claims and defenses in the Litigation, and shall revert to their respective positions in the Litigation, except that the provisions of paragraphs E.1-3., G, L.5-8., M.11., and M.13. shall survive termination.

7. No order of the Court or modification or reversal of any order of the Court concerning the Plan of Allocation or the amount of any attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses awarded by the Court shall constitute grounds for cancellation or termination of the Stipulation.

8. Defendants' conditional stipulation to the creation of a Settlement Class is contingent upon the completion of all terms of this Stipulation and the Settlement contemplated hereby becoming Final. If the Stipulation and Settlement does not, for any reason, gain final approval and become effective, Defendants reserve the right to assert all of its objections and defenses to certification of any class, and Lead Plaintiffs will not offer Defendants' conditional stipulation to certification of a Settlement Class as any evidence in support of a motion to certify any class.

M. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

1. The Settling Parties: (a) acknowledge that it is their intent to consummate the Settlement contemplated by this Stipulation; (b) agree to cooperate to the extent necessary to effectuate and implement all terms and conditions of this Stipulation; and (c) agree to exercise their best efforts and to act in good faith to accomplish the foregoing terms and conditions of the Stipulation.

2. The Settling Parties acknowledge and warrant as follows:

a. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that they have carefully read and fully understand this Stipulation and its final and binding effect;

b. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that they have the right, legal capacity, power and authority to enter into this Stipulation and to perform their obligations hereunder, without the consent, approval, or authorization of any person, board, entity, tribunal, or other regulatory or governmental authority;

c. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that the execution and delivery of this Stipulation and the performance of each and every obligation in this Stipulation do not

and will not result in a breach of or constitute a default under, or require any consent under, any duty, relationship, contract, agreement, covenant, promise, guarantee, obligation or instrument to which the executing Settling Party is a party or by which the executing Settling Party is bound or affected.

d. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that there is no demand for monetary, non-monetary, or injunctive relief, or any civil, criminal, administrative, or arbitration proceeding for monetary, non-monetary, or injunctive relief known or suspected to exist against them that would affect this Stipulation or their ability to enter into, execute or perform each and every obligation in this Stipulation.

e. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that no representations or promises of any kind or character have been made by any other Settling Party, Released Party, or anyone else to induce the execution of this Stipulation except as expressly provided herein.

f. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that this Stipulation is fair and is executed voluntarily, with

full knowledge of the consequences and implications of the obligations contained herein.

g. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that this Stipulation is not the result of any fraud, duress, or undue influence, and that they have not assigned, transferred, or conveyed or purported to assign, transfer, or convey, voluntarily, involuntarily or by operation of law, any or all of their respective rights and claims.

h. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that they have had the opportunity to be represented by counsel of their choice that is duly licensed to practice in the State of New Jersey throughout the negotiations which preceded the execution of this Stipulation and in connection with the preparation and execution of this Stipulation.

i. By executing this Stipulation, each of the Settling Parties represents that they have been afforded sufficient time and opportunity to review this Stipulation with advisors and counsel of their choice.

3. All of the exhibits attached hereto are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

4. No amendment or modification of this Stipulation shall be effective unless in writing and signed by the Settling Parties or their successors-in-interest.

5. This Stipulation, and the exhibits attached hereto, constitute the entire agreement among the Settling Parties, and no representations, warranties, or inducements have been made to any Settling Party concerning this Stipulation or its exhibits, other than the representations, warranties, and covenants contained and memorialized in such documents.

6. Except as otherwise provided herein, each Settling Party shall bear its own costs. Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel's Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, subject to Court approval, shall be paid only out of the Gross Settlement Fund, and the Released Parties shall have no obligation with respect to the payment of said Attorneys' Fees and Expenses.

7. Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel, on behalf of the Settlement Class, is expressly authorized to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by the Settlement Class pursuant to this Stipulation to effectuate its terms and is also expressly authorized to enter into any modifications or amendments to this Stipulation on behalf of the Settlement Class.

8. The persons signing this Stipulation represent that they are authorized to do so on behalf of their respective clients.

9. This Stipulation may be executed in one or more original, photocopied, or facsimile counterparts. All executed counterparts and each of them shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument. A complete set of executed counterparts of this Stipulation shall be filed with the Court.

10. This Stipulation shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the successors, assigns, executors, administrators, heirs, and legal representatives of the Settling Parties. No assignment shall relieve any party hereto of any obligations hereunder.

11. All terms of this Stipulation and all exhibits hereto shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of New Jersey without regard to its rules of conflicts of law, except to the extent that federal law requires that federal law governs, and in accordance with the laws of the United States.

12. The Lead Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and each member of the Settlement Class, and Defendants hereby irrevocably submit to the jurisdiction of the Court for any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Stipulation, the applicability of this Stipulation, or the enforcement of this Stipulation. The administration and consummation of the Settlement as embodied

in this Stipulation shall be under the authority of the Court, and the Court shall retain jurisdiction for the purpose of entering orders providing for awards of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses to Lead Plaintiffs' Counsel, Awards to Lead Plaintiffs, and enforcing the terms of this Stipulation.

13. None of the Settling Parties shall be considered to be the drafter of this Stipulation or any provision hereof for purposes of any statute, case law, or rule of interpretation or construction that would or might cause any provision to be construed against the drafter hereof. Because of the arm's-length negotiations that preceded the execution of this Stipulation, all Settling Parties have contributed substantially and materially to the preparation of this Stipulation.

14. Neither this Stipulation, nor the fact of the Settlement, is an admission or concession by any Settling Party of any liability or wrongdoing whatsoever. This Stipulation shall not constitute a finding of the validity or invalidity of any claims in the Litigation or of any wrongdoing by any Defendant named therein. This Stipulation, the fact of settlement, the settlement proceedings, the settlement negotiations, and any related documents, shall not be used or construed as an admission of any fault, liability, or wrongdoing by any Defendant or any other Released Party in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal. Defendants and any other Released Party

may file the Stipulation and/or Judgment in any action that may be brought against them to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim.

15. The Settling Parties intend the Settlement to be a final and complete resolution of all claims and disputes asserted or that could be asserted by the Settlement Class Members against the Released Parties with respect to the Settled Claims. Accordingly, unless the Court's Order and Final Judgment approving the Settlement does not become Final, the Settling Parties agree not to assert in any forum that the Litigation was brought by Lead Plaintiffs or defended by Defendants in bad faith or without a reasonable basis. Additionally, the Settling Parties shall not assert any claims of any violation of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure relating to the prosecution, defense, or settlement of the Litigation. The Settling Parties agree that the amount paid and the other terms of the Settlement were negotiated at arm's-length in good faith by the Settling Parties, and reflect a settlement that was reached voluntarily after consultation with experienced legal counsel.

16. The headings in this Stipulation are used for purposes of convenience and ease of reference only and are not meant to have any legal effect, nor are they intended to influence the construction of this Stipulation in any way.

17. The waiver of one Settling Party of any breach of this Stipulation by any other Settling Party shall not be deemed a waiver of any other breach of this Stipulation. The provisions of this Stipulation may not be waived except by a writing signed by the affected Settling Party or counsel for that Settling Party. No failure or delay on the part of any Settling Party in exercising any right, remedy, power, or privilege under this Stipulation shall operate as a waiver thereof or of any other right, remedy, power, or privilege of such Settling Party under this Stipulation; nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right, remedy, power, or privilege under this Stipulation on the part of any Settling Party operate as a waiver thereof or of any other right, remedy, power, or privilege of such Settling Party under this Stipulation, or preclude further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, remedy, power, or privilege.

18. The Settling Parties agree that nothing contained in this Stipulation shall cause any Settling Party to be the agent or legal representative of another Settling Party for any purpose whatsoever, nor shall this Stipulation be deemed to create any form of business organization between the Settling Parties, nor is any

Settling Party granted any right or authority to assume or create any obligation or responsibility on behalf of any other Settling Party, nor shall any Settling Party be in any way liable for any debt of another Settling Party as a result of this Stipulation except as explicitly set forth herein.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Settling Parties hereto, intending to be legally bound hereby, have caused this Stipulation to be executed, by their duly authorized attorneys, as of the day and year first above written.

THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A.

By: /s/ Laurence M. Rosen
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