UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

JEFF HULL, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED,

Case No. 3:16-cv-05153-FLW-TJB

Plaintiff,

v.

GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC., RICHARD J. SULLIVAN, DAVID A. LOPPERT, WILLIAM J. DELGADO, ARTHUR F. NOTERMAN, and STEPHANIE C. SULLIVAN,

Defendants.

CLASS ACTION

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT OF SETTLEMENT

This Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (together with all Exhibits thereto, the "Stipulation"), dated as of June 12, 2019 which is entered into by and among (i) the Lead Plaintiff Michael Perry ("Lead Plaintiff"), on behalf of himself and on behalf of the Settlement Class (as defined herein), by and through The Rosen Law Firm, P.A., counsel for the Lead Plaintiff and the Settlement Class, (ii) Defendants Global Digital Solutions, Inc. ("GDSI" or the "Company") and William J. Delgado ("Delgado"), by and through Brinen & Associates, LLC, counsel for GDSI and Delgado, (iii) Defendant David A. Loppert ("Loppert"), by and through counsel for Loppert, Hellring Lindeman Goldstein & Siegal LLP, (GDSI, Delgado and Loppert are collectively referred to as the "Settling Defendants") (Settling Defendants together with Lead Plaintiff and the Settlement Class are collectively referred to as the "Settling Parties"), and (iv) Plaintiff Adrian Lopez ("Lopez") who filed *Adrian Lopez v. William J. Delgado, et al.*, Docket No. C-70-16 in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division of Mercer County and *Adrian Lopez v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., et al.*, Docket No. L-2126-17 in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law

Division of Mercer County, by and through The Brown Law Firm, P.C. and Pawar Law Group, P.C., counsel for Lopez. Each of the settling parties and Lopez states that all of the terms of the settlement and resolution of the above-captioned matter (the "Action") and of the actions filed by Lopez (the "Lopez Actions")(as defined herein) are intended by the Settling Parties and Lopez to fully and finally release, resolve, remise, and discharge the Released Claims (as defined herein) against the Released Parties (as defined herein), subject to the approval of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey (the "Court").

Throughout this Stipulation, all terms used with initial capitalization, but not immediately defined, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in Section 1 below.

WHEREAS:

A. The Action

This litigation was commenced on August 24, 2016 alleging violations of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as against Defendants. (Dkt. No. 1).

On November 10, 2016, the Court appointed Michael Perry as Lead Plaintiff and The Rosen Law Firm, P.A. as Lead Counsel. (Dkt. No. 13).

On December 5, 2016, Delgado and GDSI filed a motion to dismiss. (Dkt. No. 15). This motion to dismiss was withdrawn without prejudice on December 14, 2016 and on January 3, 2017 the Court entered a stipulation setting the schedule for the filing of an amended complaint and briefing motions to dismiss for Lead Plaintiff and GDSI and Delgado as well as for Lead Plaintiff and Loppert, respectively. (Dkt. Nos. 18, 20). The schedule was subsequently modified on January 4, 2017. (Dkt. No. 22).

On January 12, 2017, Lead Plaintiff moved the Court for a partial lift of the discovery stay pursuant to the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("PSLRA") in order to acquire

information needed to serve the summons and complaint on defendant Richard J. Sullivan ("Sullivan"). (Dkt. No. 23). On January 26, 2017, Magistrate Judge Bongiovanni granted the motion and allowed limited discovery requests to be served in order to effectuate service upon defendant Sullivan. (Dkt. No. 24).

On March 31, 2017, Lead Plaintiff filed the Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of Federal Securities Laws ("Amended Complaint") (Dkt. No. 25). On May 8, 2017, GDSI and Delgado as well as Loppert filed motions to dismiss the Amended Complaint. (Dkt. Nos. 28-29). Lead Plaintiff filed an omnibus opposition to the motions to dismiss on June 5, 2017. (Dkt. No. 31). The motions to dismiss were fully briefed on June 26, 2017. (Dkt. Nos. 32-34).

On December 19, 2017, Judge Wolfson entered an order and opinion granting Settling Defendants' motions to dismiss and granting Lead Plaintiff the opportunity to replead. (Dkt. Nos. 36 and 37). On January 18, 2018, Lead Plaintiff filed the operative complaint in the Action, the Second Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of Federal Securities Laws ("Second Amended Complaint") (Dkt. No. 38). Defendants GDSI and Delgado filed a motion to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint on February 8, 2018 (Dkt. No. 39), and Defendant Loppert filed his motion to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint on February 12, 2018, which included lack of personal jurisdiction as a basis. (Dkt. No. 41). Lead Plaintiff again filed an omnibus opposition to the motions to dismiss on February 20, 2018. (Dkt. No. 44). Defendants GDSI and Delgado filed their reply in further support of their motion to dismiss on February 26, 2018 (Dkt. No. 45), and Loppert filed a letter that same day adopting the arguments made by GDSI and Delgado. (Dkt. No. 46). That day, Loppert also filed a reply in further support of his motion to dismiss. (Dkt. No. 47).

On September 14, 2018, Judge Wolfson entered an order and opinion denying Settling Defendants' motions to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint. (Dkt. Nos. 48-49). Accordingly,

on September 28, 2018, Settling Defendants filed their answers to the Second Amended Complaint. (Dkt. Nos. 50-51).

On November 27, 2018, the Settling Parties participated in a telephonic Scheduling Conference with Magistrate Judge Bongiovanni. During this conference, the Settling Parties discussed the possibility of mediating the Action. On January 28, 2019, the Settling Parties participated in a Status Conference Magistrate Judge Bongiovanni at which they informed the Court that the Settling Parties agreed to mediate the Action before Jed Melnick, Esq. of JAMS. Magistrate Judge Bongiovanni entered an order on February 13, 2019 staying the action for 60 days while referring the Action to mediation before Mr. Melnick. (Dkt. No. 54). Pursuant to this order, the Settling Parties filed a status report April 10, 2019 advising the Court that the parties reached an agreement to resolve the matter at mediation and requesting a discovery stay until May 12, 2019 to allow time for preparation and filing of preliminary approval papers. (Dkt. No. 55).

On April 11, 2019, the Court entered an Order granting a stay of discovery until May 12, 2019 (Dkt. No. 56). On April 12, 2019, the Court entered an Order administratively terminating the case, to be reopened upon the filing of a motion for preliminary approval of the settlement (Dkt. No. 57). Upon the Settling Parties' request to allow for more time to complete the documentation of the Settlement (Dkt. No. 58), Magistrate Judge Bongiovanni extended the discovery stay until June 12, 2019. (Dkt. No. 59).

B. The Lopez Actions

Lopez filed two actions: a shareholder derivative action and a direct action. Lopez filed the derivative action in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division of Mercer County, styled as *Adrian Lopez v. William J. Delgado, et al.*, Docket No. C-70-16 (the "Lopez Derivative Action"). The Lopez Derivative action was filed on September 19, 2016 and brought on behalf of

GDSI against Delgado, Sullivan, Loppert, Jerome J. Gomolski, Stephanie C. Sullivan, Arthur F. Noterman, and Stephen L. Norris. The Lopez Derivative action alleged that the defendants named therein made and/or caused the Company to make the same violations of the federal securities laws that are alleged in the Action and failed to maintain internal controls at GDSI, and it made claims for breach of fiduciary duty, unjust enrichment, waste of corporate assets, gross mismanagement, and abuse of control.

On February 5, 2018 Defendant Delgado filed a motion to dismiss the claims against him for lack of personal jurisdiction in Lopez Derivative Action. On February 20, 2018, Defendant Loppert filed a motion to dismiss the claims against him for lack of personal jurisdiction in Lopez Derivative Action.

Lopez filed the direct action in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division of Mercer County, styled as *Adrian Lopez v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., et al.*, Docket No. L-002126-17 (the "Lopez Direct Action," and together with the Lopez Derivative Action, the "Lopez Actions"). The Lopez Direct Action was filed on September 28, 2017 against GDSI and Delgado to compel them to hold an annual meeting of stockholders. On February 2, 2018, Defendants GDSI and Delgado filed a motion to dismiss the Lopez Direct Action.

On February 20, 2018, Lopez filed in the Lopez Direct Action a motion to consolidate the two Lopez Actions. On February 27, 2018, Lopez filed in the Lopez Derivative Action a separate motion to consolidate the Lopez Actions into a single action.

On March 21, 2018, Lopez filed opposition to Defendants' GDSI, Delgado and Loppert's motions to dismiss in the Lopez Derivative Action. On March 22, 2018, Loppert filed opposition to Lopez's motion in the Lopez Derivative Action to consolidate the Lopez Actions. On March

27, 2018, Loppert filed reply papers in further support of his motion to dismiss the Lopez Derivative Action.

By Order entered on May 11, 2018, the Honorable Paul Innes, P.J.Ch. permitted Lopez to conduct additional jurisdictional discovery and to file supplemental papers. Jurisdictional discovery was provided by Settling Defendants. Lopez filed supplemental papers in opposition to Delgado's and Loppert's motions to dismiss on July 23, 2018. On July 27, 2018, Loppert filed reply papers in further support of his motion to dismiss.

On October 12, 2018, Judge Innes entertained oral argument and entered an Order granting Delgado's and Loppert's motions to dismiss the claims against them in the Lopez Derivative Action and denying Lopez's motion to consolidate.

The Lopez Derivative Action was thereafter administratively closed.

The Lopez Direct Action was administratively dismissed for lack of prosecution by Order filed on December 22, 2018.

The Settling Parties and Lopez agree that the release of claims made in the Lopez Actions is a material factor in the Settling Defendants' decision to resolve this Action.

C. The Settlement

The Settling Parties and Lopez attended a mediation session with Jed Melnick of JAMS on March 19, 2019. Prior to the mediation session, the Settling Parties and Lopez exchanged detailed mediation statements. The mediation was successful, and a settlement in principle was reached.

This Stipulation memorializes the agreement among the Settling Parties and Lopez to fully and finally settle the Action and to fully release all Released Claims against Defendants and the Released Parties with prejudice in return for the consideration specified herein.

D. The Settling Defendants' Denial Of Wrongdoing And Liability

Throughout the course of the Action and the Lopez Actions, and in this Stipulation, the Settling Defendants have denied and continue to deny each, any and all allegations of wrongdoing, fault, liability or damage whatsoever that have or could have been asserted in the Action and the Lopez Actions. The Settling Defendants have also denied and continue to deny, *inter alia*, the allegations and claims that have been or could have been asserted by Lead Plaintiff, the Settlement Class and Lopez, as well as the allegations that Lead Plaintiff, the Settlement Class, and Lopez have suffered damages and that Lead Plaintiff, the Settlement Class, and Lopez were harmed by the conduct alleged in the Action. The Settling Defendants continue to believe the claims asserted against them in the Action and the Lopez Actions are without merit and that the Action itself should not be certified as a class action for purposes of trial and adjudication of liability and damages. The Settling Defendants have not conceded or admitted any wrongdoing or liability, are not doing so by entering into this Stipulation, and disclaim any and all wrongdoing and liability whatsoever.

The Settling Defendants have agreed to enter into this Stipulation solely to avoid the uncertainties, burden and expense of further litigation and to put the Released Claims to rest finally and forever. Nothing in this Stipulation shall be construed as or deemed evidence supporting an admission by any of the Settling Defendants or any of the Released Parties with respect to any of Lead Plaintiff's the Settlement Class's or Lopez's allegations or claims, or of any wrongdoing, fault, liability or damages whatsoever.

E. Claims of Lead Plaintiff And Benefits of Settlement

Lead Plaintiff believes that the claims asserted in the Action have merit. Lead Plaintiff, however, recognizes and acknowledges the expense and length of continued proceedings

necessary to prosecute the Action against Defendants through trial and appeals. Lead Plaintiff has also taken into account the uncertain outcome and the risk of any litigation. In particular, Lead Plaintiff has considered the inherent problems of proof and possible defenses to the federal securities law violations asserted in the Action, including the defenses that have been or could be asserted by Defendants during the litigation, motion for summary judgment, motion for class certification and trial. Lead Plaintiff has therefore determined that the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation is fair, adequate, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and among the Lead Plaintiff (on behalf of himself and each of the Settlement Class Members), Lopez, and the Settling Defendants, by and through their respective undersigned counsel, that, subject to the approval of the Court, in consideration of the benefits flowing to the Settling Parties and Lopez from the Settlement set forth herein, the Action and the Released Claims as against the Released Parties shall be finally and fully compromised, settled and released, the Action shall be dismissed fully, finally and with prejudice, and the Released Claims shall be finally and fully released as against the Released Parties, upon and subject to the terms and conditions of this Stipulation, as follows:

1. Definitions

In addition to the terms defined above, the following capitalized terms, used in this Stipulation, shall have the meanings specified below:

- **1.1.** "Action" means the putative class action captioned *Hull v. Global Digital Solutions*, *Inc.*, Case No. 16-cv-5153 (D.N.J.).
- **1.2.** "Administrative Costs" means all costs and expenses associated with providing notice of the Settlement to the Settlement Class and otherwise administering or carrying out the

terms of the Settlement. Such costs may include, without limitation: escrow agent costs, the costs of publishing the summary notice, the costs of printing and mailing, and/or emailing of the Notice and Proof of Claim, as directed by the Court, and the costs of allocating and distributing the Net Settlement Fund (as defined in paragraph 7.2) to the Authorized Claimants. Such costs do not include legal fees.

- **1.3.** "Authorized Claimant" means any Settlement Class Member who is a Claimant and whose claim for recovery has been allowed pursuant to the terms of this Stipulation, the exhibits hereto, and any order of the Court.
- 1.4. "Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez" means the requested reimbursement to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez for their reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly related to Lead Plaintiff's representation of the Settlement Class in the Action and to Lopez's efforts in the Lopez Actions.
- **1.5.** "Business Day" means any day except Saturday or Sunday or any other day on which national banks are authorized by law or executive order to close in the State of New Jersey.
- **1.6.** "Claimant" means any Settlement Class Member who files a Proof of Claim in such form and manner, and within such time, as the Court shall prescribe.
- 1.7. "Claims" means any and all manner of claims, debts, demands, controversies, obligations, losses, costs, interest, penalties, fees, expenses, rights, duties, judgments, sums of money, suits, contracts, agreements, promises, damages, actions, causes of action and liabilities, of every nature and description in law or equity (including, but not limited to, any claims for damages, whether compensatory, special, incidental, consequential, punitive, exemplary or otherwise, injunctive relief, declaratory relief, rescission or rescissionary damages, interest, attorneys' fees, expert or consulting fees, costs, or expenses), accrued or unaccrued, known or

unknown, arising under federal, state, common, administrative, or foreign law, or any other law, rule, or regulation.

- **1.8.** "Claims Administrator" means Strategic Claims Services ("SCS"), which shall administer the Settlement.
- **1.9.** "Defendants" means Global Digital Solutions, Inc., William J. Delgado, David A. Loppert, Richard J. Sullivan, Arthur F. Noterman, and Stephanie C. Sullivan.
- **1.10.** "Escrow Account" means an interest-bearing escrow account established by the Escrow Agent. The Escrow Account shall be managed by the Escrow Agent, subject to the Court's supervisory authority, for the benefit of Lead Plaintiff and the Settlement Class in accordance with the terms of the Stipulation and any order of the Court.
- **1.11.** The "Escrow Agent" means SCS or its appointed agents. The Escrow Agent shall perform the duties as set forth in this Stipulation and any order of the Court.
 - **1.12.** "Effective Date" shall have the meaning set forth in \P 10.3 of this Stipulation.
- 1.13. "Final," when referring to the Final Judgment, means exhaustion of all possible appeals, meaning (i) if no appeal or request for review is filed, the day after the date of expiration of any time for appeal or review of the Final Judgment, and (ii) if an appeal or request for review is filed, the day after the date the last-taken appeal or request for review is dismissed, or the Final Judgment is upheld on appeal or review in all material respects, and is not subject to further review on appeal or by certiorari or otherwise; provided, however, that no order of the Court or modification or reversal on appeal or any other order relating solely to the amount, payment, or allocation of attorneys' fees and expenses or to the Plan of Allocation shall constitute grounds for cancellation or termination of this Settlement or affect its terms, including the release in ¶ 6.1 hereof, or shall affect or delay the date on which the Final Judgment becomes Final.

- **1.14.** "Final Judgment" means the order and judgment to be entered by the Court finally approving the Settlement and dismissing the Action, materially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- **1.15.** "Insurer" means the primary insurer under director and officer liability policies under which GDSI was covered, for the period October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, XL Specialty Insurance.
- **1.16.** "Lead Plaintiff" means Michael Perry, as identified in the Order Appointing Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel (Dkt. No. 13).
 - **1.17.** "Lead Counsel" means The Rosen Law Firm, P.A.
 - **1.18.** "Lopez" means Adrian Lopez.
- 1.19. "Lopez Actions" means the shareholder derivative action, captioned *Adrian Lopez v. William J. Delgado, et al.*, Docket No. C-70-16 (Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division of Mercer County) and the direct action, captioned *Adrian Lopez v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., et al.*, Docket No. L-002126017 (Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division of Mercer County).
 - **1.20.** "Lopez's Counsel" means The Brown Law Firm, P.C. and Pawar Law Group, P.C.
- **1.21.** "Net Settlement Fund" means the Gross Settlement Fund, less: (i) the Fee and Expense Award (as defined below); (ii) Administrative Costs; (iii) Taxes and Tax Expenses; (iv) any Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez; and (v) other fees and expenses authorized by the Court.
- **1.22.** "Notice" means collectively, the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action ("Long Notice"), the Summary Notice of Pendency and Proposed Class Action Settlement ("Summary Notice"), and the Postcard Notice, which are to be made available to

Settlement Class Members substantially in the forms attached hereto as Exhibits A-1, A-3, and A-4 on the Claims Administrator's website and/or mailed to Settlement Class Members.

- **1.23.** "Opt-Out" means any one of, and "Opt-Outs" means all of, any Persons who otherwise would be Settlement Class Members and have timely and validly requested exclusion from the Settlement Class in accordance with the provisions of the Preliminary Approval Order and the Notice given pursuant thereto.
- **1.24.** "Person" means an individual, corporation, fund, limited liability corporation, professional corporation, limited liability partnership, partnership, limited partnership, association, joint stock company, estate, legal representative, trust, unincorporated association, government or any political subdivision or agency thereof, and any business or legal entity and their spouses, heirs, predecessors, successors, representatives, or assign.
- 1.25. "Plan of Allocation" means a plan or formula for allocating the Settlement Fund to Authorized Claimants after payment of Administrative Costs, Taxes and Tax Expenses, and such attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses as may be awarded by the Court. Any Plan of Allocation is not a condition to the effectiveness of this Stipulation, and the Released Parties shall have no responsibility or liability with respect thereto.
- **1.26.** "Preliminary Approval Order" means the proposed order preliminarily approving the Settlement and directing notice thereof to the Settlement Class substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- **1.27.** "Proof of Claim" means the Proof of Claim and Release Form to be submitted by Claimants, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A-2.
- **1.28.** "Related Parties" means, with respect to each Released Party and Releasing Party, the immediate family members, heirs, executors, trustees, administrators, successors, assigns, and

present and former employees, officers, directors, attorneys, legal representatives, contractors, accountants, insurers, reinsurers, managers, and agents of each of them, and any person or entity which is or was related to or affiliated with any Released Party or Releasing Party, or in which any Released Party or Releasing Party has a controlling interest, and the present, former and future direct and indirect parents, subsidiaries, divisions, affiliates, predecessors, successors, and the employees, officers, directors, attorneys, assigns, legal representatives, insurers, reinsurers, managers, and agents of each of them.

1.29. "Released Claims" means and includes any and all manner of action, cause and causes of actions of every nature and description whatsoever (including, but not limited to, any claims for damages, restitution, rescission, interest, attorneys' fees, expert or consulting fees, and any other costs, expenses, or liability whatsoever), suits, arbitrations, debts, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, specialties, covenants, controversies, agreements, promises, variances, trespasses, damages, judgments, executions, orders, awards, Claims and demands whatsoever (including Unknown Claims as defined in ¶ 1.42), in law or in equity, whether arising out of a statute whether based on federal, state, local, foreign, statutory or common law or any other law, rule or regulation, whether known or unknown, contingent or absolute, mature or immature, discoverable or undiscoverable, whether concealed or hidden, suspected or unsuspected, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, asserted or that could have been asserted directly or derivatively by or on behalf of any of the Releasing Parties or their Related Parties, in any capacity, arising out of or relating to the allegations made in the Action or the Lopez Actions. The Claims being released include any Claim arising out of the purchase and/or sale of GDSI securities that Releasing Parties now have, ever had, or may have against Released Parties, or any one of them, for, upon or by reason of any matter cause, omission, or act whatsoever occurring in whole or in part on or at any time prior to the date of the execution of this Stipulation relating to the allegations made in the Action or the Lopez Actions, and all claims asserted in the following actions: (i) *Hull v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc.*, Case No. 16-cv-5153 (D.N.J.), (ii) the shareholder derivative action, captioned *Adrian Lopez v. William J. Delgado, et al.*, Docket No. C-70-16 (Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division of Mercer County), and (iii) the direct action, captioned *Adrian Lopez v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., et al.*, Docket No. L-2126-17 (Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division of Mercer County). Notwithstanding the foregoing, "Released Claims" does not include claims to enforce the terms of this Stipulation or orders or judgments issued by the Court in connection with this Settlement.

- **1.30.** "Released Parties" means the Settling Defendants, Settling Defendant's Counsel, and each of their Related Parties.
- **1.31.** "Releasing Parties" means jointly and severally, individually and collectively, Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, Lopez's Counsel, each and every Settlement Class Member, and each of their Related Parties.
 - **1.32.** "Settlement" means the settlement contemplated by this Stipulation.
- 1.33. "Settlement Amount" means the sum of \$595,000 (Five Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand U.S. Dollars). The Settlement Amount includes all Administrative Costs, Lead Counsel's and Lopez's Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses (as allowed by the Court), Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez (as allowed by the Court), Settlement Class Member benefits, as well as any other costs, expenses, or fees of any kind whatsoever associated with the Settlement.
- 1.34. "Settlement Class" means all persons and entities other than Defendants and their Related Parties who purchased publicly traded GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period. Excluded from the Settlement Class are Defendants and their immediate families, the officers and

directors of GDSI at all relevant times, their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns, and any entity in which Defendants have or had a controlling interest. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are those persons who file valid and timely requests for exclusion in accordance with the Court's Preliminary Approval Order.

- **1.35.** "Settlement Class Member" means any one of, and "Settlement Class Members" means all of, the members of the Settlement Class.
- **1.36.** "Settlement Class Period" means the period from October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive.
- **1.37.** "Settlement Fund" means all funds transferred to the Escrow Account pursuant to this Stipulation and any interest or other income earned thereon.
- **1.38.** "Settlement Hearing" means the hearing at or after which the Court will make a final decision pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as to whether the Settlement set forth in the Stipulation is fair, reasonable and adequate, and therefore, should receive final approval from the Court.
- **1.39.** "Settling Defendants" means Global Digital Solutions, Inc., William J. Delgado, and David A. Loppert.
- **1.40.** "Settling Defendants' Counsel" means Brinen & Associates, LLC and Hellring Lindeman Goldstein & Siegal, LLP.
- **1.41.** "Settling Party" means any one of, and "Settling Parties" means the Settling Defendants and Lead Plaintiff (on behalf of himself and the Settlement Class).
- **1.42.** "Unknown Claims" means and includes any and all claims that one or more Releasing Parties does not know or suspect to exist in his, her or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Parties. This includes claims which, if known by him, her or it, might have affected

his, her or its settlement with and release of the Released Parties, or might have affected his, her or its decision(s) with respect to the Settlement and the Released Claims, including his, her, or its decision to object or not to object to this Settlement. The Settling Parties and Lopez expressly acknowledge, and the Releasing Parties by operation of the Judgment—shall have, and shall be deemed to have expressly waived and relinquished any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States or any other jurisdiction, or principle of common law that is, or is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil 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.

Lead Plaintiff, Lopez, or Releasing Parties may hereafter discover facts, legal theories, or authorities in addition to or different from those which he, she or it now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims, but Lead Plaintiff and Lopez shall expressly, fully, finally, and forever settle and release, and each Settlement Class Member shall be deemed to have settled and released, and upon the Effective Date and by operation of the Judgment shall have settled and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Claims, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities. Lead Plaintiff and Lopez expressly acknowledge, and the Settlement Class Members by operation of law shall be deemed to have acknowledged, that the inclusion of "Unknown Claims" in the definition of Released Claims was separately bargained for and is a material element of the Settlement.

2. The Settlement Consideration

- **2.1.** Subject to the terms of this Stipulation, and upon receipt from Lead Counsel of wiring instructions and a completed Form W-9, Insurer, on behalf of the Settling Defendants, shall, within fifteen (15) Business Days after the Court issues the Preliminary Approval Order, pay or cause to be paid the sum of \$595,000 (Five Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars) into the Escrow Account.
- 2.2. Under no circumstances will Defendants or their Insurer be required to pay, or cause payment of, more than the Settlement Amount pursuant to this Stipulation and the Settlement for any reason whatsoever, including, without limitation, as compensation to any Settlement Class Member, as payment of attorneys' fees and expenses awarded by the Court, in payment of any fees or expenses incurred by any Settlement Class Member, Lead Counsel, or Lopez's Counsel, or as interest on the Settlement Amount of any kind and relating to any time period (including prior to the payment of the Settlement Amount into the Escrow Account).

3. Handling And Disbursement Of Funds By The Escrow Agent

- **3.1.** No monies will be disbursed from the Settlement Fund until after the Effective Date except:
 - (a) As provided in ¶ 3.4 below;
 - **(b)** As provided in \P 8.2 below;
 - (c) As provided in \P 10.10 below, if applicable; and
 - (d) To pay Taxes and Tax Expenses (as defined in ¶ 4.1 below) on the income earned by the Settlement Fund. Taxes and Tax Expenses shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund and shall be considered to be a cost of administration of the Settlement and shall be timely paid by the Escrow Agent without prior Order of the Court.

- 3.2. The Escrow Agent shall invest the Settlement Fund in short term instruments backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government or fully insured by the United States Government or an agency thereof, and shall reinvest the proceeds of these instruments as they mature in similar instruments at their then-current market rates. The Escrow Agent shall bear all responsibility and liability for managing the Escrow Account and cannot assign or delegate its responsibilities without approval of the Settling Parties and the Insurer. Defendants, their counsel, their Insurer and the other Released Parties shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or any liability whatsoever with respect to any investment or management decisions executed by the Escrow Agent. The Settlement Fund shall bear all risks related to the investments of the Settlement Amount in accordance with the guidelines set forth in this ¶ 3.2.
- **3.3.** The Escrow Agent shall not disburse the Settlement Fund except as provided in this Stipulation, by an order of the Court, or with the written agreement of Settling Defendants' Counsel.
- **3.4.** At any time after the Court grants preliminary approval of the Settlement, the Escrow Agent may, without further approval from the Settling Defendants or the Court, disburse at the direction of Lead Counsel up to \$75,000 (Seventy-Five Thousand U.S. Dollars) from the Settlement Fund prior to the Effective Date to pay Administrative Costs.

4. Taxes

4.1. The Settling Parties and Lopez agree to treat the Settlement Fund as being at all times a "qualified settlement fund" within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1. In addition, Lead Counsel or their designee shall timely make such elections as necessary or advisable to carry out the provisions of this ¶ 4.1, including the "relation-back election" (as defined in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1) 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 Counsel or their designee 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.

- (a) For purposes of § 1.468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(k)(3) promulgated thereunder, the "administrator" shall be Lead Counsel or their designee. Lead Counsel or their designee shall timely and properly file all informational and other tax returns necessary or advisable with respect to the Settlement Fund (including without limitation the returns described in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(k)). Such returns (as well as the election described in this ¶ 4.1) shall be consistent with this ¶ 4.1 and in all events shall reflect that all Taxes (including any estimated Taxes, interest or penalties) on the income earned by the Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund.
- (b) All Taxes (including any estimated Taxes, interest or penalties) arising with respect to the income earned by the Settlement Fund, including any Taxes or tax detriments that may be imposed upon Defendants or their counsel or their Insurer with respect to any income earned by the Settlement Fund for any period during which the Settlement Fund does not qualify as a "qualified settlement fund" for federal or state income tax purposes ("Taxes"), and all expenses and costs incurred in connection with the operation and implementation of this ¶ 4.1 (including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and/or accountants and mailing and distribution costs and expenses or penalties relating to filing (or failing to file) the returns described in this ¶ 4.1) ("Tax Expenses"), shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund, as appropriate. Defendants, their counsel, their Insurer and the

other Released Parties shall have no liability or responsibility for the Taxes or the Tax Expenses. Taxes and Tax Expenses shall be treated as, and considered to be, a cost of administration of the Settlement and shall be timely paid out of the 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 Authorized Claimants any funds necessary to pay such amounts, including the establishment of adequate reserves for any Taxes and Tax Expenses (as well as any amounts that may be withheld under Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(1)(2)). Defendants, their counsel, their Insurer and the other Released Parties shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or any liability whatsoever with respect to the foregoing provided in this ¶ 4.1. The Settling Parties and Lopez agree to cooperate with each other, and their tax attorneys and accountants, to the extent reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this ¶ 4.1.

5. Preliminary Approval Order, Notice Order, And Settlement Hearing

5.1. As soon as practicable after execution of this Stipulation, Lead Counsel shall submit this Stipulation and its exhibits to the Court and shall apply for preliminary approval of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation, entry of a preliminary approval order, and approval for the dissemination of notice. The Preliminary Approval Order to be submitted to the Court shall contain the exhibits substantially in the form set forth in: (i) the Long Notice (Exhibit A-1); (ii) the Proof of Claim and Release (Exhibit A-2); (c) Summary Notice (Exhibit A-3); and (d) the Postcard Notice (Exhibit A-4). The Notice shall include the general terms of the Settlement and the provisions of the Plan of Allocation, and shall set forth the procedure by which recipients of the Notice may object to the Settlement or the Plan of Allocation or request to be excluded from the Settlement Class. The date and time of the Settlement Hearing shall be added to the Notice and

Summary Notice before it is disseminated or otherwise provided to Settlement Class Members.

Defendants shall not object to, or have any responsibility for, Lead Counsel's proposed Plan of Allocation.

5.2. At the time of the submission described in ¶ 5.1 hereof, the Settling Parties, through their counsel, shall jointly request that, after the Notice is provided and the Settlement Class Members are notified of the Settlement, the Court hold the Settlement Hearing and (i) approve the Settlement as set forth herein and (ii) enter a final order and judgment substantially in the form of Exhibit B hereto, as promptly after the Settlement Hearing as possible.

6. Releases And Covenants Not To Sue

6.1. Upon the Effective Date, the Releasing Parties, on behalf of themselves and any other Person claiming (now or in the future) including but not limited to their heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, attorneys, successors and assigns, through or on behalf of them, regardless of whether any such Releasing Party ever seeks or obtains by any means, including without limitation by submitting a Proof of Claim, any disbursement from the Settlement Fund, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all Released Claims against the Released Parties and shall have covenanted not to sue the Released Parties with respect to all such Released Claims, and shall be permanently barred and enjoined from asserting, commencing, prosecuting, instituting, assisting, instigating, or in any way participating in the commencement or prosecution of any action or other proceeding, directly or indirectly, in any forum, asserting any Released Claim, in any capacity, against any of the Released Parties, including Defendants' Counsel. Nothing contained herein shall, however, bar the Releasing Parties from bringing any action or claim to enforce the terms of this Stipulation or the Final Judgment.

6.2. Upon the Effective Date, Settling Defendants, on behalf of themselves and their Related Parties, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged Lead Plaintiff, Lopez, Settlement Class Members, Lead Counsel, Lopez's Counsel, and their Related Parties from all Claims, whether known or unknown, which arise out of, concern or relate to the institution, prosecution, settlement or dismissal of the Action or the Lopez Actions (the "Defendants' Released Claims"), and shall be permanently enjoined from prosecuting the Defendants' Released Claims against Lead Plaintiff, Lopez, Settlement Class Members, Lead Counsel, Lopez's Counsel and their Related Parties. Nothing contained herein shall, however, bar the Defendants or their Related Parties from bringing any action or claim to enforce the terms of this Stipulation or the Final Judgment.

7. Administration And Calculation Of Claims, Final Awards And Supervision And Distribution Of The Settlement Fund

- 7.1. Under the supervision of Lead Counsel, acting on behalf of the Settlement Class, and subject to such supervision and direction of the Court as may be necessary or as circumstances may require, the Claims Administrator shall administer and calculate the claims submitted by Settlement Class Members and shall oversee distribution of the Net Settlement Fund (as defined below) to Authorized Claimants.
 - **7.2.** The Settlement Fund shall be applied as follows:
 - (a) To pay the Taxes and Tax Expenses described in ¶ 4.1 above;
 - **(b)** To pay Administrative Costs;
 - (c) To pay Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel's attorneys' fees with interest and expenses and payments to the Lead Plaintiff and Lopez for reimbursement of their time and expenses (the "Fee and Expense Award"), to the extent allowed by the Court; and

- (d) To distribute the balance of the Settlement Fund, that is, the Settlement Fund less the items set forth in ¶¶ 7.2(a), (b), and (c) hereof (the "Net Settlement Fund"), plus all accrued interest, to the Authorized Claimants as allowed by this Stipulation, the Plan of Allocation, or the Court.
- **7.3.** Upon and after the Effective Date, the Net Settlement Fund shall be distributed to Authorized Claimants in accordance with the terms of the Plan of Allocation set forth in the Long Notice and any orders of the Court.
- 7.4. This is not a claims-made settlement, and if all conditions of the Stipulation are satisfied and the Final Judgment becomes Final, no portion of the Settlement Fund will be returned to any of the Defendants or the Insurer. Defendants, their counsel, their Insurer and the other Released Parties shall have no responsibility for, involvement in, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to the investment or distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, the Plan of Allocation, the determination, administration, or calculation of claims, the payment or withholding of Taxes or Tax Expenses, or any losses incurred in connection therewith. No Person shall have any claims against Lead Counsel, the Claims Administrator or any other agent designated by Lead Counsel based on distribution determinations or claim rejections made substantially in accordance with this Stipulation and the Settlement contained herein, the Plan of Allocation, or orders of the Court. Lead 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.
- **7.5.** It is understood and agreed by the Settling Parties and Lopez that any proposed Plan of Allocation of the Net Settlement Fund including, but not limited to, any adjustments to an Authorized Claimant's claim set forth therein, is not a condition of this Stipulation and is to be

considered by the Court separately from the Court's consideration of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation. Any order or proceedings relating to the Plan of Allocation, or any appeal from any order relating thereto or reversal or modification thereof, shall not operate to modify, terminate or cancel this Stipulation, or affect or delay the finality of the Final Judgment and the releases contained therein, or any other orders entered pursuant to this Stipulation.

- 7.6. No later than seven (7) calendar days after the date of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, the Company shall provide and/or cause its transfer agent to provide to Lead Counsel a list of the record owners of GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period in a usable electronic format, such as an excel spreadsheet. ("Settlement Class Information"). If in the transfer agent's possession, the Settlement Class Information should include email addresses of record owners of GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period. The Settling Parties acknowledge that any information provided to Lead Counsel by the Company pursuant to this Paragraph shall be treated as confidential and will be used by Lead Counsel solely to disseminate notice, apprise Settlement Class Members of the Settlement, and/or implement the Settlement.
- 7.7. 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 Authorized Claimants 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 six (6) months after the initial distribution of such funds shall be used: (i) first, to pay any amounts mistakenly omitted from the initial distribution to Authorized Claimants and who receive at least a \$10.00 payment; (ii) second, to pay any additional Administration Costs incurred in administering the Settlement; and (iii) finally, to make a second distribution to Authorized Claimants who cashed

their checks from the initial distribution and who would receive at least \$10.00 from such second distribution, after payment of the estimated costs or fees to be incurred in administering the Net Settlement Fund and in making this second distribution, if such second distribution is economically feasible. If any funds shall remain in the Net Settlement Fund six months after such re-distribution, then such balance shall be contributed to a non-sectarian charity or any not-for-profit successor of it chosen by Lead Counsel, with the approval of the Court.

8. Lead Counsel's Attorneys' Fees And Reimbursement Of Expenses

- **8.1.** Lead Counsel may submit an application or applications (the "Fee and Expense Application") for distributions from the Settlement Fund to Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel for: (i) an award of attorneys' fees with interest from the Settlement Fund; (ii) reimbursement of actual costs and expenses, including the fees and expenses of any experts or consultants, incurred in connection with prosecuting the Action and the Lopez Actions; and (iii) the Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez. Defendants shall take no position with respect to the Fee and Expense Application.
- 8.2. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the attorneys' fees and expenses awarded by the Court shall be paid to Lead Counsel from the Settlement Fund within three (3) Business Days after the date the Court enters the Final Judgment and an order awarding such fees and expenses, notwithstanding any objections to or appeals of such order or of the Final Judgment; out of that payment to Lead Counsel from the Settlement Fund, Lead Counsel shall pay Lopez's Counsel their portion of the expenses awarded by the Court and 20% of the fees awarded by the Court. In the event that the Effective Date does not occur, or the Final Judgment is reversed or modified in any way that affects the award of attorneys' fees and expenses, or the Stipulation is terminated for any other reason, then Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel shall be jointly and

severally obligated to refund to the Escrow Account, within ten (10) Business Days from receiving notice from Settling Defendants' counsel or from a court of appropriate jurisdiction, either the full amount of the fees and expenses or an amount consistent with any modification of the Final Judgment with respect to the Fee and Expense Award, including accrued interest at the same rate as is earned by the Settlement Fund. Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel agree that the law firms and its partners and/or shareholders are subject to jurisdiction of the Court for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this paragraph, and they shall be jointly and severally liable for repayment of all attorneys' fees and expenses awarded by the Court. Furthermore, without limitation, Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel agree that the Court may, upon application of the Settling Defendants, summarily issue orders, including, without limitation, judgments and attachment orders and may make appropriate findings of or sanctions for contempt against the firms should they fail timely to repay fees and expenses pursuant to this paragraph. Any Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez shall not be paid from the Settlement Fund until after the Effective Date.

8.3. The procedure for, and allowance or disallowance by the Court of, the Fee and Expense Application are not a condition of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation and are to be considered by the Court separately from the Court's consideration of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation. Any order or proceeding relating to the Fee and Expense Application, or any objection to, motion regarding, or appeal from any order or proceeding relating thereto or reversal or modification thereof, shall not operate to modify, terminate or cancel this Stipulation, or affect or delay the finality of the Final Judgment or the releases contained therein or any other orders entered pursuant to this Stipulation

8.4. Any award of attorneys' fees and interest and/or expenses to Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel or Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez shall be paid solely from the Settlement Fund and shall reduce the settlement consideration paid to the Settlement Class accordingly. No Defendant shall have any responsibility for payment of Lead Counsel's and Lopez's Counsel's attorneys' fees and interest, expenses or other awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez beyond the obligation of Defendant GDSI to cause the funding of the Settlement Amount as set forth in ¶ 2.1 above. The Released Parties shall have no responsibility for, and no liability whatsoever with respect to, any payments to Lead Counsel, Lopez's Counsel, Lead Plaintiff, Lopez, the Settlement Class and/or any other Person who receives payment from the Settlement Fund.

9. Class Certification

9.1. In the Final Judgment, the Settlement Class shall be certified for purposes of this Settlement, but in the event that the Final Judgment does not become Final or the Settlement fails to become effective for any reason, all Settling Parties reserve all their rights on all issues, including class certification. For purposes of this settlement only, in connection with the Final Judgment, Settling Defendants shall consent to (i) the appointment of Lead Plaintiff as the class representatives, (ii) the appointment of Lead Counsel as class counsel, and (iii) the certification of the Settlement Class pursuant to Rules 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

10. Conditions Of Settlement, Effect of Disapproval, Cancellation Or Termination

- **10.1.** Lead Plaintiff, on behalf of the Settlement Class, and the Settling Defendants shall each have the right to terminate the Settlement and Stipulation by providing written notice of his or its election to do so ("Termination Notice") to all other Settling Parties within seven (7) Business Days of any of the following:
 - (i) entry of a Court order declining to enter the Preliminary Approval Order in any material respect;

- (ii) entry of a Court order refusing to approve this Stipulation in any material respect;
- (iii) entry of a Court order declining to enter the Final Judgment in any material respect;
 - (iv) entry of a Court order refusing to dismiss the Action with prejudice.
- (v) entry of an order by which the Final Judgment is modified or reversed in any material respect by any appeal or review; and
- (vi) failure on the part of any Settling Party or Lopez to abide, in material respect, with the terms of this Stipulation.

In the absence of any of the events enumerated above in this ¶ 10.1, no Settling Party shall have the right to terminate the Stipulation for any reason.

- **10.2.** If the Settlement Amount is not paid into the Escrow Account in accordance with ¶ 2.1 of this Stipulation, then Lead Plaintiff, on behalf of the Settlement Class, and not Defendants (other than in accordance with ¶ 10.3), shall have the right to (a) terminate the Settlement and Stipulation by providing written notice to the Settling Defendants at any time prior to the Court's entry of the Final Judgment; or (b) enforce the terms of the Settlement and this Stipulation and seek a judgment effecting the terms herein.
- **10.3.** The Effective Date of this Stipulation ("Effective Date") shall not occur unless and until each of the following events occurs, and it shall be the date upon which the last in time of the following events occurs:
 - (a) Settling Defendants have not exercised their option to terminate the Settlement pursuant to ¶ 10.5;

- (b) The Court has entered the Preliminary Approval Order attached hereto as Exhibit A or an order containing materially the same terms;
- (c) The sum of \$595,000 (Five Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand U.S. Dollars) has been paid into the Escrow Account, as set forth in ¶ 2.1 above;
- (d) The Court has approved the Settlement, following notice to the Settlement Class and the Settlement Hearing, and has entered the Final Judgment;
 - (e) The Final Judgment has become Final as defined in \P 1.13; and
 - (f) The Action has been dismissed with prejudice.
- **10.4.** Upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, any and all interest or right of Defendants or the Insurer in or to the Settlement Fund, if any, shall be absolutely and forever extinguished, except as set forth in this Stipulation.
- 10.5. If prior to Final Judgment, Persons who otherwise would be Settlement Class Members have filed with the Court valid and timely requests for exclusion from the Settlement Class in accordance with the provisions of the Preliminary Approval Order and the notice given pursuant thereto ("Opt-Outs"), and such Persons in the aggregate purchased securities during the Settlement Class Period in an amount greater than the amount specified in a separate Supplemental Agreement between the Settling Parties (the "Supplemental Agreement"), then Settling Defendants shall have, each in his, her or its sole and absolute discretion, the option to terminate this Stipulation and Settlement in strict accordance with the requirements and procedures set forth in the Supplemental Agreement (hereinafter the "Supplemental Termination Option"). The Supplemental Agreement shall not be filed with the Court unless and until a dispute among the Settling Parties concerning its interpretation or application arises.

- 10.6. Settling Defendants shall not have the right to terminate the Stipulation if the Settlement Amount is not paid pursuant to ¶ 2.1 (other than in accordance with ¶ 10.3). None of the Settling Parties or Lopez, or any of them, shall have any obligation whatsoever to proceed under any terms other than those provided for and agreed herein. If any Settling Party or Lopez engages in a material breach of the terms hereof, any other Settling Party, provided that he or it is in substantial compliance with the terms of this Stipulation, may terminate this Stipulation on notice to all the Settling Parties.
- 10.7. In the event the Stipulation shall be terminated, or be canceled, or shall not become effective for any reason, the Settling Parties shall be restored to their respective positions in the Action immediately prior to June 12, 2019, and they shall proceed in all respects as if the Stipulation had not been executed and the related orders had not been entered, and in that event all of their respective claims and defenses as to any issue in the Action shall be preserved without prejudice.
- 10.8. In the event that the Stipulation is not approved by the Court or the Settlement set forth in this Stipulation is terminated or fails to become effective in accordance with its terms, the terms and provisions of this Stipulation, except as otherwise provided herein, shall have no further force and effect with respect to the Settling Parties and Lopez and shall not be used in the Action, Lopez Actions, or in any other proceeding for any purpose, and any judgment or order entered by the Court in accordance with the terms of this Stipulation shall be treated as vacated, *nunc pro tunc*.
- **10.9.** In the event that the Stipulation shall be terminated, or be canceled, or shall not become effective for any reason, within seven (7) Business Days (except as otherwise provided in the Supplemental Agreement) after the occurrence of such event, the Settlement Fund (less taxes

already paid and any Administrative Costs which have either been disbursed or are determined to be chargeable) shall be refunded by the Escrow Agent to the Insurer and GDSI, in proportion to their contribution to the Settlement Fund, plus accrued interest attributable to that amount by check or wire transfer pursuant to written instructions from the Insurer. At the request of GDSI or the Insurer, the Escrow Agent or their designee shall apply for any tax refund owed on the Settlement Fund and pay the proceeds, after deduction of any fees or expenses incurred in connection with such application(s) for refund, to GDSI or the Insurer pursuant to written direction from the Insurer.

10.10. No order of the Court or modification or reversal on appeal of any order of the Court concerning the Plan of Allocation or the Fee and Expense Application shall constitute grounds for cancellation or termination of the Stipulation.

11. No Admission Of Liability Or Wrongdoing

11.1. The Settling Parties and Lopez covenant and agree that neither this Stipulation, nor the fact nor any terms of the Settlement, nor any communication relating thereto, nor the Supplemental Agreement, is evidence, or an admission, presumption or concession by any Settling Party or Lopez, or their counsel, any Settlement Class Member, or any of the Released Parties, of any fault, liability or wrongdoing whatsoever, as to any facts or claims alleged or that have been or could have been asserted in the Action or Lopez Actions, or in any other actions or proceedings, or as to the validity or merit of any of the claims or defenses alleged or that have been or could have been asserted in any such action or proceeding. This Stipulation is not a finding or evidence of the validity or invalidity of any claims or defenses in the Action or the Lopez Actions, any wrongdoing by any Settling Party, Lopez, Settlement Class Member, or any of the Released Parties, or any damages or injury to any Settling Party, Lopez, Settlement Class Member, or any

Released Parties. Neither this Stipulation, nor the Supplemental Agreement, nor any of the terms and provisions of this Stipulation or the Supplemental Agreement, nor any of the negotiations or proceedings in connection therewith, nor any of the documents or statements referred to herein or therein, nor the Settlement, nor the fact of the Settlement, nor the Settlement proceedings, nor any statement in connection therewith, (a) shall (i) be argued to be, used or construed as, offered or received in evidence as, or otherwise constitute an admission, concession, presumption, proof, evidence, or a finding of any liability, fault, wrongdoing, injury or damages, or of any wrongful conduct, acts or omissions on the part of any Released Party, or of any infirmity of any defense, or of any damages to the Lead Plaintiff, Lopez, or any other Settlement Class Member, or (ii) otherwise be used to create or give rise to any inference or presumption against any of the Released Parties concerning any fact or any purported liability, fault, or wrongdoing of the Released Parties or any injury or damages to any person or entity, or (b) shall otherwise be admissible, referred to or used in any proceeding of any nature, for any purpose whatsoever; provided, however, that the Stipulation, the Supplemental Agreement, and the Final Judgment may be introduced in any proceeding, whether in the Court or otherwise, as may be necessary to enforce the Settlement or Supplemental Agreement or Final Judgment, or as otherwise required by law.

12. Miscellaneous Provisions

12.1. Except in the event of the filing of a Termination Notice pursuant to ¶¶ 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.5 or 10.6 of this Stipulation or termination notice in accordance with the Supplemental Agreement, the Settling Parties shall take all actions necessary to consummate this agreement; and agree to cooperate with each other to the extent reasonably necessary to effectuate and implement all terms and conditions of the Stipulation.

- **12.2.** The Settling Parties and Lopez and their respective counsel represent that they will not encourage or otherwise influence (or seek to influence) any Settlement Class Members to request exclusion from, or object to, the Settlement.
- **12.3.** Each of the attorneys executing this Stipulation, any of its exhibits, and any related settlement documents on behalf of any Settling Party hereto hereby warrants and represents that he or she has been duly empowered and authorized to do so by Lopez or the Settling Party he or she represents, respectively.
- 12.4. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel represent and warrant that Lead Plaintiff is a Settlement Class Member and none of Lead Plaintiff's claims or causes of action against one or more Defendants in the Action, or referred to in this Stipulation, or that could have been alleged against one or more Defendants in the Action have been assigned, encumbered or in any manner transferred in whole or in part.
- 12.5. Lopez and Lopez's Counsel represent and warrant that none of Lopez's claims or causes of action against one or more Defendants in the Lopez Actions, or referred to in this Stipulation, or that could have been alleged against one or more Defendants in the Lopez Actions have been assigned, encumbered or in any manner transferred in whole or in part.
- 12.6. This Stipulation, together with the Supplemental Agreement, constitutes the entire agreement between the Settling Parties and Lopez related to the Settlement and supersedes any prior agreements. No representations, warranties, promises, inducements or other statements have been made to or relied upon by any Settling Party or Lopez concerning this Stipulation, other than the representations, warranties and covenants expressly set forth herein and in the Supplemental Agreement. Lead Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and the Settlement Class, and Lopez acknowledge and agree that any and all other representations and warranties of any kind or nature, express or

implied, are specifically disclaimed and were not relied upon in connection with this Stipulation. In entering this Stipulation, the Settling Parties and Lopez relied solely upon their own knowledge and investigation. Except as otherwise provided herein, each Settling Party and Lopez shall bear his or its own costs.

- **12.7.** This Stipulation may not be modified or amended, nor may any of its provisions be waived, except by a writing signed by all Settling Parties and Lopez, or their respective counsel or their respective successors in interest.
- **12.8.** This Stipulation shall be binding upon, and shall inure to the benefit of, the Settling Parties, Lopez, and their respective agents, successors, executors, heirs, and assigns.
- **12.9.** The Released Parties who do not appear on the signature lines below, are acknowledged and agreed to be third party beneficiaries of this Stipulation and Settlement.
- **12.10.** The headings herein are used for the purpose of convenience only and are not meant to have legal effect.
- **12.11.** This Stipulation may be executed in any number of counterparts by any of the signatories hereto and the transmission of an original signature page electronically (including by facsimile or portable document format) shall constitute valid execution of the Stipulation as if all signatories hereto had executed the same document. Copies of this Stipulation executed in counterpart shall constitute one agreement.
- **12.12.** This Stipulation, the Settlement, the Supplemental Agreement and any and all disputes arising out of or relating in any way to this Stipulation, whether in contract, tort or otherwise, shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey without regard to conflict of laws principles.

- **12.13.** The Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to the implementation and enforcement of the terms of this Stipulation, and all parties hereto submit to the jurisdiction of the Court for purposes of implementing and enforcing the Settlement embodied in this Stipulation.
- 12.14. The Stipulation shall not be construed more strictly against one party hereto than another merely by virtue of the fact that it, or any part of it, may have been prepared by counsel for one of the Settling Parties or Lopez, it being recognized that it is the result of arm's-length negotiations between the Settling Parties and Lopez, and all Settling Parties and Lopez have contributed substantially and materially to the preparation of this Stipulation.
- 12.15. Lead Plaintiff, Lopez, Lead Counsel, Lopez's Counsel, and the attorneys, staff, experts, and consultants assisting them in this Action and the Lopez Actions agree that (a) they will not intentionally assist or cooperate with any person or entity in the pursuit of legal action related to the subject matter of this Action or the Lopez Actions against the Released Parties, (b) they will not intentionally assist or cooperate with any person or entity seeking to publicly disparage or economically harm the Released Parties with respect to any matter relating to the subject matter of this Action or the Lopez Actions, and (c) they will not discuss any confidential matters related to this Action, the Lopez Actions, or the Settlement with anyone.
- 12.16. All agreements by, between or among the Settling Parties and Lopez, their respective counsel and their other advisors as to the confidentiality of information exchanged between or among them shall remain in full force and effect, and shall survive the execution and any termination of this Stipulation and the final consummation of the Settlement, if finally consummated, without regard to any of the conditions of the Settlement
- **12.17.** The Settling Parties and Lopez shall not assert or pursue any action, claim or rights that any party violated any provision of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, any

corollary state law rule or statute, and/or the PSLRA in connection with this Action, the Lopez Actions, the Settlement, the Stipulation or the Supplemental Agreement. The Settling Parties and Lopez agree that the Action and the Lopez Actions were resolved in good faith following arm's-length bargaining, in full compliance with applicable requirements of good faith litigation under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, any corollary state law rule or statute, and/or the PSLRA.

- **12.18.** Any failure by any of the Settling Parties or Lopez to insist upon the strict performance by any other Settling Party or Lopez of any of the provisions of the Stipulation shall not be deemed a waiver of any of the provisions hereof, and such Settling Party or Lopez, notwithstanding such failure, shall have the right thereafter to insist upon the strict performance of any and all of the provisions of this Stipulation to be performed by the other Settling Parties and Lopez.
- **12.19.** The waiver, express or implied, by any Settling Party or Lopez of any breach or default by any other Settling Party or Lopez in the performance of such Settling Party or Lopez of its obligations under the Stipulation shall not be deemed or construed to be a waiver of any other breach, whether prior, subsequent, or contemporaneous, under this Stipulation.
- **12.20.** The Settling Parties reserve the right, subject to the Court's approval, to make any reasonable extensions of time that might be necessary to carry out any of the provisions of this Stipulation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Settling Parties and Lopez have executed this Stipulation by their undersigned counsel effective as of the date set forth below.

Dated: June 12, 2019 THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A.

By: /s/ Laurence M. Rosen

Laurence M. Rosen

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and

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Lead Counsel for Lead Plaintiff and the proposed

Settlement Class

Dated: June 12, 2019 BRINEN & ASSOCIATES, LLC

By: /s/ Joshua D. Brinen

Joshua D. Brinen 90 Broad Street, Second Floor New York, New York 10004

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Counsel for Defendants Global Digital Solutions,

Inc. and William J. Delgado

Dated: June 12, 2019

HELLRING LINDEMAN GOLDSTEIN & SIEGAL, LLP

By: /s/ Jonathan L. Goldstein

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Newark, New Jersey 07102-5323

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Counsel for Defendant David A. Loppert

Dated: June 12, 2019

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and

THE PAWAR LAW GROUP, P.C.

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Counsel for Plaintiff Adrian Lopez

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

JEFF HULL, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED,

Plaintiff,

v.

GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC., RICHARD J. SULLIVAN, DAVID A. LOPPERT, WILLIAM J. DELGADO, ARTHUR F. NOTERMAN, and STEPHANIE C. SULLIVAN,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:16-cv-05153-FLW-TJB

CLASS ACTION

[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING LEAD PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, Lead Plaintiff Michael Perry ("Lead Plaintiff"), on behalf of himself and the Settlement Class represented by The Rosen Law Firm, P.A., and Defendants Global Digital Solutions, Inc. ("GDSI" or the "Company"), William J. Delgado ("Delgado") represented by Brinen & Associates, LLC, Defendant David A. Loppert ("Loppert") represented by Hellring Lindeman Goldstein & Siegal LLP, (GDSI, Delgado and Loppert collectively referred to as "Settling Defendants" and with Lead Plaintiff, the "Settling Parties") and Plaintiff Adrian Lopez ("Lopez") represented by The Brown Law Firm, P.C. and Pawar Law Group, P.C. who filed Adrian Lopez v. William J. Delgado, et al., Docket No. C-70-16 in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division of Mercer County and Adrian Lopez v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., et al., Docket No. L-002126017 in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division of Mercer County (the "Lopez Actions") have entered into the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement, dated June 12, 2019 (the "Settlement Stipulation"), which is subject to review under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and which, together with the exhibits annexed thereto, sets forth the terms and conditions for the proposed settlement and dismissal of the class action pending before the Court titled, Hull v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., Case No. 16-cv-5153 (D.N.J.). (the "Action") and release of the claims asserted in the Lopez Actions; and the Court having read and considered the Settlement Stipulation and the exhibits thereto and submissions made relating thereto, and finding that substantial and sufficient grounds exist for entering this Order; and the Settling Parties having consented to the entry of this Order;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, this _____ day of _______, 2019, that:

 Capitalized terms used herein have the meanings defined in the Settlement Stipulation.

- 2. Pursuant to Rule 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and for the purposes of the Settlement only, the Action is hereby preliminarily certified as a class action on behalf of all Persons (including, without limitation, their beneficiaries) all persons and entities, other than Defendants and their affiliates, who purchased publicly traded GDSI securities from October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive. Excluded from the Settlement Class are Defendants and their immediate families, the officers and directors of GDSI at all relevant times, their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns, and any entity in which Defendants have or had a controlling interest. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are those persons who file valid and timely requests for exclusion in accordance with this Preliminary Approval Order.
- 3. This Court finds, preliminarily and for purposes of this Settlement only, that the prerequisites for a class action under Rules 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure have been satisfied in that: (a) the number of Settlement Class Members is so numerous that joinder of all members of the Settlement Class is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class; (c) the claims of Lead Plaintiff are typical of the claims of the Settlement Class he seeks to represent; (d) Lead Plaintiff fairly and adequately represents the interests of the Settlement Class; (e) questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of the Settlement Class; and (f) a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the Action.
- 4. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, preliminarily and for the purposes of this Settlement only, Lead Plaintiff is certified as the class representative on behalf of the Settlement Class ("Class Representative") and Lead Counsel, previously selected by Lead

Plaintiff and appointed by the Court, is hereby appointed as Lead Counsel for the Settlement Class ("Class Counsel").

- 5. The Court finds that (a) the Settlement Stipulation resulted from good faith, arm's length negotiations, and (b) the Settlement Stipulation is sufficiently fair, reasonable and adequate to the Settlement Class Members to warrant providing notice of the Settlement to Settlement Class Members and holding a Settlement Hearing.
- 6. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the Settlement, subject to further consideration at a hearing (the "Settlement Hearing") pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e), which is hereby scheduled to be held before the Court on ______ 2019 at __:_____.m. for the following purposes:
 - (a) to determine finally whether the applicable prerequisites for class action treatment under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b) are satisfied;
 - (b) to determine finally whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and should be approved by the Court;
 - (c) to determine finally whether the Order and Final Judgment as provided under the Settlement Stipulation should be entered, dismissing the Action on the merits and with prejudice, releasing the claims made in the Lopez Actions, and to determine whether the release by the Releasing Parties of the Released Claims against the Released Parties, as set forth in the Settlement Stipulation, should be ordered, along with a permanent injunction barring efforts to prosecute or attempt to prosecute any Released Claims extinguished by the release against any of the Released Parties, as also set forth in the Settlement Stipulation;

- (d) to determine finally whether the proposed Plan of Allocation for the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund is fair and reasonable and should be approved by the Court;
- (e) to consider the application of Class Counsel for an award of attorneys' feeswith interest and expenses to Lead Counsel and Lopez's counsel and awards to the ClassRepresentative and Lopez;
- (f) to consider Settlement Class Members' objections to the Settlement, if any, whether submitted previously in writing or presented orally at the Settlement Hearing by Settlement Class Members (or by counsel on their behalf) provided that they gave proper notice that they intend to appear at the Settlement Hearing; and
 - (g) to rule upon such other matters as the Court may deem appropriate.
- 7. The Court reserves the right to adjourn the Settlement Hearing to a later date and to approve the Settlement without modification, or with such modifications as may be agreed to by the Settling Parties, and with or without further notice of any kind. The Court further reserves the right to enter its Order and Final Judgment approving the Settlement and dismissing the Action, on the merits and with prejudice, regardless of whether it has approved the Plan of Allocation or awarded attorneys' fees and expenses.
- 8. The Court approves the form, substance and requirements of (a) the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action ("Long Notice"), (b) the Summary Notice of Pendency and Proposed Class Action Settlement ("Summary Notice"), (c) the Postcard Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action ("Postcard Notice"), and (d) the Proof of Claim and Release Form ("Proof of Claim"), all of which are exhibits to the Settlement Stipulation.

- 9. Class Counsel has the authority to enter into the Settlement on behalf of the Settlement Class and has the authority to act on behalf of the Settlement Class with respect to all acts or consents required by or that may be given pursuant to the Settlement Stipulation or such other acts that are reasonably necessary to consummate the Settlement.
- 10. For settlement purposes only, Strategic Claims Services is appointed and approved as the Claims Administrator to supervise and administer the notice procedure as well as the processing of claims.
- 11. Escrow Agent may, at any time after entry of this Order and without further approval from Settling Defendants or the Court, disburse at the direction of Class Counsel up to \$75,000 (Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars) from the Settlement Fund prior to the Effective Date to pay Administrative Costs.
- 12. No later than seven (7) calendar days after the date of this Order, the Company shall provide and/or cause its transfer agent to provide to Class Counsel a list of the record owners of GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period in a usable electronic format, such as an excel spreadsheet. This information will be kept confidential and not used for any purpose other than to provide the notice contemplated by this Order.
- 13. Within sixteen (16) calendar days of the entry of this Order, Class Counsel, through the Claims Administrator, shall either (a) email the Summary Notice to Settlement Class Members for whom the Claims Administrator is able to obtain email addresses, substantially in the form annexed to the Settlement Stipulation as Exhibit A-3 or (b) cause the Postcard Notice, substantially in the form annexed to the Settlement Stipulation as Exhibit A-4, if no electronic mail address can be obtained, mailed, by first class mail, postage prepaid, to Settlement Class Members who can be identified with reasonable effort by Class Counsel, through the Claims Administrator.

- 14. Class Counsel, through the Claims Administrator, shall make all reasonable efforts to give notice to nominees or custodians who held GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period as record owners but not as beneficial owners. Such nominees or custodians shall, within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the notice, either: (i) request copies of the Postcard Notice sufficient to send the Postcard Notice to all beneficial owners for whom they are nominee or custodian, and within ten (10) calendar days after receipt thereof send copies to such beneficial owners; or (ii) provide the Claims Administrator with lists of the names, last known addresses and email addresses (to the extent known) of such beneficial owners, in which event the Claims Administrator shall promptly deliver the Postcard Notice to such beneficial owners. If the Claims Administrator receives an email address, it will send a Summary Notice electronically. Nominees or custodians who elect to send the Postcard Notice to their beneficial owners shall send a written certification to the Claims Administrator confirming that the mailing has been made as directed. Copies of the Postcard Notice shall be made available to any nominee or custodian requesting same for the purpose of distribution to beneficial owners. The Claims Administrator shall, if requested, reimburse nominees or custodians out of the Settlement Fund solely for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, incurred in providing notice to beneficial owners, which expenses would not have been incurred except for the providing names and addresses up to \$0.05 per name and address; mailing of Postcard Notice up to \$0.05 per unit, plus postage at the rate used by the Claims Administrator; or emailing of notice up to \$0.05 per email, and subject to further order of this Court with respect to any dispute concerning such reimbursement.
- 15. Class Counsel shall, at least seven (7) calendar days before the Settlement Hearing, serve upon counsel for Settling Defendants and file with the Court proof of the mailing of the Postcard Notice as required by this Order.

- 16. Class Counsel, through the Claims Administrator, shall cause the Settlement Stipulation and its exhibits, this Order, and a copy of the Notice and Proof of Claim and Release Form to be posted on the Claims Administrator's website within sixteen (16) calendar days after entry of this Order.
- 17. Class Counsel, through the Claims Administrator, shall cause the Summary Notice to be published electronically once on the *GlobeNewswire* and in print once in the *Investor's Business Daily* within ten (10) calendar days after the Postcard Notice mailing or Summary Notice emailing. Class Counsel shall, at least seven (7) calendar days before the Settlement Hearing, serve upon counsel for Settling Defendants and file with the Court proof of publication of the Summary Notice.
- 18. The forms and methods set forth herein of notifying the Settlement Class Members of the Settlement and its terms and conditions meet the requirements of due process, Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and Section 21D(a)(7) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. 78u-4(a)(7), as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995; constitute the best notice practicable under the circumstances; and constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons and entities entitled thereto. No Settlement Class Member will be relieved from the terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the releases provided for therein, based upon the contention or proof that such Settlement Class Member failed to receive actual or adequate notice.
- 19. In order to be entitled to participate in recovery from the Net Settlement Fund after the Effective Date, each Settlement Class Member shall take the following action and be subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) A properly completed and executed Proof of Claim must be submitted to the Claims Administrator: (a) electronically through the Claims Administrator's website,

www.strategicclaims.net by 11:59 p.m. EST on _______, 2019; or (b) at the Post Office Box indicated in the Notice, postmarked no later than ________, 2019 (thirty (30) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing). Such deadline may be further extended by Order of the Court. Each Proof of Claim shall be deemed to have been submitted when: (a) the claim receives a confirmation notice from Strategic Claims Services for electronic submissions; or (b) legibly postmarked (if properly addressed and mailed by first class mail) provided such Proof of Claim and Release Form is actually received before the filing of a motion for an Order of the Court approving distribution of the Net Settlement Fund. Any Proof of Claim submitted in any other manner shall be deemed to have been submitted when it was actually received by the Claims Administrator at the address designated in the Notice.

(b) The Proof of Claim submitted by each Settlement Class Member must satisfy the following conditions: (i) it must be properly completed, signed and submitted in a timely manner in accordance with the provisions of the preceding subparagraph; (ii) it must be accompanied by adequate supporting documentation for the transactions reported therein, in the form of broker confirmation slips, broker account statements, an authorized statement from the broker containing the transactional information found in a broker confirmation slip, or such other documentation as is deemed adequate by the Claims Administrator or Class Counsel; (iii) if the person executing the Proof of Claim and Release Form is acting in a representative capacity, a certification of his current authority to act on behalf of the Settlement Class Member must be provided with the Proof of Claim; and (iv) the Proof of Claim must be complete and contain no material deletions or modifications of any of the printed matter contained therein and must be signed under penalty of perjury.

- Claim, it shall determine whether such claim is valid, deficient or rejected. For each claim determined to be either deficient or rejected, the Claims Administrator shall send a deficiency letter or rejection letter as appropriate, describing the basis on which the claim was so determined. Persons who timely submit a Proof of Claim that is deficient or otherwise rejected shall be afforded a reasonable time (at least ten (10) calendar days) to cure such deficiency if it shall appear that such deficiency may be cured. If any Claimant whose claim has been rejected in whole or in part wishes to contest such rejection, the Claimant must, within ten (10) calendar days after the date of mailing of the notice, 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 an issue concerning a claim cannot be otherwise resolved, Class Counsel shall thereafter present the request for review to the Court.
- (d) As part of the Proof of Claim, each Settlement Class Member shall submit to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the claim submitted, and shall, upon the Effective Date, release all claims as provided in the Settlement Stipulation. No discovery shall be allowed on the merits of the Action or the Settlement in connection with processing of the Proof of Claim, nor shall any discovery from or of Defendants be allowed on any topic.
- 20. All Settlement Class Members who do not submit valid and timely Proof of Claim will be forever barred from receiving any payments from the Net Settlement Fund, but will in all other respects be subject to and bound by the provisions of the Settlement Stipulation and the Order and Final Judgment, if entered

- 21. Settlement Class Members shall be bound by all determinations and judgments in this Action whether favorable or unfavorable, unless such Persons request exclusion from the Settlement Class in a timely and proper manner, as hereinafter provided. A Settlement Class Member wishing to make such request for exclusion shall mail it, in written form, by first class mail, postage prepaid, or otherwise deliver it, so that it is received no later than 2019 (twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing) (the "Exclusion Deadline"), to the address listed in the Long Notice. In order to be valid, such request for exclusion (A) must clearly indicate the name and address and phone number and e-mail contact information (if any) of the Person seeking exclusion, and state that the sender specifically "requests to be excluded from the Settlement Class Hull v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., Case No. 16-cv-5153 (D.N.J.)" and (B) state the date, number of shares and dollar amount of each GDSI securities stock purchase or acquisition during the Settlement Class Period, and any sale transactions as well as the number of shares of GDSI securities stock held by the Person as of October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016. In order to be valid, such request for exclusion must be submitted with documentary proof: (i) of each purchase or acquisition and, if applicable, sale transaction of GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period; and (ii) demonstrating the Person's status as a beneficial owner of the GDSI securities. Any such request for exclusion must be signed and submitted by the beneficial owner under penalty of perjury. The request for exclusion shall not be effective unless it provides the required information, is legible, and is made within the time stated above, or the exclusion is otherwise accepted by the Court. Class Counsel may contact any Person filing a request for exclusion, or their attorney if one is designated, to discuss the exclusion.
- 22. The Claims Administrator shall provide all requests for exclusion and supporting documentation submitted therewith (including untimely requests and revocations of requests) to

counsel for the Settling Parties as soon as possible and no later than the Exclusion Deadline or

upon the receipt thereof (if later than the Exclusion Deadline). The Settlement Class will not

include any Person who delivers a valid and timely request for exclusion.

23. Any Person that submits a request for exclusion may thereafter submit to the Claims

Administrator a written revocation of that request for exclusion, provided that it is received no

later than two (2) Business Days before the Settlement Hearing, in which event that Person will be

included in the Settlement Class.

All Persons who submit a valid, timely and unrevoked request for exclusion will be 24.

forever barred from receiving any payments from the Net Settlement Fund.

25. The Court will consider comments and/or objections to the Settlement, the Plan of

Allocation, or the Fee and Expense Application, provided, however, that no Settlement Class

Member or other Person shall be heard or entitled to contest the approval of the terms and

conditions of the proposed Settlement or, if approved, the Order and Final Judgment, or any other

order relating thereto, unless that Person has served copies of any objections, papers and briefs to

each of the following counsel at least twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement

Hearing Date:

LEAD COUNSEL:

THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A.

Laurence M. Rosen

609 W. South Orange Avenue, Suite 2P

South Orange, New Jersey 07079

Tel: (973) 313-1887

Fax: (973) 833-0399

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS GDSI and WILLIAM J. DELGADO:

BRINEN & ASSOCIATES, LLC

Joshua D. Brinen

11

90 Broad Street, Second Floor New York, New York 10004

Tel: (212) 330-8151 Fax: (212) 227-0207

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT DAVID A. LOPPERT:

HELLRING LINDEMAN GOLDSTEIN & SIEGAL, LLP

Jonathan L. Goldstein One Gateway Center

Newark, New Jersey 07102-5323

Tel: (973) 621-9020 Fax: (973) 621-7406

and that Person has (at least twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing date) filed said objections, papers and briefs, showing due proof of service upon counsel identified

above, with the Clerk of the Court, U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey, 402 East State

Street, Trenton, NJ 08608. To be valid, any such objection must contain the Settlement Class

Member's: (1) name, address, and telephone number; (2) a list of all purchases and sales of GDSI

securities during the Settlement Class Period in order to show membership in the Settlement Class;

(3) all grounds for the objection, including any legal support known to the Settlement Class

Member and/or his, her, or its counsel; (4) the name, address and telephone number of all counsel

who represent the Settlement Class Member, including former or current counsel who may be

entitled to compensation in connection with the objection; and (5) the number of times the

Settlement Class Member and/or his, her, or its counsel has filed an objection to a class action

settlement in the last five years, the nature of each such objection in each case, the jurisdiction in

each case, and the name of the issuer of the security or seller of the product or service at issue in

each case. Attendance at the Settlement Hearing is not necessary but Persons wishing to be heard

orally in opposition to the approval of the Settlement Stipulation, the Plan of Allocation, and/or

the Fee and Expense Application are required to indicate in their written objection (or in a separate

writing that is submitted in accordance with the deadline and after instruction pertinent to the submission of a written objection) that they intend to appear at the Settlement Hearing and identify any witnesses they may call to testify or exhibits they intend to introduce into evidence at the Settlement Hearing. Settlement Class Members do not need to appear at the Settlement Hearing or take any other action to indicate their approval.

- 26. Any Settlement Class Member who does not object in the manner prescribed above shall be deemed to have waived all such objections and shall forever be foreclosed from making any objection to the fairness, adequacy or reasonableness of the Settlement, the Order and Final Judgment to be entered approving the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or the Fee and Expense Application, unless otherwise ordered by the Court; shall be bound by all the terms and provisions of the Settlement Stipulation and by all proceedings, orders and judgments in the Action; and shall also be foreclosed from appealing from any judgment or order entered in this Action.
- 27. The Court reserves the right to adjourn the Settlement Hearing without any further notice other than entry of an Order on the Court's docket, and to approve the Settlement without further notice to the Settlement Class.
- 28. All papers in support of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation and/or the Fee and Expense Application shall be filed and served no later than twenty-eight (28) calendar days before the Settlement Hearing.
- 29. Any submissions filed in response to any objections or in further support of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation and/or the Fee and Expense Application shall be filed no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing.

- 30. Settling Defendants, their counsel, their Insurers and other Released Parties shall have no responsibility for, or liability with respect to, the Plan of Allocation or any application for attorneys' fees and interest, or expenses or payments to the Class Representative and Lopez submitted by Class Counsel, and such matters will be considered separately from the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement.
- 31. Pending final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, all Releasing Parties shall be enjoined from commencing, prosecuting, or attempting to prosecute any Released Claims against any Released Party in any court or tribunal or proceeding. Unless and until the Settlement Stipulation is cancelled and terminated pursuant to the Settlement Stipulation, all proceedings in the Action, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to carry out the terms and conditions of the Settlement Stipulation, are hereby stayed and suspended until further order of the Court.
- 32. All funds held by the Escrow Agent shall be deemed and considered to be in the custody of the Court, and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, until such time as such funds shall be distributed or returned pursuant to the Settlement Stipulation and Plan of Allocation and/or further order(s) of the Court.
- 33. Neither the Settlement Stipulation, nor any of its terms or provision, nor any of the negotiations or proceedings connected with it, shall be construed as an admission or concession by Settling Defendants, their counsel, their Insurers or any of the other Released Parties of the truth of any of the allegations in the Action, or of any liability, fault, or wrongdoing or any kind and shall not be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of or an admission or concession that Class Representative or any Settlement Class Members have suffered any damages, harm, or loss. Further, neither the Settlement Stipulation, nor any of its terms or provisions, nor any of the

negotiations or proceedings connected with it, nor this Order shall be construed as an admission

or concession by the Class Representative of the validity of any factual or legal defense or of the

infirmity of any of the claims or facts alleged in this Action.

34. In the event the Settlement is not consummated in accordance with the terms of the

Settlement Stipulation, then the Settlement Stipulation and this Order (including any

amendment(s) thereof, and except as expressly provided in the Settlement Stipulation or by order

of the Court) shall be null and void, of no further force or effect, and without prejudice to any

Settling Party, and may not be introduced as evidence or used in any action or proceeding by any

Person against the Settling Parties or the Released Parties, and each Settling Party shall be restored

to his, her or its respective litigation positions as they existed prior to June 12, 2019, pursuant to

the terms of the Settlement Stipulation.

35. The Court reserves the right to alter the time or the date of the Settlement Hearing

without further notice to the Settlement Class Members, provided that the time or the date of the

Settlement Hearing shall not be set at a time or date earlier than the time and date set forth in ¶ 6

above. The Court retains exclusive jurisdiction over the Action to consider all further matters

arising out of, or relating to, the Settlement Stipulation, including by way of illustration and not

limitation, any dispute concerning any Proof of Claim and Release Form submitted and any future

requests by one or more of the Settling Parties that the Order and Final Judgment, the releases

and/or the permanent injunction set forth in the Settlement Stipulation be enforced.

Dated: ______, 2019

HON. FREDA L. WOLFSON

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

JEFF HULL, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED,

Plaintiff.

v.

GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC., RICHARD J. SULLIVAN, DAVID A. LOPPERT, WILLIAM J. DELGADO, ARTHUR F. NOTERMAN, and STEPHANIE C. SULLIVAN,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:16-cv-05153-FLW-TJB CLASS ACTION

NOTICE OF PENDENCY AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION

If you purchased common stock of Global Digital Solutions, Inc. ("GDSI" or the "Company") during the period from October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive (the "Settlement Class Period"), you could get a payment from a class action settlement (the "Settlement").

Under law, a federal court has authorized this Notice. This is not attorney advertising.

- If approved by the Court, the Settlement will provide five hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$595,000) (the "Settlement Fund") gross, plus interest as it accrues, minus attorneys' fees, costs, administrative expenses, and net of any taxes on interest, to pay claims of investors who purchased GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period.
- The Settlement represents an estimated average recovery of \$0.00112 per share of GDSI for the approximately 530,932,000 shares outstanding at the end of the Settlement Class Period. A share may have been traded more than once during the Settlement Class Period. This estimate solely reflects the average recovery per outstanding share of GDSI securities.
- Attorneys for Lead Plaintiff ("Lead Counsel") will ask the Court to award them fees of up to \$198,333.33 (one-third of the Settlement Fund) plus interest. Out of this amount, Lead Counsel will provide \$39,666.66, or 20% of the fee award, to The Brown Law Firm, P.C. ("Lopez's Counsel"), counsel in the actions *Adrian Lopez v. William J. Delgado, et al.*, Docket No. C-70-16, which was brought derivatively by Adrian Lopez ("Lopez") on behalf of GDSI, and *Adrian Lopez v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., et al.*, Docket No. L-

002126017, brought directly by Lopez against GDSI, both filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Mercer County (the "Lopez Actions"), and later administratively closed. Lead Counsel will also seek reimbursement of no more than \$37,500 in litigation expenses incurred by Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel, an Award to Lead Plaintiff not to exceed \$5,000, and an Award to Lopez not to exceed \$1,000. Collectively, the attorneys' fees and expenses and awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez are estimated to average \$0.000455 per outstanding share of GDSI securities. If approved by the Court, these amounts will be paid from the Settlement Amount.

- The average approximate recovery, after deduction of attorneys' fees and interest and expenses approved by the Court, is \$0.000665 per outstanding GDSI securities. This estimate is based on the assumptions set forth in the preceding paragraphs. This is not an estimate of the actual recovery per share you should expect. Your actual recovery, if any, will depend on the aggregate losses of all Settlement Class Members, the date(s) you purchased and sold GDSI securities, the purchase and sales prices, and the total number of claims filed.
- The Settlement resolves the Action concerning whether GDSI and certain of its officers and directors, William J. Delgado and David A. Loppert (collectively "Defendants") violated federal securities laws by allegedly making misrepresentations and/or omissions of material fact in various public statements to the investing public concerning GDSI's business operations, prospects, and financial health. Defendants have denied and continue to deny each, any and all allegations of wrongdoing, fault, liability or damage whatsoever asserted by Lead Plaintiff. Defendants have also denied, *inter alia*, the allegations that Lead Plaintiff or the Settlement Class have suffered damages or that Lead Plaintiff or the Settlement Class were harmed by the conduct alleged in the Action. Defendants continue to believe the claims asserted against them in the Action are without merit. The Settlement also releases derivative and direct claims made in the Lopez Actions.
- Your legal rights will be affected whether you act or do not act. If you do not act, you may permanently forfeit your right to recover on this claim. Therefore, you should read this Notice carefully.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT		
Submit a Claim Form	Fill out the attached Proof of Claim and Release Form and submit it no later than This is the only way to get a payment.	

Exclude Yourself from the Class	Submit a request for exclusion no later than This is the only way you can ever be part of any other lawsuit against the Defendants or the other Released Parties about the legal claims in this case. If you exclude yourself, you will receive no payment and cannot object or speak at the hearing.
Object	Write to the Court no later than about why you do not like the Settlement. You can still submit a claim form. If the Court approves the Settlement, you will be bound by it.
Go to the Hearing	Ask to speak in Court about the fairness of the Settlement at the hearing on You can still submit a claim form. If the Court approves the Settlement, you will be bound by it.
Do Nothing	Get no payment AND give up your right to bring your own individual action.

INQUIRIES

Please do not contact the Court regarding this Notice. All inquiries concerning this Notice, the Proof of Claim and Release Form, or the Settlement should be directed to:

Global Digital Solutions, Inc. Securities Litigation c/o Strategic Claims Services P.O. Box 230 600 N. Jackson St., Ste. 205 Media, Pennsylvania 19063	or	Laurence M. Rosen THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A. 609 W. South Orange Ave, Suite 2P South Orange, New Jersey 07079 Tel.: 973-313-1887
Tel.: 866-274-4004 Fax: 610-565-7985 info@strategicclaims.net		Fax: 973-833-0399 info@rosenlegal.com

DEFINITIONS

All capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement, dated June 12, 2019 (the "Settlement Stipulation").

COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONCERNING THE SETTLEMENT

1. Why did I get this Notice?

You or someone in your family may have acquired GDSI securities from October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive.

2. What is this lawsuit about?

The case is known as *Hull v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc.*, Case No. 16-cv-5153 (D.N.J.) (the "Action"). The Court in charge of the case is the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.

The Action involves allegations that Defendants violated certain federal securities laws by making misrepresentations or omissions of material fact concerning GDSI's business, operations, and prospects. The complaint alleges that the misstatements or omissions artificially inflated the price of GDSI securities, and that securities' prices dropped in response to certain subsequent disclosures. Defendants have denied and continue to deny each, any and all allegations of wrongdoing, fault, liability or damage whatsoever asserted in the Action. The Settlement shall in no event be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of, liability, fault, wrongdoing, injury or damages, or of any wrongful conduct, acts or omissions on the part of any of the Released Parties, or of any infirmity of any defense, or of any damages to the Lead Plaintiff or any other Settlement Class Member. The Settlement resolves all of the claims in the Action, as well as certain other claims or potential claims, whether known or unknown.

3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, one or more persons and/or entities, called plaintiffs, sue on behalf of all persons and/or entities who have similar claims. All of these persons and/or entities are referred to collectively as a class, and these individual persons and/or entities are known as class members. One court resolves all of the issues for all class members, except for those class members who exclude themselves from the class.

4. Why is there a Settlement?

Lead Plaintiff and Defendants do not agree regarding the merits of Lead Plaintiff's allegations and Defendants' defenses with respect to liability or the average amount of damages per share, if any, that would be recoverable if Lead Plaintiff were to prevail at trial on each claim. The issues on which Lead Plaintiff and Defendants disagree include: (1) whether the challenged statements were materially false or misleading or otherwise actionable under federal securities law; (2) whether Defendants acted with scienter; (3) whether the alleged disclosures were corrective disclosures; (4) the causes of the loss in the value of the common stock; and (5) the amount of alleged damages, if any, that could be recovered at trial.

This matter has not gone to trial, and the Court has not decided in favor of either Lead Plaintiff or Defendants. Instead, Lead Plaintiff and Defendants have agreed to settle the case. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe the Settlement is best for all Settlement Class

Members because of the risks associated with continued litigation and the nature of the defenses raised by Defendants. Among the reasons that Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe the Settlement is fair is the fact that there is uncertainty about whether they will be able to prove that any challenged statement was false or misleading, that the alleged misstatements and omissions actually caused the Settlement Class any damages, and the amount of damages, if any.

Even if Lead Plaintiff were to win at trial, and also prevail on any on appeal, Lead Plaintiff might not be able to collect some, or all, of any judgment they are awarded. Moreover, while litigation of this type is usually expensive, it appears that, even if Lead Plaintiff's allegations were found to be true, the total amount of damages to which Settlement Class Members would be entitled could be substantially reduced.

5. How do I know if I am part of the Settlement?

The Settlement Class consists of all persons and entities, other than Defendants and their affiliates, who purchased publicly traded GDSI securities from October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive. Excluded from the Settlement Class are Defendants and their immediate families, the officers and directors of GDSI at all relevant times, their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns, and any entity in which Defendants have or had a controlling interest.

6. Are there exceptions to being included?

Yes. Excluded from the Settlement Class are Defendants and their immediate families, the officers and directors of the Company at all relevant times, their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns, and any entity in which Defendants have or had a controlling interest. You are also excluded from the Settlement Class if you have a net profit in purchases and sales of GDSI securities or otherwise suffered no compensable damages during the Settlement Class Period. You may choose to be excluded from the Settlement Class by filing a valid and timely request for exclusion as described below in the response to question 11.

7. I am still not sure whether I am included.

If you are still not sure whether you are included, you can ask for free help. For more information, you can contact the Claims Administrator, Strategic Claims Services, by phone at (866) 274-4004 or by facsimile at (610) 565-7985, visit the website www.strategicclaims.net, or fill out and return the Proof of Claim and Release Form described in Question 9, to see if you qualify.

8. What does the Settlement provide?

a. What is the Settlement Fund?

The proposed Settlement provides for Defendants' insurers to pay five hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$595,000) into a settlement fund (the "Settlement Fund"). The Settlement is subject to Court approval. Also, subject to the Court's approval, a portion of the

Settlement Fund will be used to pay attorneys' fees with interest and reasonable litigation expenses to Lead Counsel, Lopez's Counsel, and any Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez. A portion of the Settlement Fund also will be used to pay taxes due on interest earned by the Settlement Fund, if necessary, and the costs of the claims administration, including the costs of printing and mailing and/or emailing notice and the costs of publishing notice. After the foregoing deductions from the Settlement Fund have been made, the amount remaining (the "Net Settlement Fund") will be distributed to Settlement Class Members who submit timely, valid claims, according to the Plan of Allocation to be approved by the Court.

b. What can you expect to receive under the proposed Settlement?

Your share of the Net Settlement Fund will or may depend on: (i) the number of claims filed by all Settlement Class Members; (ii) the dates you purchased and sold GDSI securities; (iii) the prices of your purchases and sales; (iv) the amount of administrative costs, including the costs of notice; and (v) the amount awarded by the Court to Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses and the amounts awarded to the Lead Plaintiff and Lopez.

The Net Settlement Fund will be distributed to Settlement Class Members who submit a Proof of Claim and Release Form and whose claims for recovery are allowed by the Claims Administrator pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Stipulation or by order of the Court under the below Plan of Allocation ("Authorized Claimants"), which reflects Lead Plaintiff's contention that because of the alleged misrepresentations made by Defendants, the price of GDSI securities was artificially inflated during the relevant period and that certain subsequent disclosures caused changes in the inflated price of GDSI securities. Defendants have denied and continue to deny these allegations and any and all allegations of wrongdoing, fault, liability or damage whatsoever asserted in the Action.

PROPOSED PLAN OF ALLOCATION

The Plan of Allocation is a matter separate and apart from the proposed Settlement, and any decision by the Court concerning the Plan of Allocation shall not affect the validity or finality of the proposed Settlement. The Court may approve the Plan of Allocation with or without modifications agreed to among the Parties, or another plan of allocation, without further notice to Settlement Class Members. Any orders regarding a modification of the Plan of Allocation will be posted to the Claims Administrator's website, www.strategicclaims.net.

The Claims Administrator shall determine each Authorized Claimant's *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Fund based upon each Authorized Claimant's Recognized Loss. **Please Note**: The Recognized Loss formula, set forth below, is not intended to be an estimate of the amount of what a Settlement Class Member might have been able to recover after a trial, nor is it an estimate of the amount that will be paid to Authorized Claimants pursuant to the Settlement. The Recognized Loss formula is the basis upon which the Net Settlement Fund will be proportionately allocated to the Authorized Claimants. To the extent there are sufficient funds in the Net Settlement Fund, each Authorized Claimant will receive an amount equal to the Authorized Claimant's

Recognized Loss and subject to the provisions in the preceding paragraph. If, however, the amount in the Net Settlement Fund is not sufficient to permit payment of the total Recognized Loss of each Authorized Claimant, then each Authorized Claimant shall be paid the percentage of the Net Settlement Fund that each Authorized Claimant's Recognized Loss bears to the total Recognized Losses of all Authorized Claimants and subject to the provisions in the preceding paragraph (*i.e.*, "pro rata share"). No distribution will be made on a claim where the potential distribution amount is less than ten dollars (\$10.00) in cash.

If any funds remain in the Net Settlement Fund by reason of uncashed checks, or otherwise, after the Claims Administrator has made reasonable and diligent efforts to have Authorized Claimants who are entitled to participate in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund cash their distribution checks, then any balance remaining in the Net Settlement Fund six (6) months after the initial distribution of such funds shall be used: (i) first, to pay any amounts mistakenly omitted from the initial distribution to Authorized Claimants; (ii) second, to pay any additional Administration Costs incurred in administering the Settlement; and (iii) finally, to make a second distribution to Authorized Claimants who cashed their checks from the initial distribution and who would receive at least \$10.00 from such second distribution, after payment of the estimated costs or fees to be incurred in administering the Net Settlement Fund and in making this second distribution, if such second distribution is economically feasible. If six (6) months after such second distribution, if undertaken, or if such second distribution is not undertaken, any funds shall remain in the Net Settlement Fund after the Claims Administrator has made reasonable and diligent efforts to have Authorized Claimants who are entitled to participate in this Settlement cash their checks, any funds remaining in the Net Settlement Fund shall be donated to a non-profit charitable organization(s) selected by Lead Counsel.

THE BASIS FOR CALCULATING YOUR RECOGNIZED LOSS:

- (I) Recognized Loss for the Company's Publicly Traded Common Stock Purchased During the Settlement Class Period will be calculated as follows:
 - (A) For shares purchased during the Settlement Class Period and sold during the Settlement Class Period, the Recognized Loss per share will be the *lesser* of: (1) the inflation per share upon purchase (as set forth in Inflation Table A below) less the inflation per share upon sale (as set forth in Inflation Table A below); or (2) the purchase price per share minus the sales price per share.
 - (B) For shares purchased during the Settlement Class Period <u>and retained as of the close of trading on August 11, 2016</u>, the Recognized Loss will be the *lesser* of: (1) the inflation per share upon purchase (as set forth in Inflation Table A below); or (2) the purchase price per share minus \$0.00¹ per share.

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¹ This represents the closing price per share on August 12, 2016 of \$0.00.

INFLATION TABLE A GDSI Common Stock Purchased During the Settlement Class Period		
Period	Inflation	
October 8, 2013 to November 25, 2013, inclusive	\$0.27 per share	
November 26, 2013 to December 1, 2013, inclusive	\$0.18 per share	
December 2, 2013 to March 12, 2014, inclusive	\$0.13 per share	
March 13, 2014	\$0.07 per share	
March 14, 2014 to August 11, 2016, inclusive	\$0.00 per share	

To the extent a claimant had a trading gain or "broke even" from his, her or its overall transactions in the Company's shares during the Settlement Class Period, the value of the Recognized Loss will be zero and the claimant will not be entitled to a share of the Net Settlement Fund. To the extent that a claimant suffered a trading loss on his, her or its overall transactions in the Company's shares during the Settlement Class Period, but that trading loss was less than the Recognized Loss calculated above, then the Recognized Loss shall be limited to the amount of the claimant's actual trading loss.

For purposes of calculating your Recognized Loss, the date of purchase, acquisition or sale is the "contract" or "trade" date and not the "settlement" or "payment" date. The receipt or grant by gift, inheritance or operation of law of the Company shares shall not be deemed a purchase, acquisition or sale of shares for the calculation of an Authorized Claimant's Recognized Loss. The covering purchase of a short sale is not an eligible purchase.

For purposes of calculating your Recognized Loss, all purchases, acquisitions and sales shall be matched on a First In First Out ("FIFO") basis in chronological order. Therefore, on the Proof of Claim and Release Form enclosed with this Notice, you must provide all your purchases and sales of the Company shares during the period October 8, 2013 through and including August 11, 2016.

Payment pursuant to the Plan of Allocation approved by the Court shall be conclusive against all Authorized Claimants. No person shall have any claim against Defendants, Defendants' Counsel, Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator or other agent designated by Lead Counsel based on the distributions made substantially in accordance with the Stipulation and the Settlement contained therein, the Plan of Allocation, or further orders of the Court. Each claimant shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the claimant's Proof of Claim and Release Form. All persons involved in the review, verification, calculation, tabulation, or any other aspect of the processing of the claims submitted in connection with the Settlement, or otherwise involved in the administration or taxation of the Settlement Fund or the Net Settlement Fund shall be released and discharged from any and all claims arising out of such involvement, and all Settlement Class Members, whether or not they are to receive payment from the Net Settlement Fund, will be barred from making any further claim against the Net Settlement Fund beyond the amount allocated to them as provided in any distribution orders entered by the Court.

9. How can I get a payment?

> Global Digital Solutions, Inc. Securities Litigation c/o Strategic Claims Services P.O. Box 230 600 N. Jackson St., Ste. 205 Media, PA 19063 Fax: (610) 565-7985 info@strategicclaims.net

The Claims Administrator will process your claim and determine whether you are an Authorized Claimant.

10. What am I giving up to get a payment or stay in the Settlement Class?

Unless you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class by the ______, 2019 deadline, you will remain a member of the Settlement Class and will be bound by the release of claims against Defendants and other Released Parties if the Settlement is approved. That means you and all other Settlement Class Members and each of their respective parent entities, associates, affiliates, subsidiaries, predecessors, successors, assigns, attorneys, immediate family members, heirs, representatives, administrators, executors, devisees, legatees, and estates will release (agreeing never to sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit) as against Defendants and other Released Parties any and all claims which arise out of, are based upon or relate in any way to the purchase or acquisition of GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period. It means that all of the Court's orders will apply to you and legally bind you. That means you will accept a share of the Net Settlement Fund as sole compensation for any losses you suffered in the purchase, acquisitions, sale or ownership of GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period. The specific terms of the release are included in the Settlement Stipulation.

11. How do I get out of the Settlement?

If you do not want to receive a payment from this Settlement, and you want to keep any right you may have to sue or continue to sue Defendants or other Released Parties on your own about the claims being released in this Settlement, then you must take steps to exclude yourself from the Settlement. To exclude yourself from the Settlement, you must mail a letter that (A) clearly indicates your name, address, phone number and e-mail contact information (if any) and states that you "request to be excluded from the Settlement Class

> Global Digital Solutions, Inc. Securities Litigation c/o Strategic Claims Services P.O. Box 230 600 N. Jackson St., Ste. 205 Media, PA 19063

You cannot exclude yourself by telephone or by e-mail.

If you properly exclude yourself, you will not receive a payment from the Net Settlement Fund, you cannot object to the Settlement, and you will not be legally bound by the judgment in this case.

12. If I do not exclude myself, can I sue Defendants or the other Released Parties for the same thing later?

No. Unless you followed the procedure outlined in the Notice to exclude yourself, you give up any right to sue Defendants or other Released Parties for the claims being released in this Settlement. If you have a pending lawsuit related to any Released Claims, speak to your lawyer in that case immediately, since you must exclude yourself from this Settlement Class to continue your own lawsuit.

13. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

The Court appointed The Rosen Law Firm, P.A. as Lead Counsel to represent you and the other Settlement Class Members. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense. Contact information for The Rosen Law Firm, P.A. is provided below.

14. How will the lawyers be paid?

Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel have expended considerable time litigating this Action and the Lopez's Actions on a contingent fee basis and have paid for the expenses of the cases themselves. They have not been paid attorneys' fees or reimbursed for their expenses in advance of this Settlement. Lead Counsel have done so with the expectation that, if they are successful in recovering money for the Settlement Class, they will receive attorneys' fees and be reimbursed for their litigation expenses from the Settlement Fund, as is

customary in this type of litigation. Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel will not receive attorneys' fees or be reimbursed for their litigation expenses except from the Settlement Fund. Therefore, Lead Counsel will file a motion asking the Court at the Settlement Hearing to make an award of attorneys' fees in an amount not to exceed one-third of the Settlement Fund (\$198,333.33) plus interest, reimbursement of litigation expenses of no more than \$37,500, an Award to Lead Plaintiff not to exceed \$5,000, and an Award to Lopez not to exceed \$1,000. The fee request of one-third of the Settlement Fund includes payment to Lopez's Counsel of \$39,666.66 The Court may award less than these amounts. Any amounts awarded by the Court will come out of the Settlement Fund.

15. How do I tell the Court that I do not like the Settlement?

You can tell the Court you do not agree with the Settlement, any part of the Settlement, and/or to Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and expenses and application for Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez, and that you think the Court should not approve the Settlement, by mailing a letter stating that you object to the Settlement in the matter of Hull v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., Case No. 16-cv-5153 (D.N.J.). Be sure to include: (1) your name, address, and telephone number; (2) a list of all purchases and sales of GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period in order to show membership in the Settlement Class; (3) all grounds for the objection, including any legal support known to you or your counsel; (4) the name, address and telephone number of all counsel, if any, who represent you, including your former or current counsel who may be entitled to compensation in connection with the objection; and (5) the number of times you and/or your counsel has filed an objection to a class action settlement in the last five years, the nature of each such objection in each case, the jurisdiction in each case, and the name of the issuer of the security or seller of the product or service at issue in each case. Attendance at the Settlement Hearing is not necessary. Objectors wishing to be heard orally at the Settlement Hearing are required to indicate in their written objection (or in a separate writing that is submitted in accordance with the deadline and after instruction pertinent to the submission of a written objection) that they intend to appear at the Settlement Hearing and identify any witnesses they may call to testify or exhibits they intend to introduce into evidence at the Settlement Hearing. Be sure to serve copies of any objections, papers and 2019:

Clerk of the Court United States District Court District of New Jersey 402 East State Street Trenton, New Jersey 08608 LEAD COUNSEL:
THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A.
Laurence M. Rosen
609 W. South Orange Avenue, Suite 2P
South Orange, New Jersey 07079

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC. AND WILLIAM J. DELGADO:

BRINEN & ASSOCIATES, LLC Joshua D. Brinen 90 Broad Street, Second Floor New York, New York 10004

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT DAVID A. LOPPERT:

HELLRING LINDEMAN GOLDSTEIN & SIEGAL, LLP
Jonathan L. Goldstein
Corinne B. Maloney
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102-5323

16. What is the difference between objecting and requesting exclusion?

Objecting is simply telling the Court you do not like something about the Settlement or some portion thereof. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. Requesting exclusion is telling the Court you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class and Settlement. If you exclude yourself, you cannot object to the Settlement because it no longer concerns you. If you stay in the Settlement Class and object, but your objection is overruled, you will not be allowed a second opportunity to exclude yourself.

17. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Settlement Hearing on _______, 2019, at __:___a.m., at the United States District Court, District of New Jersey, 402 East State Street, Courtroom 5E, Trenton, NJ, 08608.

At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and whether to approve the Settlement. If there are objections, the Court will consider them, and the Court will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing. The Court may also decide how much to pay Lead Counsel and Lopez's Counsel for attorneys' fees and expenses and how much to award Lead Plaintiff and Lopez.

18. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Lead Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have. However, you are welcome to attend at your own expense. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to Court to talk about it. As long as you mail your written objection on time, the Court will consider it.

19. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you do nothing, you will not receive a payment from the Settlement. However, unless you exclude yourself, you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants or the Released Parties about the Released Claims (as defined in the Settlement Stipulation) ever again.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO BROKERS AND OTHER NOMINEES

If, between October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016 inclusive, you purchased, otherwise acquired, or sold GDSI securities for the beneficial interest of a person or organization other than yourself, the Court has directed that, WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF NOTICE, you either (a) provide to the Claims Administrator the name, email address, and last known address of each person or organization for whom or which you purchased such GDSI securities during such time period or (b) request additional copies of the Postcard Notice, which will be provided to you free of charge, and within ten (10) days mail the Postcard Notice directly to the beneficial owners of the GDSI securities. If you choose to follow alternative procedure (b), the Court has directed that, upon such mailing, you send a statement to the Claims Administrator confirming that the mailing was made as directed. You are entitled to reimbursement from the Settlement Fund of your reasonable out-of-pocket expenses actually incurred in connection with the foregoing up to \$0.05 for providing names, addresses and email addresses to the Claims Administrator; up to a maximum of \$0.05 per Postcard Notice mailed by you, plus postage at the rate used by the Claims Administrator; or \$0.05 per notice sent by email. Those expenses will be paid upon request and submission of appropriate supporting documentation. All communications regarding the foregoing should be addressed to the Claims Administrator at the address listed on page 3 above.

DATED:	
	BY ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES
	DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF
	NEW JERSEY

PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM

Deadline for Submission:

IF YOU PURCHASED PUBLICLY TRADED GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC
("GDSI") SECURITIES FROM OCTOBER 8, 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 11, 2016, BOTH
DATES INCLUSIVE (THE "SETTLEMENT CLASS PERIOD") AND WERE ALLEGEDLY
DAMAGED THEREBY, YOU ARE A "SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBER" AND YOU MAY
BE ENTITLED TO SHARE IN THE SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS. (EXCLUDED FROM THE
SETTLEMENT CLASS ARE DEFENDANTS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES, THE
OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF GDSI AT ALL RELEVANT TIMES, THEIR LEGAL
REPRESENTATIVES, HEIRS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, AND ANY ENTITY IN WHICH
DEFENDANTS HAVE OR HAD A CONTROLLING INTEREST. 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.).

IF YOU ARE A SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBER, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THIS PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM ("CLAIM FORM") IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ANY SETTLEMENT BENEFITS. YOU CAN COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THIS CLAIM FORM BY 11:59 P.M. EST ON _______, 2019 AT WWW.STRATEGICCLAIMS.NET.

IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE AND SUBMIT AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THIS CLAIM FORM, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND SIGN THIS CLAIM FORM AND MAIL IT BY FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN ________, 2019 TO STRATEGIC CLAIMS SERVICES, THE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR, AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

Global Digital Solutions, Inc. Securities Litigation c/o Strategic Claims Services 600 N. Jackson St., Ste. 205 P.O. Box 230 Media, PA 19063 Fax: (610) 565-7985 info@strategicclaims.net

YOUR FAILURE TO SUBMIT YOUR CLAIM BY _______, 2019 WILL SUBJECT YOUR CLAIM TO REJECTION AND PRECLUDE YOU FROM RECEIVING ANY MONEY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SETTLEMENT OF THIS ACTION. DO NOT MAIL OR DELIVER YOUR CLAIM TO THE COURT OR TO ANY OF THE PARTIES OR THEIR COUNSEL, AS ANY SUCH CLAIM WILL BE DEEMED NOT TO HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED. SUBMIT YOUR CLAIM ONLY TO THE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR. IF YOU ARE A SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBER AND DO NOT SUBMIT A PROPER CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT SHARE IN THE SETTLEMENT, BUT YOU NEVERTHELESS WILL BE BOUND BY THE ORDER AND FINAL JUDGMENT OF THE COURT UNLESS YOU EXCLUDE YOURSELF.

SUBMISSION OF A CLAIM FORM DOES NOT ASSURE THAT YOU WILL SHARE IN THE PROCEEDS OF THE SETTLEMENT.

CLAIMANT'S STATEMENT

- 1. I (we) purchased publicly traded Global Digital Solutions, Inc. ("GDSI") securities during the Settlement Class Period. (Do not submit this Proof of Claim and Release Form if you did not purchase GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period.)
- 2. By submitting this Proof of Claim and Release Form, I (we) state that I (we) believe in good faith that I am (we are) a Settlement Class Member(s) as defined above and in the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action (the "Notice"), or am (are) acting for such person(s); that I am (we are) not a Defendant in the Action or anyone excluded from the Settlement Class; that I (we) have read and understand the Notice; that I (we) believe that I am (we are) entitled to receive a share of the Net Settlement Fund, as defined in the Notice; that I (we) elect to participate in the proposed Settlement described in the Notice; and that I (we) have not filed a request for exclusion. (If you are acting in a representative capacity on behalf of a Settlement Class Member [e.g., as an executor, administrator, trustee, or other representative], you must submit evidence of your current authority to act on behalf of that Settlement Class Member. Such evidence would include, for example, letters testamentary, letters of administration, or a copy of the trust documents.)
- 3. I (we) consent to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to all questions concerning the validity of this Proof of Claim and Release Form. I (we) understand and agree that my (our) claim may be subject to investigation and discovery under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, provided that such investigation and discovery shall be limited to my (our) status as a Settlement Class Member(s) and the validity and amount of my (our) claim. No discovery shall be allowed on the merits of the Action or Settlement in connection with processing of the Proof of Claim and Release Form.
- 4. I (we) have set forth where requested below all relevant information with respect to each purchase of GDSI securities, and each sale, if any, of such securities. I (we) agree to furnish additional information to the Claims Administrator to support this claim if requested to do so.
- 5. I (we) have enclosed photocopies of the stockbroker's confirmation slips, stockbroker's statements, or other documents evidencing each purchase and sale of GDSI securities listed below in support of my (our) claim. (IF ANY SUCH DOCUMENTS ARE NOT IN YOUR POSSESSION, PLEASE OBTAIN A COPY OR EQUIVALENT DOCUMENTS FROM YOUR BROKER OR TAX ADVISOR BECAUSE THESE DOCUMENTS ARE NECESSARY TO PROVE AND PROCESS YOUR CLAIM.)
- 6. I (we) understand that the information contained in this Proof of Claim and Release Form is subject to such verification as the Claims Administrator may request or as the Court may direct, and I (we) agree to cooperate in any such verification. (The information requested herein is designed to provide the minimum amount of information necessary to process most simple claims. The Claims Administrator may request additional information as required to efficiently and reliably calculate your Recognized L. In some cases, the Claims Administrator may condition acceptance of the claim based upon the production of additional information, including, where applicable, information concerning transactions in any derivatives securities such as options.)
- 7. Upon the occurrence of the Court's approval of the Settlement, as detailed in the Notice, I (we) agree and acknowledge that my (our) signature(s) hereto shall effect and constitute a full and complete release, remise and discharge by me (us) and my (our) heirs, joint tenants, tenants in common, beneficiaries, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, attorneys, insurers and assigns (or, if I am (we are) submitting this Proof of Claim and Release Form on behalf of a corporation, a partnership, estate or one or more other persons, by it, him, her or them, and by its, his, her or their heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns) of each of the "Released Parties" of all "Released Claims," as those terms are defined in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (the "Settlement Stipulation").

- 8. Upon the occurrence of the Court's approval of the Settlement, as detailed in the Notice, I (we) agree and acknowledge that my (our) signature(s) hereto shall effect and constitute a covenant by me (us) and my (our) heirs, joint tenants, tenants in common, beneficiaries, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, attorneys, insurers and assigns (or, if I am (we are) submitting this Proof of Claim and Release Form on behalf of a corporation, a partnership, estate or one or more other persons, by it, him, her or them, and by its, his, her or their heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns) to permanently refrain from prosecuting or attempting to prosecute any Released Claims against any of the Released Parties.
- 9. "Released Parties" has the meaning laid out in the Settlement Stipulation.
- 10. "Released Claims" has the meaning laid out in the Settlement Stipulation.
- 11. "Unknown Claims" has the meaning laid out in the Settlement Stipulation.
- 12. I (We) acknowledge that the inclusion of "Unknown Claims" in the definition of claims released pursuant to the Settlement Stipulation was separately bargained for and is a material element of the Settlement of which this release is a part.
- 13. NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILES: Certain claimants with large numbers of transactions may request, or may be requested, to submit information regarding their transactions in electronic files. All Claimants MUST submit a manually signed paper Proof of Claim and Release Form listing all their transactions whether or not they also submit electronic copies. If you wish to file your claim electronically, you must contact the Claims Administrator at info@strategicclaims.net or visit their website at www.strategicclaims.net to obtain the required file layout. No electronic files will be considered to have been properly submitted unless the Claims Administrator issues to the Claimant a written acknowledgment of receipt and acceptance of electronically submitted data.

I. CL	AIMANT	INFOR	MATION
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Name				
Address				
City		State	ZIP	
Foreign Province		Foreign Country		
Day Phone		Evening Phone		
Email				
Social Security Number (for individuals):	OR	Taxpayer Identification	on Number (for e	estates, trusts, corporations, etc.):
II. SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS SECURITIES Beginning Holdings: A. State the total number of shares of ("GDSI") securities held at the clos be documented). If none, write "zero of the security	Global se of tr	Digital Solutions, In ading on October 7,	nc.	IS, INC.

Purchases/Acquisitions:

B. Separately list each and every purchase or acquisition of GDSI securities between October 8, 2013 and August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive, and provide the following information (*must be documented*):

Trade Date (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Purchased	Price per Share	Total Cost (Excluding Commissions, Taxes, and Fees)

Sales:

C. Separately list each and every sale of GDSI securities between October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive, and provide the following information (*must be documented*):

Trade Date (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Sold	Price per Share	Amount Received (Excluding Commissions, Taxes, and Fees)
	ber of shares of GDSI securities h 11, 2016 (must be documented).	neld at the close of	

If additional space is needed, attach separate, numbered sheets, giving all required information, substantially in the same format, and print your name and Social Security or Taxpayer Identification number at the top of each sheet.

III. SUBSTITUTE FORM W-9

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number:

Enter taxpayer identification number below for the Beneficial Owner(s). For most individuals, this is your Social Security Number. The Internal Revenue Service ("I.R.S.") requires such taxpayer identification number. If you fail to provide this information, your claim may be rejected.

Social Security Number (for individuals)	or	Taxpayer Identification Number (for estates, trusts, corporations, etc.)

IV. CERTIFICATION

I (We) submit this Proof of Claim and Release Form under the terms of the Settlement Stipulation described in the Notice. I (We) also submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey with respect to my (our) claim as a Settlement Class Member and for purposes of enforcing the release and covenant not to sue set forth herein. I (We) further acknowledge that I am (we are) bound by and subject to the terms of any judgment that may be entered in this Action. I (We) have not submitted any other claim covering the same purchases or sales of GDSI securities during the Settlement Class Period and know of no other Person having done so on my (our) behalf.

I (We) certify that I am (we are) NOT subject to backup withholding under the provisions of Section 3406 (a)(1)(c) of the Internal Revenue Code because: (a) I am (We are) exempt from backup withholding; or (b) I (We) have not been notified by the I.R.S. that I am (we are) subject to backup withholding as a result of

a failure to report all interest or dividends; or (c) the I.R.S. has notified me (us) that I am (we are) no longer subject to backup withholding.

NOTE: If you have been notified by the I.R.S. that you are subject to backup withholding, please strike out the language that you are not subject to backup withholding in the certification above.

UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, I (WE) CERTIFY THAT ALL OF THE INFORMATION I (WE) PROVIDED ON THIS PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM IS TRUE, CORRECT AND COMPLETE.

Signature of Claimant (If this claim is being made

(Signature)
(Signature)
(Capacity of person(s) signing, e.g. beneficial purchaser(s), executor, administrator, trustee, etc.)
Check here if proof of authority to file is enclosed (See Item 2 under Claimant's Statement)

THIS PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN _______, 2019 AND MUST BE MAILED TO:

Global Digital Solutions, Inc. Securities Litigation c/o Strategic Claims Services 600 N. Jackson St., Ste. 205 P.O. Box 230 Media, PA 19063 Fax: (610) 565-7985 info@strategicclaims.net

A Proof of Claim and Release Form received by the Claims Administrator shall be deemed to have been submitted when posted, if mailed by _______, 2019 and if a postmark is indicated on the envelope and it is mailed first class and addressed in accordance with the above instructions. In all other cases, a Proof of Claim and Release Form shall be deemed to have been submitted when actually received by the Claims Administrator.

You should be aware that it will take a significant amount of time to process fully all of the Proof of Claim and Release Forms and to administer the Settlement. This work will be completed as promptly as time permits, given the need to investigate and tabulate each Proof of Claim and Release Form. Please notify the Claims Administrator of any change of address.

REMINDER CHECKLIST

- Please be sure to sign this Proof of Claim and Release Form on page _____. If this Proof of Claim and Release Form is submitted on behalf of joint claimants, then each claimant must sign.
- Please remember to attach supporting documents. Do NOT send any stock certificates. Keep copies of everything you submit.
- Do NOT use highlighter on the Proof of Claim and Release Form or any supporting documents.
- o If you desire an acknowledgment of receipt of your claim form, please send it Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, or its equivalent.
- o If you move or change your address, telephone number or email address, please submit the new information to the Claims Administrator, as well as any other information that will assist us in contacting you. NOTE: Failure to submit updated information to the Claims Administrator may result in the Claims Administrator's inability to contact you regarding issues with your claim or deliver payment to you.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

JEFF HULL, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED.

Case No. 3:16-cv-05153-FLW-TJB

Plaintiff.

v.

GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC., RICHARD J. SULLIVAN, DAVID A. LOPPERT, WILLIAM J. DELGADO, ARTHUR F. NOTERMAN, and STEPHANIE C. SULLIVAN,

Defendants.

CLASS ACTION

SUMMARY NOTICE OF PENDENCY AND PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

TO: ALL PERSONS WHO PURCHASED PUBLICLY TRADED GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC. SECURITIES FROM OCTOBER 8, 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 11, 2016, BOTH DATES INCLUSIVE.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, pursuant to an Order of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, that a hearing will be held on _______, 2019, at __:___.m. before the Honorable Freda L. Wolfson, United States District Judge of the District of New Jersey, 402 East State Street, Courtroom 5E, Trenton, New Jersey 08608 for the purpose of determining:

(1) whether the proposed Settlement of the claims in the above-captioned Action and release of related derivative and direct claims in the Lopez Actions¹ for consideration including the sum of

¹ The "Lopez Actions" refer to *Adrian Lopez v. William J. Delgado, et al.*, Docket No. C-70-16, which was brought derivatively by Adrian Lopez ("Lopez") on behalf of GDSI, and *Adrian Lopez v. Global Digital Solutions, Inc., et al.*, Docket No. L-002126-17, brought directly by Lopez against GDSI, both filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Mercer County, and later administratively closed.

\$595,000 should be approved by the Court as fair, reasonable, and adequate; (2) whether the proposed plan to distribute the Settlement proceeds is fair, reasonable, and adequate; (3) whether the application of Lead Counsel of up to one-third of the Settlement Amount plus interest for an award of Lead Counsel's and Lopez's counsel's attorneys' fees, and reimbursement of their expenses of not more than \$37,500 and incentive payments of no more than \$5,000 to Lead Plaintiff and \$1,000 to Lopez, should be approved; and (4) whether this Action should be dismissed with prejudice as set forth in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement, dated June 12, 2019 (the "Settlement Stipulation").

If you purchased publicly traded Global Digital Solutions, Inc. ("GDSI") securities during the period from October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive (the "Settlement Class Period"), your rights may be affected by this Settlement, including the release and extinguishment of claims you may possess relating to your ownership interest in GDSI securities. You may obtain copies of the detailed Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action ("Notice") and the Proof of Claim and Release Form by writing to or calling the Claims Administrator: Global Digital Solutions, Inc. Securities Litigation, c/o Strategic Claims Services, 600 N. Jackson St., Ste. 205, P.O. Box 230, Media, PA 19063; (Tel) (866) 274-4004; (Fax) (610) 565-7985; info@strategicclaims.net. You can also download copies of the Notice and submit your Proof of Claim and Release Form online at www.strategicclaims.net. If you are a member of the Settlement Class, in order to share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, you must submit a Proof of Claim and Release Form electronically or postmarked no later than _____ 2019 to the Claims Administrator, establishing that you are entitled to recovery. Unless you submit a written exclusion request, you will be bound by any judgment rendered in the Action whether or not you make a claim.

Any objection to the Settlement, Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's request for an award to Lead Counsel and Lopez's counsel of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses and Awards to Lead Plaintiff and Lopez must be in the manner and form explained in the detailed Notice and received no later than _______, 2019, by each of the following:

Clerk of the Court United States District Court District of New Jersey 402 East State Street Trenton, New Jersey 08608	LEAD COUNSEL: THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A. Laurence M. Rosen 609 W. South Orange Avenue, Suite 2P South Orange, New Jersey 07079
COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC. AND WILLIAM J. DELGADO:	COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT DAVID A. LOPPERT:
BRINEN & ASSOCIATES, LLC Joshua D. Brinen 90 Broad Street, Second Floor New York, New York 10004	HELLRING LINDEMAN GOLDSTEIN & SIEGAL, LLP Jonathan L. Goldstein Corinne B. Maloney One Gateway Center Newark, New Jersey 07102-5323

If you have any questions about the Settlement, you may call or write to Lead Counsel:

THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A. Laurence M. Rosen 609 W. South Orange Avenue, Suite 2P South Orange, New Jersey 07079

Tel: 973-313-1887 Fax: 973-833-0399

PLEASE DO NOT	CONTACT TI	HE COURT C	OR THE CLERK'	S OFFICE	REGARDINO
THIS NOTICE.					

Dated:, 2019	
,	BY ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES
	DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT
	OF NEW JERSEY

3:16-cv-05153-FLW-TJB Documentifications Documentification of 3 PageID: c/o Strategic Claims Services PRESORTED

P.O. Box 230

Media. PA 19063

Court-Ordered Legal Notice Forwarding Service Requested

Important Notice about a Securities

Class Action Settlement

rights.

Please read it carefully.

You may be entitled to a payment.

This Notice may affect your legal

[NAME 1] [NAME 2]

[NAME 3]

[ADDRESS 1] [ADDRESS 2]

(DNI)

District of New Jersey

Case Pending in the United States District Court for the

Case No. 3:16-cv-05153-FLW-TJB

MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID

FIRST-CLASS

3:16-cv-05153-FLV#dfvJ@obatPigittyJsqlatignsGC_GCascDiped1006/95/91@N.Dage 3 of 3 PageID:

PLEASE VISIT WWW.STRATEGICCLAIMS.NET OR CALL 1-866-274-4004 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

The United States District Court for the District of New Jersey (the "Court") has preliminarily approved a proposed Settlement of claims against Global Digital Solutions, Inc. ("GDSI") William J. Delgado, and David A. Lopert (collectively, the "Defendants"). The proposed Settlement would resolve a class action lawsuit alleging that, in violation of the federal securities laws, Defendants allegedly made misrepresentations and/or omissions of material fact in various public statements to the investing public concerning GDSI's business operations, prospects, and financial health. Defendants deny the allegations. The Settlement also releases derivative and direct claims made in related actions that were filed by Adrian Lopez.

You received this notice because you may have purchased publicly traded GDSI common stock between October 8, 2013 and August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive, and you may be a Settlement Class Member. The Settlement provides that, in exchange for the dismissal and release of claims against Defendants, a fund consisting of \$595,000, less attorneys' fees and expenses, will be divided among Settlement Class Members who timely submit a valid Proof of Claim and Release Form ("Proof of Claim"). For a full description of the Settlement and your rights and to make a claim, please view the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement and obtain a copy of the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action ("Notice") and Proof of Claim by visiting the website: www.strategicclaims.net. You may also request copies of the Notice and Proof of Claim from the Claims Administrator through any of the following ways: (1) mail: Global Digital Solutions, Inc. Securities Litigation, c/o Strategic Claims Services, P.O. Box 230, 600 N. Jackson St, Ste. 205, Media, PA 19063; (2) call toll free: (866) 274-4004; (3) fax: (610) 565-7985; or (4) email: info@strategicclaims.net.

The Court will hold a hearing in this case on ______, 2019 at __:___.m. at the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, 402 East State Street, Courtroom 5E, Trenton, NJ, 08608, to consider whether to approve the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and a request by Lead Counsel for up to one-third of the Settlement Fund for their and Lopez's counsel's attorneys' fees, plus up to \$37,500 in expenses, and Awards to Lead Plaintiff of no more than \$5,000 and to Lopez of no more than \$1,000 for litigating the cases and negotiating the Settlement. You may, but do not have to, attend the hearing and ask to be heard by the Court. For more information, call toll-free 1-866-274-4004, or visit the website www.strategicclaims.net.

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT B

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

JEFF HULL, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED.

Plaintiff,

v.

GLOBAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, INC., RICHARD J. SULLIVAN, DAVID A. LOPPERT, WILLIAM J. DELGADO, ARTHUR F. NOTERMAN, and STEPHANIE C. SULLIVAN,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:16-cv-05153-FLW-TJB

CLASS ACTION

[PROPOSED] ORDER AND FINAL JUDGMENT

On the day of, 2019 a hearing having been held before this Court to
determine: (1) whether the terms and conditions of the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement
dated June 12, 2019 (the "Settlement Stipulation") are fair, reasonable and adequate for the
settlement of all claims asserted by the Settlement Class against Defendants (as defined in the
Settlement Stipulation), including the release of the Released Claims against the Released Parties,
and should be approved; (2) whether judgment should be entered dismissing the Action with
prejudice; (3) whether to approve the proposed Plan of Allocation as a fair and reasonable method
to allocate the Net Settlement Fund among Settlement Class Members; (4) whether and in what
amount to award Lead Counsel and Lopez's counsel as fees and reimbursement of expenses; and
(5) whether and in what amount to award Lead Plaintiff and Lopez as incentive fees; and

The Court having considered all matters submitted to it at the hearing and otherwise; and It appearing in the record that the Notice substantially in the form approved by the Court in the Court's Order Granting Lead Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, dated ______, 2019 ("Preliminary Approval Order") was mailed to all reasonably identifiable Settlement Class Members and posted to the website of the Claims Administrator, both in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order and the specifications of the Court; and

It appearing in the record that the Summary Notice substantially in the form approved by the Court in the Preliminary Approval Order was published and emailed to identifiable Settlement Class Members when an email address was provided to the Claims Administrator in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order and the specifications of the Court;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. This Order and Final Judgment incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Stipulation, and all capitalized terms used herein shall have the same meanings as set forth therein.
- 2. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, Lead Plaintiff, all Settlement Class Members, and Defendants.
- 3. The Court finds that, for settlement purposes only, the prerequisites for a class action under Rule 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure have been satisfied in that:
 - (a) the number of Settlement Class Members is so numerous that joinder of all members thereof is impracticable;
 - (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class;
 - (c) the claims of the Lead Plaintiff are typical of the claims of the Settlement Class he seeks to represent;
 - (d) Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Settlement Class;
 - (e) questions of law and fact common to the members of the Settlement Class predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of the Settlement Class; and
 - (f) a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this Action, considering:
 - i. the interests of the Settlement Class Members in individually controlling the prosecution of the separate actions;
 - ii. the extent and nature of any litigation concerning the controversy already commenced by Settlement Class Members;

- iii. the desirability or undesirability of concentrating the litigation of these claims in this particular forum; and
- iv. the difficulties likely to be encountered in the management of the class action.

The Settlement Class is being certified for settlement purposes only.

- 4. The Court hereby finally certifies this action as a class action for purposes of the Settlement, pursuant to Rule 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on behalf of all Persons (including, without limitation, their beneficiaries) all persons and entities, other than Defendants and their affiliates, who purchased publicly traded Global Digital Solutions, Inc. ("GDSI") common stock from October 8, 2013 through August 11, 2016, both dates inclusive. Excluded from the Settlement Class are Defendants and their immediate families, the officers and directors of GDSI at all relevant times, their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns, and any entity in which Defendants have or had a controlling interest. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are those persons who file valid and timely requests for exclusion in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order.
- 5. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, for the purposes of this Settlement only, Lead Plaintiff is certified as the class representatives on behalf of the Settlement Class ("Class Representative") and Lead Counsel previously selected by Lead Plaintiff and appointed by the Court is hereby appointed as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class ("Class Counsel").
- 6. In accordance with the Court's Preliminary Approval Order, the Court hereby finds that the forms and methods of notifying the Settlement Class of the Settlement and its terms and conditions met the requirements of due process, Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure,

and Section 21D(a)(7) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4(a)(7), as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995; constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances; and constituted due and sufficient notice of these proceedings and the matters set forth herein, including the Settlement and Plan of Allocation, to all persons and entities entitled to such notice. No Settlement Class Member is relieved from the terms and conditions of the Settlement, including the releases provided for in the Settlement Stipulation, based upon the contention or proof that such Settlement Class Member failed to receive actual or adequate notice. A full opportunity has been offered to the Settlement Class Members to object to the proposed Settlement and to participate in the hearing thereon. The Court further finds that the notice provisions of the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1715, were fully discharged. Thus, it is hereby determined that all Settlement Class Members are bound by this Order and Final Judgment except those persons listed on Exhibit A to this Order and Final Judgment.

- 7. The Settlement is approved as fair, reasonable and adequate under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class. This Court further finds that the Settlement set forth in the Settlement Stipulation is the result of good faith, arm's-length negotiations between experienced counsel representing the interests of Class Representative, Lopez, Settlement Class Members, and Settling Defendants. The Settling Parties are directed to consummate the Settlement in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Settlement Stipulation.
- 8. The Action and all claims contained therein, as well as all of the Released Claims, are dismissed with prejudice as against Defendants and the Released Parties. The Settling Parties are to bear their own costs, except as otherwise provided in the Settlement Stipulation.

- 9. The Releasing Parties, on behalf of themselves, their successors and assigns, and any other Person claiming (now or in the future) through or on behalf of them, regardless of whether any such Releasing Party ever seeks or obtains by any means, including without limitation by submitting a Proof of Claim and Release Form, any disbursement from the Settlement Fund, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Order and Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all Released Claims against the Released Parties. The Releasing Parties shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Order and Final Judgment shall have, covenanted not to sue the Released Parties with respect to any and all Released Claims in any forum and in any capacity. The Releasing Parties shall be and hereby are permanently barred and enjoined from asserting, commencing, prosecuting, instituting, assisting, instigating, or in any way participating in the commencement or prosecution of any action or other proceeding, in any forum, asserting any Released Claim, in any capacity, against any of the Released Parties, including Defendants' Counsel. Nothing contained herein shall, however, bar the Releasing Parties from bringing any action or claim to enforce the terms of the Settlement Stipulation or this Order and Final Judgment.
- 10. Defendants, on behalf of themselves and their Related Parties, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged Class Representative, Lopez, Settlement Class Members, Class Counsel, Lopez's Counsel, and their Related Parties from all Claims, whether known or unknown, which arise out of, concern or relate to the institution, prosecution, settlement or dismissal of the Action or the Lopez Actions (the "Defendants' Released Claims"), and shall be permanently enjoined from prosecuting the Defendants' Released Claims against Class Representative, Lopez, Settlement Class Members, Class Counsel, Lopez's Counsel and their Related Parties. Nothing

contained herein shall, however, bar the Defendants or their Related Parties from bringing any action or claim to enforce the terms of the Settlement Stipulation or this Order and Final Judgment.

- barred and restrained from bringing, commencing, prosecuting or asserting any claims, actions, or causes of action for contribution, indemnity or otherwise against any of the Released Parties seeking as damages or otherwise the recovery of all or any part of any liability, judgment or settlement which they pay or are obligated to pay or agree to pay to the Settlement Class or any Settlement Class Member arising out of, relating to or concerning such Persons' participation in any acts, facts, statements or omissions that were or could have been alleged in the Action, whether arising under state, federal or foreign law as claims, cross-claims, counterclaims, third-party claims or otherwise, in the Court or any other federal, state, or foreign court, or in any arbitration proceeding, administrative agency proceeding, tribunal, or any other proceeding or forum. Further, nothing in the Settlement Stipulation or this Order and Final Judgment shall apply to bar or otherwise affect any claim for insurance coverage by any Defendant.
- 12. The Court hereby finds that the proposed Plan of Allocation is a fair and reasonable method to allocate the Net Settlement Fund among Settlement Class Members, and Class Counsel and the Claims Administrator are directed to administer the Plan of Allocation in accordance with its terms and the terms of the Settlement Stipulation.
- 13. The Court finds that the Settling Parties and their counsel have complied with all requirements of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Private Securities Litigation Record Act of 1995 as to all proceedings herein.

- 14. Neither this Order and Final Judgment, the Settlement Stipulation (nor the Settlement contained therein), nor any of its terms and provisions, nor any of the negotiations, documents or proceedings connected with them:
 - (a) is or may be deemed to be, or may be used as an admission, concession, or evidence of, the validity or invalidity of any Released Claims, the truth or falsity of any fact alleged by Class Representative, the sufficiency or deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in the Action, or of any wrongdoing, liability, negligence or fault of Defendants, the Released Parties, or each or any of them;
 - (b) is or may be deemed to be or may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, any fault or misrepresentation or omission with respect to any statement or written document attributed to, approved or made by Defendants or Released Parties in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding in any court, administrative agency or other tribunal;
 - (c) is or may be deemed to be or shall be used, offered or received against the Settling Parties, Lopez, Defendants or the Released Parties, or each or any of them, as an admission, concession or evidence of the validity or invalidity of the Released Claims, the infirmity or strength of any claim raised in the Action, the truth or falsity of any fact alleged by the Class Representative or the Settlement Class, or the availability or lack of availability of meritorious defenses to the claims raised in the Action;
 - (d) is or may be deemed to be or shall be construed as or received in evidence as an admission or concession against Defendants, or the Released Parties, or each or any of them, that any of Class Representative's, Settlement Class Members', or Lopez's claims are with or without merit, that a litigation class should or should not be certified, that damages recoverable in the Action would have been greater or less than the Settlement

Fund or that the consideration to be given pursuant to the Settlement Stipulation represents an amount equal to, less than or greater than the amount which could have or would have been recovered after trial.

- Judgment in any other action that may be brought against them in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, full faith and credit, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim. The Settling Parties may file the Settlement Stipulation and/or this Order and Final Judgment in any proceedings that may be necessary to consummate or enforce the Settlement Stipulation, the Settlement, or this Order and Final Judgment.
- 16. Except as otherwise provided herein or in the Settlement Stipulation, 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 are distributed or returned pursuant to the Settlement Stipulation and/or further order of the Court.
- 17. Without affecting the finality of this Order and Judgment in any way, this Court hereby retains continuing exclusive jurisdiction over the Settling Parties and the Settlement Class Members for all matters relating to the Action, including the administration, interpretation, effectuation or enforcement of the Settlement Stipulation and this Order and Final Judgment, and including any application for fees and expenses incurred in connection with administering and distributing the Settlement proceeds to the Settlement Class Members.

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18. Without further order of the Court, Settling Defendants, Class Representative, and

Lopez may agree to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any of the provisions of the

Settlement Stipulation.

19. There is no just reason for delay in the entry of this Order and Final Judgment and

immediate entry by the Clerk of the Court is expressly directed pursuant to Rule 54(b) of the

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

20. The finality of this Order and Final Judgment shall not be affected, in any manner,

by rulings that the Court may make on Class Counsels' application for an award of attorneys' fees

and expenses to Class Counsel and Lopez's Counsel or awards to Class Representative and Lopez.

21. In the event the Settlement is not consummated in accordance with the terms of the

Settlement Stipulation, then the Settlement Stipulation and this Order and Final Judgment

(including any amendment(s) thereof, and except as expressly provided in the Settlement

Stipulation or by order of the Court) shall be null and void, of no further force or effect, and without

prejudice to any Settling Party, and may not be introduced as evidence or used in any action or

proceeding by any Person against the Settling Parties or the Released Parties, and each Settling

Party shall be restored to his, her or its respective litigation positions as they existed prior to June

12, 2019, pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Stipulation.

Dated: ______, 2019

HON. FREDA L. WOLFSON UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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