

FILED
Clerk
District Court

APR 01 2014

for the Northern Mariana Islands
By
(Deputy Clerk)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BETTY JOHNSON, on behalf of herself, and as
a representative of a class of similarly-situated
persons,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ELOY S. INOS, Governor of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
("CNMI"), *et al.*,

Defendants.

CIVIL CASE NO. 09-00023

ORDER

re Payment of September 2013 Invoices
(Trustee Ad Litem and its Professionals)

Pursuant to the appointment of Civile and Tang, PLLC as the Trustee *Ad Litem* ("TAL") for the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund ("NMIRF"), the source of compensation or expenses for the TAL and the professionals hired by the TAL is the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands. *See* September 14, 2012 Order, ECF No. 220.

The TAL submitted a request for compensation for work performed and reimbursement of expenses for costs incurred during the month of September 2013. The TAL requested compensation for professional services in the amount of \$15,292.50, and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$1,452.95, for a total invoice amount of \$16,745.45. Attached hereto as Exhibits 1 and 2 are unredacted and redacted versions of the TAL's invoice and supporting documentation.

Additionally, the TAL submitted its request for compensation for legal services rendered and expenses incurred by Daniel J. Berman and Braddock J. Huesman for the month of September

1 2013. Mr. Berman's professional fee totaled \$6,000.00; he incurred no expenses for the month.
2 Mr. Huesman requested reimbursement of \$14,130.00 for professional services performed and
3 \$236.36 for expenses incurred for the month, for a total claim of \$14,366.36. Unredacted and
4 redacted versions of these invoices and supporting documentation are attached to this Order as
5 Exhibits 3-6.

6 In order to preserve the confidential communications between attorney and client and to
7 prevent the disclosure of attorney work product, litigation strategy and personal identifiers, the
8 Clerk of Court is directed to file Exhibits 1,3 and 5 – the unredacted invoices – under seal.

9 The court has reviewed these invoices and finds the requests for compensation and
10 reimbursements of expenses to be reasonable. During this time frame, the TAL and its attorneys
11 endeavored to wrap up their work and transition the NMIRF to the Settlement Fund. The court
12 appreciates the professionalism and diligence demonstrated by the TAL and its team during the
13 appointment term. Accordingly, pursuant to terms of the Final Amended Stipulation and
14 Agreement of Settlement, ECF No. 468-1 at ¶9.1, the court hereby orders that the following
15 amounts shall be paid to the TAL and its attorneys from the money that was transferred from the
16 NMIRF Operations Budget into the TAL's client trust account:

- 17 • TAL - Sixteen Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-Five and 45/100 Dollars
18 (\$16,745.45);
- 19 • Daniel J. Berman - Six Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$6,000.00); and
- 20 • Braddock J. Huesman - Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Six and 36/100
21 Dollars (\$14,366.36).

22 IT IS SO ORDERED.



/s/ Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood
Designated Judge
Dated: Apr 01, 2014