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FILED
Clerk
District Court

MAR 22 2018

for the Northern Mariana Islands By_____(Debty Cferk)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

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

Plaintiffs,

v.

RALPH DELEON GUERRERO TORRES, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI"), *et al.*,

Defendants.

CIVIL CASE NO. 09-00023

ORDER

re Payment of Trustee's Invoice (March 2018)

On September 25, 2013, the court appointed Civille and Tang, PLLC, acting by and through its principal representative Joyce C.H. Tang, as the Trustee for the Settlement Fund. *See* Order re Appointment of Trustee, ECF No. 526. Pursuant to the terms of the appointment, the Trustee now requests compensation for work performed and expenses incurred during the month of February 2018. The Trustee's professional services amounted to \$13,122.50, and she incurred \$14.83 in expenses, for a total invoice amount of \$13,137.33.

Attached to this Order as Exhibit 1 is the unredacted invoice, while the redacted version of the invoice is appended as Exhibit 2. The court orders the Clerk of Court to file Exhibit 1 under seal.

¹ The Trustee has redacted from the invoices personal identifiers and information that may affect pending litigation and the research of other confidential issues.

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The court has reviewed the invoice and finds the request for compensation and reimbursement of expenses to be reasonable. The court is satisfied with the work performed by the Trustee during the month of February 2018. Accordingly, pursuant to the terms of the Order re Appointment of Trustee, the court hereby orders the Settlement Fund to pay the Trustee the sum of Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars and Eight Cents (\$11,825.08). This amount represents ninety percent (90%) of the Trustee's professional fees and all expenses incurred during the month of February 2018.

The court further orders the Settlement Fund to hold in trust to the credit of the Trustee the sum of **One Thousand Three Hundred Twelve Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents (\$1,312.25)**, which represents ten percent (10%) of the Trustee's professional fees for February 2018. The Trustee may petition for release of this 10% retainer on a quarterly basis, subject to the court's satisfaction of the Trustee's work and any objections to the Trustee's compensation requests. *See* Order of Appointment of Trustee at 6, ECF No. 526. Objections to the Trustee's request for remuneration may be made within ten (10) days of this Order by the Plaintiff, Class Counsel and counsel for the CNMI Government. *Id.*

IT IS SO ORDERED.



/s/ Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood Designated Judge Dated: Mar 22, 2018