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Attorneys for Plaintiff, Gregory Franklin

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

GREGORY FRANKLIN, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated.

Plaintiff,

v.

OCWEN LOAN SERVICING, LLC,

Defendant.

Case No.: 3:18-cv-03333-SI

DECLARATION OF ABBAS KAZEROUNIAN IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Date: August 26, 2022 **Time**: 10:00 a.m. **Courtroom**: 1, 17th Floor Judge: Hon. Susan Illston

Complaint Filed: June 5, 2018 FAC Filed: August 17, 2018

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KAZEROUNIAN DECL. IN SUPP. OF MTN. FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT CASE NO. 3:18-CV-03333-SI

DECLARATION OF ABBAS KAZEROUNIAN

I, Abbas Kazerounian, declare:

1. I am one of the attorneys for the Plaintiff in this action, Gregory Franklin (the "Plaintiff") against defendant Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC ("Defendant"). I am over the age of 18 and am fully competent to make this declaration. I was admitted to the State Bar of California in 2007 and have been a member in good standing ever since that time. I have litigated cases in both state and federal courts in California, Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Arkansas, New York, New Jersey, Colorado, Tennessee, Ohio, Florida, Illinois and Texas. I am admitted in every federal district in California and have handled federal litigation in the federal districts of California. I am also admitted to the state bars of Texas, Illinois, Washington, Michigan, New York, Colorado, District of Columbia, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

- 2. If called as a witness, I would competently testify to the matters herein from personal knowledge. The declaration is based upon my personal knowledge, except where expressly noted otherwise.
- I submit this declaration in support of the Plaintiff's Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement.
- 4. I have been approved as one of the Class Counsel for the proposed settlement class in this action, and I have worked on this case since it was filed.
- I continue to be unaware of any conflict of interest between Plaintiff and the Settlement Class Members, or between Plaintiff and his counsel.
- 6. The Plaintiff has proposed the National Consumer Law Center and New Media Rights as potential *cy pres* recipients of any uncashed or unclaimed settlement funds and any appropriate subsequent distributions. I do not have any affiliation with either of the proposed *cy pres* recipients, and it is my understanding that my co-counsel do not have an affiliation with the proposed *cy pres* recipients as well.

- 7. I was one of the attorneys who participated in the two (2) private mediation sessions before Hunter Hughes, Esq., of Hunter ADR on August 27, 2019, and September 7, 2021, respectively. Following the second mediation session, follow-up negotiations, and a mediator's proposal, which resulted in an agreed-upon written settlement agreement.
- 8. In my opinion, Plaintiff has continued to serve as an adequate Class Representative by assisting Class Counsel by reviewing documents and submitting declarations in support of the Fee Brief and the Final Approval Motion.
- 9. Based on the number of valid claims reported by the Administrator as of approximately July 19, 2022, representing an approximate 9.50% claims rate (for valid claims), I believe the estimated individual settlement class member recovery of approximately \$270 is fair and reasonable here.
- 10. Also, based on my extensive experience and knowledge in litigating complex consumer class actions (*see* Dkt. Nos. 154-2, ¶¶ 24-77; 158-2, ¶¶ 32-87), including those involving Cal. Pen. Code § 630, *et seq.*, I believe the settlement merits Court approval. Taking into account the burdens, uncertainty and risks inherent in class action litigation, and the time and expense of trial, the parties have concluded that further prosecution and defense of this action could be protracted, unduly burdensome, and expensive, and that it is desirable, fair, and beneficial to the class that the action now be fully and finally compromised, settled and terminated in the manner and upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement. Therefore, I believe the settlement merits final Court approval.

EXHIBITS

- 11. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of a screenshot of the settlement website, specifically, the webpage indicating documents that Settlement Class Members could review.
- 12. Attached hereto as **Exhibit B** is a non-exhaustive matrix of CIPA settlement, compiled by Class Counsel.
- 13. Attached hereto as Exhibit C is a true and correct copy of the Declaration of Richard Dubois of National Consumer Law Center, obtained on or about June 30, 2022.

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14. Attached hereto as Exhibit D is a true and correct copy of the Declaration of Art Neill of New Media Rights, obtained on July 25, 2022.I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, executed on July

25, 2022, pursuant to the laws of the United States and the State of California.

/s/ Abbas Kazerounian Abbas Kazerounian

