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2 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
3 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

4  
5 **DONALD R. CAMERON, ET. AL.,**

6 Plaintiffs,

7 v.

8 **APPLE INC.,**

9 Defendant.

CASE NO. 19-cv-3074-YGR

**ORDER:**  
**GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF**  
**CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT;**  
**GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART**  
**MOTION FOR ATTORNEY’S FEES, COSTS, AND**  
**SERVICE AWARD; AND**

**JUDGMENT**

Re: Dkt. Nos. 465 and 471

10  
11  
12 The Court previously granted plaintiffs’ Motion for Preliminary Approval of the Class  
13 Action Settlement in this matter on November 16, 2021. (Order Granting Preliminary Approval of  
14 Class Action Settlement (“Preliminary Approval Order”), Dkt. No 453.) As directed by the  
15 Preliminary Approval Order, on February 14, 2022, plaintiffs filed their Motion for Attorney’s  
16 Fees, Costs, and Service Award. (Dkt. No. 465.) Two weeks later, on February 28, 2022, Apple  
17 filed a response to plaintiffs’ motion, objecting to the amount of attorney fee’s as high. (Dkt. No.  
18 467.)

19 On March 25, 2022, Steven Wytshyn, a U.S. Developer, Founder, & CEO of Cosmosent  
20 Labs, Inc., filed an objection to the settlement. (DKt. No. 469.) On April 29, 2022, plaintiffs filed  
21 their Motion for Final Settlement Approval and a response to Mr. Wytshyn’s objection. (Dkt.  
22 No. 471.) The Court held a hearing on June 7, 2022 on the pending motions.

23 Having considered the motion briefing, the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the  
24 arguments of counsel, and the other matters on file in this action, the Court **GRANTS** the Motion  
25 for Final Approval. In general, the Court finds the settlement fair, adequate, and reasonable. The  
26 provisional appointments of the class representatives and class counsel are confirmed. The  
27 Motion for Attorney’s fees, Costs, and Service Award is **GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN**  
28 **PART**. The Court **ORDERS** that class counsel shall be paid \$26,000,000 in attorney’s fees and

United States District Court  
Northern District of California

1 \$3,500,000 in litigation costs and that named plaintiffs Donald Cameron and Pure Sweat  
2 Basketball, Inc., shall each be paid a \$5,000 incentive award.

3 **I. BACKGROUND**

4 Plaintiffs filed their initial class action complaint on June 4, 2019, and their consolidated  
5 amended complaint on September 30, 2019, against defendant Apple, Inc. alleging that Apple  
6 willfully acquired and maintained monopoly power, or attempted to gain monopoly power, by  
7 refusing to allow iOS device users to purchase iOS apps and in-app products other than through its  
8 own App Store. Plaintiffs’ amended complaint alleges the following claims against Apple: (1)  
9 violation of the Sherman Act –Monopolization/ Monopsonization (15 U.S.C. § 2); (2) violation of  
10 the Sherman Act-Attempted Monopolization/ Monopsonization (15 U.S.C. § 2); (3) unlawful  
11 business practices and violations under California Business and Professions Code, § 17200, et seq.  
12 (“UCL”); and (4) unfair competition under California Business and Professions Code, § 17200, et  
13 seq. (“UCL”).

14 Following class and merits-based discovery, plaintiffs moved for class certification on  
15 June 1, 2021. On August 11, 2021, Apple filed its opposition to class certification. After extensive  
16 negotiations, the parties reached a settlement, and plaintiffs moved for preliminary approval of the  
17 class settlement on August 26, 2021. On November 16, 2021, the Court granted plaintiffs’ Motion  
18 for Preliminary Approval of the Class Settlement.

19 **II. TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

20 **A. Monetary and Structural Relief**

21 The settlement provides \$100,000,000 in monetary relief and structural relief in six areas  
22 of particular concern to the iOS developer community. (*See* Ex. A, Settlement Agreement). The  
23 Settlement Agreement appears to have been the product of arm’s length and informed negotiations  
24 with the assistance of an experienced mediator. The relief provided for the Class appears to be  
25 adequate, taking into account:

- 26 (i) the costs and risks associated with trial and appeal;
- 27 (ii) the effectiveness of any proposed method of distributing relief to the class, including
- 28 the method of processing class-member claims;

- 1 (iii) the terms of any proposed award of attorney’s fees, including timing of payment; and  
2 (iv) any agreements required to be identified under Rule 23(e)(3) (in this case, none).

3 Moreover, the Settlement Agreement appears to treat class members equitably relative to  
4 each other. The Court notes that it is particularly aware of the risks of trial in this case having  
5 tried and written a 185-page decision in *Epic Games v. Apple*, Case No. 4:20-cv-5640-YGR.

6 In terms of structural relief, under the Settlement, Apple has agreed to maintain the 15-  
7 percent commission tier for U.S. developers enrolled in the Small Business Program for at least  
8 three years after Final Approval. (*See Ex. A § 5.1.1.*) Next, Apple has agreed to revise its App  
9 Store Guidelines to permit developers of all app categories to communicate with consenting  
10 customers outside their app, including via email and other communication services, about  
11 purchasing methods other than in-app purchase. (*See id. § 5.1.3.*) Third, for at least three years  
12 after Final Approval, Apple will continue to “conduct robust experimentation to drive continuous  
13 improvement” in App discoverability, including in ways that will “give new and high-quality apps  
14 a chance to be found.” (*See id. § 5.1.2.*) Fourth, Apple will expand its pricing tiers from 100 to 500  
15 (by March 31, 2023),<sup>1</sup> and maintain those tiers for at least three years from Final Approval. (*See*  
16 *id. § 5.1.4.*) This enhanced pricing freedom will allow iOS developers to more carefully calibrate  
17 their prices to compete and enhance revenues. Fifth, Apple will create an appeal process, which  
18 will be available to any developer who “believes that there has been unfair treatment by Apple in  
19 the review of any of the U.S. developer’s apps, or in-app products, or updates.” (*See id. 5.1.5.*)  
20 Apple will be required under the Settlement to maintain this appeal process, and the website  
21 callout, for at least three years. (*See id.*) Finally, in terms of transparency, for at least three years  
22 from Final Approval, Apple will publish an annual “transparency report” that (at a minimum) will  
23 provide (a) meaningful statistics on the number of apps rejected and reasons why, (b) the number  
24 of customer and developer accounts deactivated, and (c) objective data regarding search queries  
25 and results, and the number of apps removed from the App Store. (*See id. § 5.1.6.*) The Court  
26 finds these structural benefits are valuable to the settlement class.

27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 <sup>1</sup> *See* Dkt. No. 478, Order Granting Joint Stipulation for Extension of Time Relating to  
Settlement Agreement Provision 5.1.4.

**B. Attorney's Fees and Costs**

Under the Settlement Agreement, class counsel agreed to seek attorney's fees plus reimbursement of class counsel's costs and expenses. The parties also agreed that Apple shall pay named plaintiffs up to \$5,000 each as an incentive award in exchange for a general release of all claims against Apple.

**C. Class Member Release**

Settlement Class Members and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents, partners, successors, and assigns shall have fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged any and all past, present, and future claims, actions, demands, causes of action, suits, debts, obligations, damages, rights and liabilities, that were brought, could have been brought, or arise from the same facts underlying the claims asserted in the action, known or unknown, recognized now or hereafter, existing or preexisting, expected or unexpected, pursuant to any theory of recovery (including, but not limited to, those based in contract or tort, common law or equity, federal, state, territorial, or local law, statute, ordinance, or regulation), against Apple, Inc. for any type of relief that can be released as a matter of law, including, without limitation, claims for monetary relief, damages (whether compensatory, consequential, punitive, exemplary, liquidated, and/or statutory), costs, penalties, interest, attorneys' fees, litigation costs, restitution, or equitable relief.

**D. Class Notice and Claims Administration**

Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, the Court appointed Angeion Group to administer the settlement and to contact the class members in the manner set forth therein and including the attachments contained within the Preliminary Approval Order. Class members were given until March 21, 2022, to object to or exclude themselves from the Settlement Agreement. Only thirteen of the total class members opted out and only one member objected to the class settlement.

**III. FINAL APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT****A. Legal Standard**

A court may approve a proposed class action settlement of a class proposed to be certified only "after a hearing and on finding that it is fair, reasonable, and adequate," and that it meets the

1 requirements for class certification. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2). In reviewing the proposed settlement,  
 2 a court need not address whether the settlement is ideal or the best outcome, but only whether the  
 3 settlement is fair, free of collusion, and consistent with plaintiff’s fiduciary obligations to the class.  
 4 *See Hanlon v. Chrysler Corp.*, 150 F.3d 1011, 1027 (9th Cir. 1998), *overruled on other grounds by*  
 5 *Dukes*, 564 U.S. at 131. The *Hanlon* court identified the following factors as relevant to assessing a  
 6 settlement proposal: (1) the strength of the plaintiff’s case; (2) the risk, expense, complexity, and  
 7 likely duration of further litigation; (3) the risk of maintaining class action status throughout the trial;  
 8 (4) the amount offered in settlement; (5) the extent of discovery completed and the stage of the  
 9 proceeding; (6) the experience and views of counsel; (7) the presence of a government participant;  
 10 and (8) the reaction of class members to the proposed settlement. *Id.* at 1026 (citation omitted); *see*  
 11 *also Churchill Vill., L.L.C. v. Gen. Elec.*, 361 F.3d 566, 575 (9th Cir. 2004). In reviewing such  
 12 settlements, in addition to considering the above factors, a court also must ensure that “the  
 13 settlement is not the product of collusion among the negotiating parties.” *In re Bluetooth Headset*  
 14 *Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 654 F.3d 935, 946–47 (9th Cir. 2011).

15 Settlements that occur before formal class certification also “require a higher standard of  
 16 fairness.” *In re Mego Fin. Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 213 F.3d 454, 458 (9th Cir. 2000). In reviewing such  
 17 settlements, in addition to considering the above factors, a court also must ensure that “the  
 18 settlement is not the product of collusion among the negotiating parties.” *In re Bluetooth Headset*  
 19 *Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 654 F.3d at 946–47.

## 20 **B. Class Definition and Basis for Certification**

21 The Settlement Agreement, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, defines the class as:

22 All former or current U.S. developers of any Apple IOS application  
 23 or in-app product (including subscriptions) sold for a non-zero price  
 24 via Apple’s IOS App Store that earned, through all Associated  
 25 Developer Accounts, proceeds equal to or less than \$1,000,000  
 26 through the App Store U.S. storefront in every calendar year in  
 27 which the U.S. developer had a developer account between June 4,  
 28 2015 to the date of the Agreement (August 24, 2021). For class  
 definition purposes, the 2015 calendar year consist of June 4, 2015  
 through December 31, 2015. The 2021 calendar year shall consist  
 of January 1, 2021 through April 26, 2021. Additionally, excluded  
 from the Settlement Class are (a) directors, officers, and employees

1 of Apple or its subsidiaries and affiliated companies, as well as  
2 Apple’s legal representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns, (b) the  
3 Court, the Court staff, as well as any appellate court to which this  
4 matter is ever assigned and its staff, (c) Defense Counsel, as well as  
5 their immediate family members, legal representatives, heirs,  
6 successors, or assigns, (d) any Developers who validly request  
7 exclusion (“opt out”) from the Settlement Class, and (e) any other  
8 individuals whose claims already have been adjudicated to a final  
9 judgment.

10 The Court finds that, for purposes of settlement, plaintiffs have satisfied the requirements  
11 of Rule 23(a) as well as the requirements for certification under one or more subsections of Rule  
12 23(b). With respect to numerosity under Rule 23(a)(1), the settlement class includes  
13 approximately 67,000 members, making it so numerous that joinder of all members is  
14 impracticable.

15 Rule 23(a)(2) commonality requires “questions of fact or law common to the class,”  
16 though all questions of fact and law need not be in common. *See Hanlon*, 150 F.3d at 1026.  
17 Plaintiffs brought the following causes of action: (i) Violation of the Sherman Act –  
18 Monopolization/ Monopsonization (15 U.S.C. § 2); (ii) Violation of the Sherman Act-Attempted  
19 Monopolization/ Monopsonization (15 U.S.C. § 2); (iii) Unlawful business practices and  
20 violations under California Business and Professions Code, § 17200, et seq. (“UCL”); and (iv)  
21 Unfair competition under California Business and Professions Code, § 17200, et seq. (“UCL”).  
22 (*See* Dkt. No. 53) (“Consolidated Class Complaint”). The focus of this action—whether Apple  
23 willfully acquired and maintained monopoly power, or attempted to gain monopoly power, by  
24 refusing to allow iOS device users to purchase iOS apps and in-app products other than through its  
25 own App Store—is common to all class members. Antitrust actions are particularly appropriate  
26 for class treatment as the allegations regarding the defendant’s conduct, and the evidence of the  
27 same, which typically is expert heavy, impacts the class generally.

28 Rule 23(a)(3) requires that the plaintiffs show that the claims or defenses of the  
representative parties are typical of the claims or defenses of the class. Plaintiffs’ and members of  
the settlement class claims all stem from the same alleged conduct, *i.e.* antitrust injury, making  
plaintiffs’ claims typical of class members. Here, while the settlement class is narrower than that  
alleged in the consolidated complaint, the class representatives themselves are typical of those

1 members represented herein, namely the subgroup of 99% of the developers.

2 With respect to Rule 23(a)(4), the Court finds the representative parties and class counsel  
3 have fairly and adequately represented the interests of the class. No conflicts of interest appear as  
4 between plaintiffs and the members of the settlement class. Class counsel are deeply versed in this  
5 area of the law and have routinely demonstrated that they are qualified and have experience with  
6 prosecuting class actions of this kind and therefore adequate to represent the settlement class as  
7 well. The parties engaged in extensive discovery during the almost 2.5-year course of this  
8 litigation. More than 5 million documents and 20 million pages have been produced in this  
9 litigation. Dkt. No. 465-1, Declaration of Steve Berman, ¶ 17. Apple has produced 13 terabytes of  
10 transactional data that plaintiffs and their experts have analyzed. *Id.*

11 The settlement class further satisfies Rule 23(b)(3) in that common issues predominate and  
12 “a class action is superior to other available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating” the  
13 claims here.

14 Based on the foregoing, the proposed settlement class is certified pursuant to Rule 23(c).

### 15 **C. Adequacy of Notice**

16 A court must “direct notice [of a proposed class settlement] in a reasonable manner to all  
17 class members who would be bound by the proposal.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(1). “The class must  
18 be notified of a proposed settlement in a manner that does not systematically leave any group  
19 without notice.” *Officers for Justice v. Civil Serv. Comm'n*, 688 F.2d 615, 624 (9th Cir. 1982).  
20 Adequate notice requires: (i) the best notice practicable; (ii) reasonably calculated, under the  
21 circumstances, to apprise the Class members of the proposed settlement and of their right to object  
22 or to exclude themselves as provided in the settlement agreement; (iii) reasonable and constitute  
23 due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all persons entitled to receive notice; and (iv) meet all  
24 applicable requirements of due process and any other applicable requirements under federal law.  
25 *Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Shutts*, 472 U.S. 797, 812 (1985). Due process requires “notice  
26 reasonably calculated, under all the circumstances, to apprise interested parties of the pendency of  
27 the action and afford them an opportunity to present their objections.” *Mullane v. Cent. Hanover*  
28 *Bank & Tr. Co.*, 339 U.S. 306, 314 (1950).

1 The Court approved the parties' proposed notice procedures when it granted preliminary  
2 approval. Pursuant to those procedures, the class administrator provided class members with  
3 individual direct notice via both email and mail. The class administrator also utilized a targeted  
4 social media campaign, using Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, and an online class settlement  
5 website to provide notice to the class and engaged in numerous actions to follow-up and find missing  
6 class members, where able. Apple also posted a message to its developer news website on April 25,  
7 2022, directing developers to the settlement website.

8 Based upon the foregoing, the Court finds that the settlement class has been provided  
9 adequate notice.

10 **D. Settlement Agreement Appears Fair and Reasonable**

11 As to the *Hanlon* factors, the Court finds that they indicate the settlement here is fair and  
12 reasonable. Absent the settlement, plaintiffs would have been required to show that Apple  
13 willfully acquired and maintained monopoly power, or attempted to gain monopoly power, by  
14 refusing to allow iOS device users to purchase iOS apps and in-app products other than through its  
15 own App Store. Antitrust cases such as this one are "particularly risky, challenging, and widely  
16 acknowledge[d] to be among the most complex actions to prosecute." *In re Lithium Ion Batteries*  
17 *Antitrust Litig.*, 2020 WL 7264559, at \*15 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 10, 2020). Further, proceeding to trial  
18 would have been costly; recovery was not guaranteed; and there was the possibility of protracted  
19 appeals.

20 The Settlement Agreement appears to have been the product of arm's length and informed  
21 negotiations. The settlement occurred only after extensive litigation including: the exchange of  
22 more than 5 million documents and 20 million page, more than fifty depositions, including  
23 depositions of Apple's senior management. Following protracted negotiations, and motion  
24 practice, Apple produced a 13-terabyte transactional dataset that plaintiffs and their experts have  
25 extensively analyzed. Thus, the parties have vetted their claims and know the strengths and  
26 weaknesses of their case. Further, they settled after monitoring the trial in *Epic Games v. Apple*  
27 but before the Court issued its final decision.

28

1 In addition, the parties engaged in four mediation sessions conducted by the Honorable  
2 Layn Phillips which demonstrates that the settlement reached by the parties was a result of serious,  
3 informed, non-collusive, and arms-length negotiation. Counsel for both parties are highly  
4 experienced. Accordingly, the Court finds that the record does not indicate collusion or self-  
5 dealing. *See In re Bluetooth*, 654 F.3d at 946-47.

6 The relief provided for the Class appears to be adequate, taking into account: (i) the costs,  
7 risks, and delay of trial and appeal; (ii) the effectiveness of any proposed method of distributing  
8 relief to the class; (iii) the terms of any proposed award of attorney's fees, including timing of  
9 payment; and (iv) any agreements required to be identified under Rule 23(e)(3). Moreover, the  
10 Settlement Agreement appears to treat Class members equitably relative to each other.

11 The reaction of the class was entirely positive. As noted, the Court received thirteen opt-  
12 outs and one objection after a vigorous notice plan. Given the press regarding the settlement, the  
13 Court is confident that the class had adequate notice and would have advised the Court had  
14 significant objections existed. “[T]he absence of a large number of objections to a proposed class  
15 action settlement raises a strong presumption that the terms of a proposed class settlement action  
16 are favorable to the class members.” *In re Omnivision Techs., Inc.*, 559 F.Supp.2d 1036, 1043  
17 (N.D. Cal. 2008) (citation omitted); *see also Churchill Vill.*, 361 F.3d at 577 (holding that  
18 approval of a settlement that received 45 objections (0.05%) and 500 opt-outs (0.56%) out of  
19 90,000 class members was proper).

#### 20 **E. Objection to Settlement**

21 With respect to the one objection from Steven Wytshyn, a U.S. Developer, Founder, &  
22 CEO of Cosmosent Labs, Inc. (Dkt. 469), the Court notes that the objection does not argue that the  
23 settlement is necessarily unfair, unreasonable, or inadequate. Rather, Mr. Wytshyn criticizes  
24 certain aspects of the App Store and suggests improvements that he would have liked to see  
25 addressed as part of the settlement. Specifically, the objection criticizes Apple’s suppression of  
26 certain apps on the App Store, Apple’s control of app ratings, and the desire to have Apple  
27 disclose per-category revenue numbers on a weekly basis.

28

1           The Ninth Circuit has made clear that the fairness of a proposed settlement “is not to be  
2 judged against a hypothetical or speculative measure of what might have been achieved by the  
3 negotiators” explaining that “the very essence of a settlement is compromise, ‘a yielding of  
4 absolutes and an abandoning of highest hopes.’ ” *Linney v. Cellular Alaska P’ship*, 151 F.3d 1234,  
5 1242 (9th Cir. 1998). Thus, while the Court understands Mr. Wytyszyn’s concerns and desire for  
6 additional relief, the objection itself does not provide a basis to deny final approval.

7           **F. Other Findings**

8           **Notice to Government Agencies:** The settlement administrator provided the required notice  
9 to federal and state attorneys general under the Class Action Fairness Act (“CAFA”). 28 U.S.C. §  
10 1715(b). (Dkt. No. 471-2 ¶ 6.) Notice occurred more than 90 days before the date of this order, as  
11 required by 28 U.S.C. § 1715(d).

12           **G. Certification is Granted and the Settlement is Approved**

13           After reviewing all of the required factors, the Court finds the Settlement Agreement to be  
14 fair, reasonable, and adequate, and certification of the settlement class as defined therein to be  
15 proper. Accordingly, the Court grants class certification to the following settlement class:

16  
17           All former or current U.S. developers of any Apple IOS application  
18 or in-app product (including subscriptions) sold for a non-zero price  
19 via Apple’s IOS App Store that earned, through all Associated  
20 Developer Accounts, proceeds equal to or less than \$1,000,000  
21 through the App Store U.S. storefront in every calendar year in  
22 which the U.S. developer had a developer account between June 4,  
23 2015 to the date of the Agreement (August 24, 2021). For class  
24 definition purposes, the 2015 calendar year consist of June 4, 2015  
25 through December 31, 2015. The 2021 calendar year shall consist  
26 of January 1, 2021 through April 26, 2021. Additionally, excluded  
27 from the Settlement Class are (a) directors, officers, and employees  
28 of Apple or its subsidiaries and affiliated companies, as well as  
Apple’s legal representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns, (b) the  
Court, the Court staff, as well as any appellate court to which this  
matter is ever assigned and its staff, (c) Defense Counsel, as well as  
their immediate family members, legal representatives, heirs,  
successors, or assigns, (d) any Developers who validly request  
exclusion (“opt out”) from the Settlement Class, and (e) any other  
individuals whose claims already have been adjudicated to a final  
judgment.

1 **IV. MOTION FOR ATTORNEY’S FEES, COSTS, AND CLASS REPRESENTATIVE AWARDS**

2 **A. Attorney’s Fees**

3 Attorney’s fees and costs may be awarded in a certified class action under Federal Rule of  
 4 Civil Procedure 23(h). Such fees must be found “fair, reasonable, and adequate” in order to be  
 5 approved. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e); *Staton v. Boeing Co.*, 327 F.3d 938, 963 (9th Cir. 2003). To  
 6 “avoid abdicating its responsibility to review the agreement for the protection of the class, a  
 7 district court must carefully assess the reasonableness of a fee amount spelled out in a class action  
 8 settlement agreement.” *Id.* “[T]he members of the class retain an interest in assuring that the fees  
 9 to be paid class counsel are not unreasonably high,” since unreasonably high fees are a likely  
 10 indicator that the class has obtained less monetary or injunctive relief than they might otherwise.  
 11 *Id.* at 964.

12 The Court analyzes an attorney’s fee request based on either the “lodestar” method or a  
 13 percentage of the total settlement fund made available to the class, including costs, fees, and  
 14 injunctive relief. *Vizcaino v. Microsoft Corp.*, 290 F.3d 1043, 1047 (9th Cir. 2002). The Ninth  
 15 Circuit encourages courts to use another method as a cross-check in order to avoid a “mechanical  
 16 or formulaic approach that results in an unreasonable reward.” *In re Bluetooth*, 654 F.3d at 944–  
 17 45 (citing *Vizcaino*, 290 F.3d at 1050–51.)

18 Under the lodestar approach, a court multiplies the number of hours reasonably expended  
 19 by the reasonable hourly rate. *Kelly v. Wengler*, 822 F.3d 1085, 1099 (9th Cir. 2016) (“[A] court  
 20 calculates the lodestar figure by multiplying the number of hours reasonably expended on a case  
 21 by a reasonable hourly rate. A reasonable hourly rate is ordinarily the ‘prevailing market rate [] in  
 22 the relevant community.’”). Under the percentage-of-the-fund method, courts in the Ninth Circuit  
 23 “typically calculate 25% of the fund as the ‘benchmark’ for a reasonable fee award, providing  
 24 adequate explanation in the record of any ‘special circumstances’ justifying a departure.” *In re*  
 25 *Bluetooth*, 654 F.3d at 942 (citing *Six (6) Mexican Workers v. Ariz. Citrus Growers*, 904 F.2d  
 26 1301, 1311 (9th Cir. 1990)). The benchmark should be adjusted when the percentage recovery  
 27 would be “either too small or too large in light of the hours devoted to the case or other relevant  
 28 factors.” *Six (6) Mexican Workers*, 904 F.2d at 1311. When using the percentage-of-recovery

1 method, courts consider a number of factors, including whether class counsel “‘achieved  
2 exceptional results for the class,’ whether the case was risky for class counsel, whether counsel’s  
3 performance ‘generated benefits beyond the cash settlement fund,’ the market rate for the  
4 particular field of law (in some circumstances), the burdens class counsel experienced while  
5 litigating the case (e.g., cost, duration, foregoing other work), and whether the case was handled  
6 on a contingency basis.” *In re Online DVD-Rental Antitrust Litig.*, 779 F.3d 934, 954-55 (9th Cir.  
7 2015) (quoting *Vizcaino*, 290 F.3d at 1047-50. “[T]he most critical factor [in determining  
8 appropriate attorney’s fee awards] is the degree of success obtained.” *Hensley v. Eckerhart*, 461  
9 U.S. 424, 436 (1983). The Ninth Circuit has made clear that in “megafund” cases, courts may  
10 “employ the lodestar method instead” of the percentage-of-recovery method if rote application of  
11 the 25% benchmark “would yield windfall profits for class counsel in light of the hours spent on  
12 the case.” *In re Bluetooth*, 654 F.3d at 942.

13 Here, class counsel advocates applying the percentage-of-the-fund method. Class counsel  
14 requests \$27 million which is 27 percent of the \$100 million class cash fund. The attorney’s fees  
15 sought reflect a multiplier of 2.47 of the actual lodestar totaling \$10,923,265. Class counsel  
16 argues that the Court should award the requested fees because the requested amount is only 19.9  
17 percent of the \$135.44 million in quantifiable relief when you factor in the \$35.44 million in  
18 savings to the class by way of the structural relief that is part of the settlement.

19 Here, the Court applies the percentage-of-the-fund method. As a starting point, the Court  
20 finds that 25% of the cash fund method is inherently reasonable. *See, e.g., In re Bluetooth Headset*  
21 *Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 654 F.3d at 941–42 (“[C]ourts typically calculate 25% of the fund as the  
22 ‘benchmark’ for a reasonable fee award, providing adequate explanation in the record of any  
23 ‘special circumstances’ justifying a departure.”). However, the Court maintains its discretion to  
24 adjust upward or downward. *Haralson v. U.S. Aviation Servs. Corp.*, 2021 WL 5033832, at \*7  
25 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 3, 2021).

26 In applying the percentage-of-the-fund method, the Court finds that an award of \$26  
27 million is appropriate. This amount constitutes 26% of the common fund or roughly 19.2 percent  
28 of the settlement if you include the \$35.44 million in value of the structural relief. A 1% increase

1 over the presumptively reasonable 25% benchmark is warranted in light of the significant value of  
2 the non-monetary relief conferred to the class by way of the structural relief. Some of the key  
3 benefits of the structural relief include: Apple’s maintenance of the small business program;  
4 transparency in the form of annual transparency reports containing data on Apple’s app review,  
5 search, security, and more; an appeal process that allows developers to appeal rejections of apps;  
6 Apple’s expansion of price points; Apple’s change in policy that will now permit U.S. developers  
7 to communicate with their customers via email and other means outside their apps about  
8 alternatives to in-app purchasing methods; and relief relating to app discoverability that will make  
9 it easier for newer and smaller apps to be found.

10 While the exact value of this information is difficult to quantify, plaintiffs’ expert,  
11 Nicholas Economides, opined that the settlement class will save approximately \$177.2 million in  
12 commissions by way of Apple maintaining its Small Business Program for three years post  
13 settlement. (Dkt. No. 459-7, Declaration of Nicholas Economides, at 8.) He also opined that other  
14 aspects of the structural relief such as allowing developers to communicate with customers outside  
15 the app store will also lead to developers paying less in commission fees. (*Id.* at 9.) While Apple  
16 disputes whether Mr. Economides’ figures are accurate, Apple does not dispute the structural  
17 relief also confers substantial benefits to the settlement class. Thus, the Court finds that a slight  
18 increase is the standard benchmark is warranted here. As such, the Court awards class counsel \$26  
19 million in attorney’s fees.

20 The Court also applies the lodestar method as a cross-check. *In re Bluetooth*, 654 F.3d at  
21 944–45. Class counsel has submitted several declarations describing its billing rates and hours  
22 worked for this case. Having reviewed the billing rates, the Court finds them reasonable in light of  
23 the prevailing market rates in this district and that class counsel has submitted adequate  
24 documentation justifying those rates. The Court also finds that the billing records adequately  
25 reflect the amount of time reasonably spent on this litigation. Accordingly, the Court finds that  
26 class counsel’s reported total lodestar of \$10,923,265, which covers 20,531 hours of time worked,  
27 reasonable.

28 The Court’s award of \$26 million represents a positive multiplier of 2.38. As indicated

1 above, the Court may “adjust” the lodestar figures “upward or downward by an appropriate  
2 positive or negative multiplier reflecting a host of ‘reasonableness’ factors, ‘including the quality  
3 of representation, the benefit obtained for the class, the complexity and novelty of the issues  
4 presented, and the risk of nonpayment.’” *In re Bluetooth*, 654 F.3d at 941-42. The Ninth Circuit in  
5 *Vizcaino* conducted a survey of attorney’s fees awards in “megafund cases.” *See* 290 F.3d at 1052-  
6 54. This survey involved common fund cases ranging from \$50–200 million between 1996 and  
7 2001. *See id.* In 83% of the settlements (20 of 24), the court found that the multiplier ranged from  
8 1.0–4.0, and in 54% of the settlements (13 of 24), the multiplier ranged from 1.5–3.0 range. *Id.* at  
9 1051 n.6.

10 The Court concludes that a positive multiplier of 2.38 is appropriate for class counsel and  
11 is consistent with the vast majority large settlements such as this one and would adequately reward  
12 class counsel for the work performed in this litigation. The Court recognizes that class counsel has  
13 achieved significant benefits for the class and that class counsel assumed a risk of nonpayment  
14 while litigating this case for nearly three years. In the end, class counsel achieved a significant  
15 result for the class. According to plaintiffs, the \$100 million cash fund represents approximately  
16 30 to 34 percent of the maximum potential damages for the class.

17 Based on the foregoing, the Court awards class counsel \$26 million in attorney’s fees  
18 which represents 26% of the class cash fund (approximately 19.2 percent if you include the value  
19 of the structural relief) and a 2.38 multiplier to class counsel’s lodestar of \$10,923,265.

20 **B. Costs Award**

21 Class counsel is entitled to reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. Fed. R.  
22 Civ. P. 23(h); *see Harris v. Marhoefer*, 24 F.3d 16, 19 (9th Cir. 1994) (holding that attorneys may  
23 recover reasonable expenses that would typically be billed to paying clients in non-contingency  
24 matters). Costs compensable under Rule 23(h) include “nontaxable costs that are authorized by  
25 law or by the parties’ agreement.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(h). Here, class counsel seeks reimbursement  
26 for litigation expenses, and provides records documenting those expenses in the amount of  
27 \$3,713,173.84. However, class counsel only seeks reimbursement for \$3,500,000 The Court finds  
28 an award of \$3,500,000 in costs reasonable, fair, and adequate.

1           **C.     Service Awards**

2           The district court must evaluate named plaintiffs’ requested award using relevant factors  
3 including “the actions the plaintiff has taken to protect the interests of the class, the degree to  
4 which the class has benefitted from those actions . . . [and] the amount of time and effort the  
5 plaintiff expended in pursuing the litigation.” *Staton*, 327 F.3d at 977. “Such awards are  
6 discretionary . . . and are intended to compensate class representatives for work done on behalf of  
7 the class, to make up for financial or reputational risk undertaken in bringing the action, and,  
8 sometimes, to recognize their willingness to act as a private attorney general.” *Rodriguez v. West*  
9 *Publishing Corp.*, 563 F.3d 948, 958-959 (9th Cir. 2009). The Ninth Circuit has emphasized that  
10 district courts must “scrutiniz[e] all incentive awards to determine whether they destroy the  
11 adequacy of the class representatives.” *Radcliffe v. Experian Info. Solutions*, 715 F.3d 1157, 1163  
12 (9th Cir. 2013).

13           Here, both class representatives are current App Store developers who took significant  
14 risks in bringing this action in their own names. Further, both class representatives devoted  
15 substantial time to litigating the action. They both sat for deposition, attended numerous meetings  
16 to prepare for the depositions, compiled documents, regularly corresponded with counsel, and  
17 neither derived a personal benefit beyond any recovery to the class. Because the laws are not self-  
18 enforcing, it is appropriate to give incentives to those who come forward with little to gain and  
19 who work to achieve a settlement that confers substantial benefits on others. Thus, the Court  
20 approves the requested incentive award payment for plaintiffs Donald Cameron and Pure Sweat  
21 Basketball, Inc.

22           **V.     CONCLUSION**

23           Based upon the foregoing, the motion for final approval of class settlement is **GRANTED**.  
24 The motion for attorney’s fees, costs, and service awards is **GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN**  
25 **PART** as follows: Class Counsel is awarded \$26,000,000 in attorney’s fees and \$3,500,000 in  
26 litigation costs. Plaintiffs Donald Cameron and Pure Sweat Basketball, Inc. are each granted an  
27 incentive award of \$5,000.  
28

United States District Court  
Northern District of California

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Without affecting the finality of this order in any way, the Court retains jurisdiction of all matters relating to the interpretation, administration, implementation, effectuation and enforcement of this order and the Settlement.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED** that final judgment is **ENTERED** in accordance with the terms of the Settlement, the Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement issued on November 16, 2021, and this Order. This document will constitute a final judgment (and a separate document constituting the judgment) for purposes of Rule 58, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

The parties shall file a post-distribution accounting in accordance with this District’s Procedural Guidance for Class Action Settlements no later than **OCTOBER 28, 2022**. The Court **SETS** a compliance deadline on **OCTOBER 21, 2022** on the Court’s 9:01 a.m. calendar to verify timely filing of the post-distribution accounting.

This terminates Docket Nos. 465 and 471.

**IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: June 10, 2022

  
YVONNE GONZALEZ ROGERS  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

# **EXHIBIT A**



1.3 “Approved Claims” means those Claims which are approved by the Settlement Administrator for payment.

1.4 “Associated Developer Accounts” means any U.S. Apple Developer Program account that an individual or legal entity owns or controls, or any U.S. Apple Developer Program account that owns or controls a given individual’s or legal entity’s account.

1.5 “Attorneys’ Fees” means any award of attorneys’ fees, costs, and expenses of any kind or description incurred by Class Counsel or other attorneys, experts, consultants, or agents of the Named Plaintiffs or the Settlement Class.

1.6 “Claim Form” means the proof of claim and release form(s) in a form mutually agreeable to the parties, to be attached as an exhibit to the Motion for Preliminary Approval.

1.7 “Claim” means any claim submitted by a Settlement Class Member.

1.8 “Claims Period” means the period between the Notice Date until the deadline set forth in paragraph 7.4.

1.9 “Class Counsel” means the law firm of Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP, who has any and all authority and capacity necessary to execute this Settlement Agreement and bind all of the Named Plaintiffs who have not personally signed this Settlement Agreement, as if each of those individuals had personally executed this Settlement Agreement.

1.10 “Class Notice” means the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action in a form mutually agreeable to the parties, to be attached as an exhibit to the Motion for Preliminary Approval.

1.11 “Court” means the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

1.12 “Defense Counsel” means the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP.

1.13 “Developer” means a person or entity who has registered for a Developer Program Account with Apple, and shall include all Associated Developer Accounts. A “U.S. Developer” means a Developer who self-identified as U.S.-based when registering for the Developer Program.

1.14 “Effective Date” shall mean the first day after which all of the following events and conditions of this Settlement Agreement have been met or occurred:

- (a) Apple, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel have executed this Settlement Agreement;
- (b) The Court has conditionally certified the Settlement Class, preliminarily approved the Settlement, and approved notice to the Settlement Class;
- (c) The time period for members of the Settlement Class to exclude themselves has expired;
- (d) The Settlement Administrator has delivered the spreadsheet(s) and information to Defense Counsel and Class Counsel as specified in Section 7.9 and 7.10;
- (e) All disputed Claims have been resolved;
- (f) The Court has entered the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment;
- (g) The time for appeal or writ of the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment has expired or, if an appeal and/or petition for review is taken and the Settlement is affirmed, the time period during which further petition for hearing, appeal, or writ of certiorari can be taken has expired;
- (h) The time for appeal or writ of any order regarding Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses and/or Named Plaintiff Service Awards has expired or, if an appeal and/or petition for review is taken and the order is affirmed, the

time period during which further petition for hearing, appeal, or writ of certiorari can be taken has expired;

(i) The Action is dismissed with prejudice and a final judgment is entered;

and

(j) The time for appeal or writ of the final judgment in the Action has expired or, if an appeal and/or petition for review is taken and the dismissal is affirmed, the time period during which further petition for hearing, appeal, or writ of certiorari can be taken has expired.

1.15 “Final Approval Order and Final Judgment” means the final approval order and judgment dismissing and closing the Action.

1.16 “Final Hearing” means the hearing(s) held by the Court to consider and determine whether the requirements for certification of the Settlement Class have been met and whether the Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate; whether Class Counsel’s Attorneys’ Fees should be approved; and whether the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment should be entered. The Final Hearing may, from time to time and without further notice to the Settlement Class (except those who have filed timely and valid objections and requested to speak at the Final Hearing), be continued or adjourned by order of the Court.

1.17 “Named Plaintiffs” means Donald R. Cameron and Pure Sweat Basketball, Inc.

1.18 “Net Small Developer Assistance Fund” means the Small Developer Assistance Fund, reduced by the sum of the following amounts: (1) the costs of notice and the costs of administering the Settlement, as set forth in Sections 7.1 and 7.2 below; (2) any Attorneys’ Fees (which may include separate awards for fees and expenses) to Class Counsel, as set forth in

Sections 9.1 and 9.2 below; and (3) any Service Awards provided to Named Plaintiffs with the authorization of the Court.

1.19 “Notice Date” means the date set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order for commencing the transmission of the Email Notice.

1.20 “Parties” means Apple and the Named Plaintiffs.

1.21 “Proceeds” means a Developer’s net revenues on the U.S. App Store storefront, after subtracting out any commission paid to Apple.

1.22 “Preliminary Approval Order” means an order preliminarily approving the Settlement, providing for notice to the Settlement Class, and preliminarily approving a proposed disposition of the Small Developer Assistance Fund.

1.23 “Released Parties” means (a) Apple and its past, present, and future parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, joint ventures, licensees, franchisees, and any other legal entities, whether foreign or domestic, that are owned or controlled by Apple; and (b) the past, present, and future shareholders, officers, directors, members, agents, employees, independent contractors, consultants, administrators, representatives, fiduciaries, insurers, predecessors, successors, and assigns of the entities in part (a) of this paragraph.

1.24 “Service Award” means a payment from the Small Developer Assistance Fund to either or both of the two Named Plaintiffs, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, in recognition of their service in prosecuting this action as developer businesses, exclusive of any other payments to which they might be entitled under this Agreement, if approved by the Court.

1.25 “Settlement” and “Settlement Agreement” mean the settlement described in this Stipulation of Settlement.

1.26 “Settlement Administrator” means Angeion Group, which shall provide settlement notice and administration services pursuant to the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

1.27 “Settlement Class” means all former or current U.S. Developers of any Apple iOS application or in-app product (including subscriptions) sold for a non-zero price via Apple’s iOS App Store that earned, through all Associated Developer Accounts, Proceeds equal to or less than \$1,000,000.00 through the App Store U.S. storefront in every calendar year in which the U.S. Developer had a Developer Account between June 4, 2015 to the date of this Agreement. For class definition purposes, the 2015 calendar year shall consist of June 4, 2015 through December 31, 2015. The 2021 calendar year shall consist of January 1, 2021 through April 26, 2021, the last date in 2021 for which there are available developer transactional data as produced in this Action. Additionally, excluded from the Settlement Class are (a) directors, officers, and employees of Apple or its subsidiaries and affiliated companies, as well as Apple’s legal representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns, (b) the Court, the Court staff, as well as any appellate court to which this matter is ever assigned and its staff, (c) Defense Counsel, as well as their immediate family members, legal representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns, (d) any Developers who validly request exclusion (“opt out”) from the Settlement Class, and (e) any other individuals whose claims already have been adjudicated to a final judgment.

1.28 “Settlement Class Member” means and includes every member of the Settlement Class who does not validly and timely request exclusion (“opt out”) from the Settlement Class.

1.29 “Small Developer Assistance Fund” means a non-reversionary cash fund total of \$100,000,000.00 to be paid by Apple and administered by the Settlement Administrator in accordance with the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

1.30 “Settlement Website” means an Internet website that the Settlement Administrator shall establish to inform the Settlement Class of the terms of this Settlement, their rights, dates, deadlines, and related information.

1.31 “Summary Notice” means the Summary Notice of Settlement in a form mutually agreeable to the parties, to be attached as an exhibit to the Motion for Preliminary Approval.

## **2. RECITALS**

This Agreement is made for the following purposes and with reference to the following facts:

2.1 On June 4, 2019, plaintiffs Donald Cameron and Pure Sweat Basketball, Inc. filed the first complaint in the Action in the United State District Court for the Northern District of California. On September 30, 2019, Named Plaintiffs filed a Consolidated Amended Complaint. The Consolidated Amended Complaint alleged that Apple had monopolized an alleged iOS app and in-app-product distribution services market in violation of Section 2 of the Sherman Act; that Apple had attempted to monopolize an alleged iOS app and in-app-product distribution services market in violation of Section 2 of the Sherman Act; and that Apple’s conduct violated Section 17200 of the California Business and Professions Code.

2.2 The Parties engaged in extensive discovery in the Action, which was consolidated with *Epic v. Apple Inc.*, Case No. 4:20-CV-05640-YGR, and *In re Apple iPhone Antitrust Litigation*, Case No. 4:11-cv-06714-YGR, for purposes of discovery. Apple produced more than 20 million pages of documents and the Parties deposed almost 50 individuals.

2.3 On January 1, 2021, Apple introduced the App Store Small Business Program (“SBP”). The structure and timing of the SBP was driven by Apple’s desire to accelerate innovation and help propel small businesses forward with the next generation of groundbreaking

apps on the App Store, in light of the Coronavirus pandemic. Apple also acknowledges that the pendency of this lawsuit was a factor in its decision to adopt the SBP. Under the Small Business Program:

- Existing developers who made up to \$1,000,000.00 in proceeds in 2020 for all their apps, as well as developers new to the App Store, can qualify for the program and a reduced commission rate of fifteen percent (15%) on paid apps and in-app purchases.
- If a participating developer surpasses the \$1,000,000.00 threshold, Apple's standard commission rate will apply to future sales.
- If a developer's proceeds fall below the \$1,000,000.00 threshold in a future calendar year, they can requalify for the fifteen percent (15%) commission the year after.
- Developers must identify any Associated Developer Accounts to determine proceeds eligibility.

2.4 On June 1, 2021, Named Plaintiffs filed a motion for class certification in the Action, seeking certification of a class of all U.S. developers of any Apple iOS application or in-app product (including subscriptions) sold for a non-zero price via Apple's iOS App Store at any time on or after June 4, 2015. On August 10, 2021, Apple filed its opposition to Plaintiffs' motion for class certification, along with a motion to exclude Plaintiffs' experts and a motion to compel a trial plan.

2.5 The Parties engaged in extensive, arm's-length negotiations over the course of the Action, with the assistance of the Hon. Layn R. Phillips (Ret.) of Phillips ADR, a former United States District Court Judge and one of the most experienced mediators in the United States. As a

result of these arm's-length negotiations, the Parties reached the Settlement set forth in this Settlement Agreement, which memorializes the Parties' agreement. The Parties intend that this Settlement completely resolve any and all claims that were, or could have been, asserted in the Action on behalf of the Settlement Class.

2.6 Apple vigorously disputes the claims alleged in the Action and is entering into this Settlement to avoid burdensome and costly litigation. The Settlement is not an admission of wrongdoing, fault, liability, or damage of any kind. Among other things, Apple disputes that Named Plaintiffs' claims have merit, that Named Plaintiffs will be able to certify any class in this Action for litigation purposes, and that Named Plaintiffs and the putative class would be entitled to any relief. Without admitting any of the allegations made in the Action or any liability whatsoever, Apple is willing to enter into this Settlement solely in order to eliminate the burdens, distractions, expense and uncertainty of protracted litigation and in order to obtain the releases and final judgment contemplated by this Settlement, and to provide additional assistance to the small developer community that is an integral part of the iOS ecosystem.

2.7 Class Counsel and the Named Plaintiffs believe that the claims asserted in the Action have merit and have examined and considered the benefits to be obtained under this Settlement, the risks associated with the continued prosecution of this complex and potentially time-consuming litigation, and the likelihood of ultimate success on the merits, and have concluded that the Settlement is fair, adequate, reasonable and in the best interests of the Settlement Class.

2.8 The Parties desire to settle the Action in its entirety with respect to all potential claims arising out of the same facts alleged in the complaints filed in the Action. The Parties

intend this Settlement Agreement to bind Apple, the Named Plaintiffs, and all other Settlement Class Members.

**3. CONFIDENTIALITY**

3.1 The Parties must comply with all portions of the Stipulated Protective Order (Dkt. 252) (as well as all Supplemental Protective Orders entered in the Action), including but not limited to Section 14 of the Stipulated Protective Order, which requires the return, destruction, or deletion of Protected Material (as defined in the Protective Order) within sixty (60) days of the final disposition of the Action.

3.2 This Settlement Agreement and its terms, including the fact of the proposed Settlement, shall remain completely confidential until all documents are executed and the Motion for Preliminary Approval is filed with the Court. Pending the filing of that Motion, Class Counsel may disclose this Settlement Agreement and its terms to their respective clients and experts as necessary for the implementation of this Settlement Agreement, who will also maintain the complete confidentiality of this Settlement Agreement and its terms, including the fact of the proposed Settlement.

**4. CERTIFICATION OF THE SETTLEMENT CLASS**

4.1 The Parties stipulate and agree that, subject to Court approval, the Settlement Class should be conditionally certified pursuant to Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure solely for purposes of the Settlement embodied in this Settlement Agreement. If, for any reason, this Settlement Agreement is not approved by the Court, the stipulation for certification and all of the agreements contained herein shall be considered null and void as provided in Section 8.5.

4.2 Apple does not consent to certification of the Settlement Class (or to the propriety of class treatment) for any purpose other than to effectuate this Settlement. For the avoidance of

doubt, Apple does not agree that this (or any) class of Developers could be certified for litigation purposes or that a trial of these claims would be manageable. Apple's agreement to provisional certification for purposes of settlement does not constitute an admission of wrongdoing, fault, liability, or damage of any kind, or that any class certification would be appropriate for litigation or any other purpose other than to effectuate this Settlement.

4.3 If for any reason the Effective Date does not occur or this Settlement Agreement is terminated, disapproved by any court (including any appellate court), or not consummated for any reason, the order certifying the Settlement Class for purposes of effectuating the Settlement (and all preliminary and final findings regarding that class certification order) shall be automatically vacated upon notice of the same to the Court. The Action shall then proceed as though the Settlement Class had never been certified pursuant to this Settlement Agreement and such findings had never been made, and the Action shall return to their procedural postures on the date this Settlement Agreement was signed. Additionally, the Parties and their counsel shall not contend that certification (or agreement to certification) of the Settlement Class supports certification of any litigation class if this Settlement Agreement is not consummated and the Action is later litigated and certification is contested by Apple under Rule 23 or any equivalent statute or rule.

## **5. SETTLEMENT CONSIDERATION**

5.1 **Structural Relief.** In consideration of the releases and dismissals set forth in this Settlement Agreement, subject to Court approval, and subject to the other terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement, Apple agrees that for a period of at least three (3) years following the Final Approval Order, Apple shall:

- 5.1.1 Maintain a commission rate of no greater than fifteen percent (15%) for U.S. Developers who are enrolled participants in the Small Business Program,

pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Small Business Program and subject to program participation requirements.

5.1.2 Continue to drive App Store search results primarily by objective characteristics, including but not limited to downloads, star ratings, text relevance, and user behavior signals. Apple may also continue to include apps based on other characteristics, such as similar goals or developer association, as well as to give new and high-quality apps a chance to be found. Apple will also continue to conduct robust experimentation to drive continuous improvement.

5.1.3 Permit all U.S. Developers to communicate with their customers via email and other communication services outside their app about purchasing methods other than in-app purchase, provided that the customer consents to the communication and has the right to opt out. In-app communications, including via Apple Push Notification service, are outside the scope of this provision. Apple will revise its App Store Guidelines to permit the foregoing for all app categories, including by deleting from Guideline 3.1.3 the following language: “Developers cannot use information obtained within the app to target individual users outside of the app to use purchasing methods other than in-app purchase (such as sending an individual user an email about other purchasing methods after that individual signs up for an account within the app).”

5.1.4 Expand the choice of price points for subscriptions, in-app purchases, and paid apps from fewer than 100 to more than 500 (by December 31, 2022).

5.1.5 Maintain the option for U.S. Developers to appeal the rejection of an app based on unfair treatment and add online content to the app review portion of Apple’s developer website (<https://developer.apple.com/app-store/review/>) to explicitly note that a developer can appeal the rejection of an app when the developer believes that there has been unfair treatment by Apple in the review of any of the U.S. Developer’s apps, in-app products, or updates.

5.1.6 Publish an annual transparency report that, at a minimum, will convey meaningful statistics such as the number of apps rejected for different reasons, the number of customer and developer accounts deactivated, objective data regarding search queries and results, and the number of apps removed from the App Store.

5.2 **Covenant Not to Sue.** The members of the Settlement Class expressly agree to the appropriateness of Apple’s commission structure, including but not limited to the Small Business Program, as it applies to the Settlement Class. In light of the structural and monetary relief afforded by Apple pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, the members of the Settlement Class covenant not to sue Apple on any claim that was or could have been asserted in the Action.

5.3 **Small Developer Assistance Fund.** In light of the contributions made by Settlement Class Members to the app economy, particularly as the economy continues to suffer the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic, and in further consideration of the releases and dismissals set forth in this Settlement Agreement, subject to Court approval, and subject to the other terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement, Apple shall establish a Small Developer Assistance Fund (“Small Developer Assistance Fund”).

5.3.1 Within thirty (30) days after an Order granting Preliminary Approval, Apple shall transfer \$2,000,000.00 into an account established by the Settlement Administrator for payment of the costs of settlement administration. Within thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, Apple shall transfer \$98,000,000.00 into an account established by the Settlement Administrator for the Small Developer Assistance Fund. Apple's total financial commitment under this Settlement Agreement shall be \$100,000,000.00.

5.3.2 The Settlement Administrator shall agree to hold the Small Developer Assistance Fund in an interest-bearing account and administer the Small Developer Assistance Fund, subject to the continuing jurisdiction of the Court and from the earliest possible date, as a qualified settlement fund as defined in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1 et seq. Any taxes owed by the Small Developer Assistance Fund shall be paid by the Settlement Administrator out of the Small Developer Assistance Fund. The interest earned in the aforementioned account shall be added to the Small Developer Assistance Fund.

## **6. DISPOSITION OF THE SMALL DEVELOPER ASSISTANCE FUND**

6.1 The Small Developer Assistance Fund shall be applied as follows:

- 6.1.1 to pay the costs of notice and the costs of administering the Settlement, as set forth in Section 7 below;
- 6.1.2 to pay any approved Attorneys' Fees to Class Counsel as set forth in Section 9 below;
- 6.1.3 to pay any Court-approved Service Awards to Named Plaintiffs; and

6.1.4 to distribute the Net Small Developer Assistance Fund to Settlement Class Members as set forth in Section 6.2 and 6.3 below.

6.2 The Small Developer Assistance Fund will be distributed to all Settlement Class Members who have Approved Claims, with each such U.S. Developer entitled to a minimum payment of \$250.00 from the Net Small Developer Assistance Fund. U.S. Developers may qualify for a higher payment based on their historic participation in the App Store ecosystem. For all Approved Claims, the following amounts will be calculated based on Settlement Class Members' Proceeds from June 4, 2015 to December 31, 2020:

6.2.1 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of no more than \$100.00 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$250.00.

6.2.2 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of between \$100.01 and \$1,000.00 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$500.00.

6.2.3 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of between \$1,000.01 and \$5,000.00 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$1,000.00.

6.2.4 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of between \$5,000.01 and \$10,000.00 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$1,500.00.

- 6.2.5 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of between \$10,000.01 and \$50,000.00 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$2,000.00.
  - 6.2.6 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of between \$50,000.01 and \$100,000 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$3,500.00.
  - 6.2.7 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of between \$100,000.01 and \$250,000.00 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$5,000.00.
  - 6.2.8 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of between \$250,000.01 and \$500,000.00 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$10,000.00.
  - 6.2.9 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of between \$500,000.01 and \$1,000,000.00 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$20,000.00.
  - 6.2.10 A Settlement Class Member who earned Proceeds of over \$1,000,000.01 from all of their Associated Developer Accounts will receive a minimum payment of \$30,000.00.
- 6.3 The minimum payment amounts set forth in Section 6.2 above assume that one hundred percent (100%) of Settlement Class Members have an Approved Claim. If not all Settlement Class Members have an Approved Claim, then the minimum payment amounts to Settlement Class Members with Approved Claims shall increase

proportionally in correspondence with the same categories of Developer Proceeds as contained in Section 6.2.

- 6.4 The minimum payment amounts set forth in Section 6.2 above assume that the Net Small Developer Assistance Fund is approximately \$68 million. The actual amount could be greater or less depending on the costs of administration, any Service Awards, and the amounts awarded by the Court for attorneys' fees and expenses pursuant to Section 9.1.
- 6.5 Within sixty (60) days after receiving the Small Developer Assistance Funds pursuant to Section 5.3, the Settlement Administrator shall have substantially completed the issuance of the initial payments to the Settlement Class Members with Approved Claims, which shall be sent to Settlement Class Members through electronic distribution, or in the form of physical checks mailed to the Settlement Class Member's mailing address as contained in Apple's company records or set forth on the Claim Form for those Settlement Class Members for whom electronic distribution is not available. To the extent economically and practically feasible, the Settlement Administrator shall follow up and communicate with Settlement Class Members who have not cashed their checks within sixty (60) days of distribution. Unused checks shall expire not later than the first anniversary of the initial date of distribution.
- 6.6 Following distribution of the Small Developer Assistance Fund as set forth in Sections 6.1-6.3, if approved by the Court, any remaining funds (including any funds from uncashed checks) will be used as a *cy pres* distribution to Girls Who Code, a nonprofit organization working to close the gender gap in technology and to change the image of what a programmer looks like and does, or another similar charitable organization

as approved by the Court. Under no circumstances will Small Developer Assistance Funds revert to Apple.

**7. NOTICE AND SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.**

7.1 **Neutral Settlement Administrator.** Subject to Court approval, the Settlement Administrator shall provide settlement notice and administration services, in accordance with the terms of this Settlement Agreement and as ordered by the Court in the Preliminary Approval Order. As provided in Section 6.1.1, the reasonable costs of notice and the costs of administering the Settlement shall be paid out of the Small Developer Assistance Fund.

7.2 **Notice Procedures.** The Parties agree to the following forms and methods of notice to the Settlement Class:

7.2.1 A copy of the Class Notice, together with the Claim Form, the Settlement, the motions for Final Approval Order and Final Judgment, and Attorneys' Fees, and Court orders pertaining to the Settlement, shall be posted and available for download on the Settlement Website maintained by the Settlement Administrator.

7.2.2 The Settlement Administrator shall send a copy of the Summary Notice to the email and physical addresses for Associated Developer Accounts of developers who are or reasonably may be members of the Settlement Class. The electronic version of the Summary Notice shall contain a direct link to the Settlement Website and the instructions for the Claim Form. To facilitate the distribution of the Summary Notice, within thirty (30) days of the date of execution of the Settlement Agreement, Apple shall provide the Settlement Administrator with the email and physical addresses for Associated Developer Accounts of

developers who are or reasonably may be members of the Settlement Class, along with transactional data produced in this Action sufficient to calculate Proceeds for purposes of implementing this Agreement.

- 7.2.3 The names, email addresses, physical mailing addresses, and Proceeds of Associated Developer Accounts are personal information about the potential members of the Settlement Class and shall be provided to the Settlement Administrator solely for the purposes of providing notice, processing requests for exclusion, and administering payment. The Settlement Administrator shall execute the Stipulated Protective Order (Dkt. 252), treat all such information as “Highly Confidential – Attorneys’ Eyes Only,” and take all reasonable steps to ensure that all such information is used solely for the purpose of administering this Settlement.
- 7.2.4 The Settlement Administrator shall commence the notice by the Notice Date. If, despite using best efforts, the Settlement Administrator is unable to commence the notice by the Notice Date, the Settlement Administrator shall inform the Parties of the status of the notice, and notify the Parties when the notice has been commenced.
- 7.2.5 In addition to the notice required by the Court, the Parties may jointly agree to provide additional notice to the members of the Settlement Class, although Class Counsel and Apple must both approve any additional notice.
- 7.2.6 If this notice plan is not approved, or is modified in a material way by the Court, the Parties shall have the right to terminate the Settlement.

**7.3 Claim Form.** Settlement Class Members who wish to receive a cash payment will be required to submit a Claim Form. The Claim Form shall, among other things, require the Settlement Class Member to certify, under penalty of perjury, that (a) they have only one Associated Developer Account, or (b) if they have more than one Associated Developer Account, that they have identified all Associated Developer Accounts in a manner to be specified in the Claim Form. The Claim Forms shall be submitted to the Settlement Administrator via U.S. mail or electronically through the Settlement Website.

**7.4 Claims Period.** To be valid, Claim Forms, requests to opt out, and objections must be received by the Settlement Administrator within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the Notice Date.

**7.5 Process for Opting Out of Settlement.** The Class Notice shall provide a procedure whereby members of the Settlement Class may exclude themselves from the Settlement. The members of the Settlement Class shall have no less than sixty (60) days following the Notice Date to exclude themselves. Any member of the Settlement Class who does not timely and validly request exclusion shall be a Settlement Class Member and shall be bound by the terms of this Settlement. As soon as practicable after the opt-out deadline, the Settlement Administrator shall provide the Court and the Parties with a list of Settlement Class Members who timely and validly requested exclusion from the Settlement.

**7.6 Process for Objections.** The Class Notice shall provide a procedure whereby Settlement Class Members may object to the Settlement. All objections shall be filed with the Court ~~and served on Class Counsel and Defense Counsel~~ within <sup>sixty-six (66)</sup> ~~sixty (60)~~ days from the Notice Date. Any objection shall, at a minimum, require the individual to provide: (a) a detailed statement of such Settlement Class Member's specific objections to any matters before the Court;

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(b) the grounds for such objections and the reason such Settlement Class Member desires to appear and to be heard; and (c) proof of membership in the Settlement Class, as well as all other materials the Settlement Class Member wants the Court to consider.

**7.7 Review of Claims Submitted.** The Settlement Administrator shall determine whether a submitted Claim Form meets the requirements set forth in this Settlement Agreement. Each Claim Form shall be submitted to and reviewed by the Settlement Administrator, who shall determine whether each Claim shall be allowed. The Settlement Administrator shall use best practices and all reasonable efforts and means to identify and reject duplicate and/or fraudulent claims.

**7.8 Rejection of Claims Forms.** Claim Forms that do not meet the requirements set forth in this Settlement and/or in the Claim Form instructions shall be rejected by the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall have thirty (30) days from the end of the Claims Period to exercise the right of rejection. The Settlement Administrator shall notify the claimant using the contact information provided in the Claim Form of the rejection. Class Counsel and Defense Counsel shall be provided with copies of all such notifications of rejection, provided that the copies do not contain the name, email address, mailing address, or other personal identifying information of the claimant. If any claimant whose Claim Form has been rejected, in whole or in part, desires to contest such rejection, the claimant must, within ten (10) days from receipt of the rejection, transmit to the Settlement Administrator by email or U.S. mail a notice and statement of reasons indicating the claimant's grounds for contesting the rejection, along with any supporting documentation, and requesting further review by the Settlement Administrator, in consultation with Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, of the denial of the Claim. If Class Counsel and Defense Counsel cannot agree on a resolution of the claimant's notice contesting the rejection,

the disputed Claim shall be presented to the Court or a referee appointed by the Court for summary and non-appealable resolution. No person shall have any claim against Apple, Defense Counsel, the Named Plaintiffs, Class Counsel, and/or the Settlement Administrator based on any eligibility determinations, distributions, or awards made in accordance with this Settlement. This provision does not affect or limit in any way the right of review by the Court or referee of any disputed Claim Forms as provided in this Settlement.

**7.9 Information Regarding Claims Submitted, Approved, and Rejected.** Within forty-five (45) days from the end of the Claims Period, the Settlement Administrator shall provide a spreadsheet to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel that contains information sufficient to determine: (a) the number of Settlement Class Members that submitted a claim; (b) the number of submitted Claim Forms that are valid and timely and the number that were not valid and/or timely; (c) the number of submitted Claim Forms the Settlement Administrator intends to treat as Approved Claims; and (d) the number of submitted Claim Forms the Settlement Administrator has denied and the reason(s) for the denials. The Settlement Administrator shall provide supplemental spreadsheets with respect to the resolution of any rejected claims or any Claim Forms submitted after the expiration of the deadline, within a reasonable time after such resolution or receiving such Claim Forms. The materials that the Settlement Administrator provides to Class Counsel pursuant to this paragraph shall not contain the names, email addresses, mailing addresses, or other personal identifying information of the Settlement Class Members. The Settlement Administrator shall retain the originals of all Claim Forms (including envelopes with postmarks, as applicable), and shall make copies available to Class Counsel or Defense Counsel (with redactions to remove the names, email addresses, mailing addresses, or other personal identifying information of the Settlement Class Members) upon request. All such spreadsheets and related materials (including

Claim Forms) shall be designated as “Highly Confidential – Attorneys’ Eyes Only” as provided in Section 7.2.3. Should Class Counsel believe they require the name, email address, mailing address, or other personal identifying information of any particular Settlement Class Member, the Parties shall meet-and-confer, on a case-by-case basis, to determine whether the release of such personal identifying information is necessary. Any disputes regarding whether such information may be released to Class Counsel shall be presented to the Court or a referee appointed by the Court for summary and non-appealable resolution. The Settlement Administrator shall only release personal identifying information upon authorization of Apple and/or the authorization of the Court or referee.

7.10 **Opportunity for Review.** Defense Counsel and Class Counsel shall have fourteen (14) days after receiving the spreadsheet(s) and information specified in Section 7.9 to contest the Settlement Administrator’s determination with respect to any of the submitted Claims. Defense Counsel and Class Counsel shall meet and confer in good faith within ten (10) days to reach resolution of any such disputed Claim(s). If Class Counsel and Defense Counsel cannot agree on a resolution of any such disputed Claim(s), the disputed Claim(s) shall be presented to the Court or a referee appointed by the Court for summary and non-appealable resolution.

## **8. COURT APPROVAL**

8.1 The Parties agree to recommend approval of the Settlement to the Court as fair and reasonable and to undertake their best efforts to obtain such approval. “Best efforts” includes that the Parties may not oppose any application for appellate review by one of the Parties in the event the Court denies preliminary or final approval. The Parties therefore agree that, at 5:00 PM Pacific time on August 26, 2021, the Named Plaintiffs shall submit this Settlement Agreement to the Court and shall apply for entry of the Preliminary Approval Order.

8.2 Class Counsel shall draft the Motion for Preliminary Approval requesting issuance of the Preliminary Approval Order as soon as practicable after execution of this Settlement Agreement, and shall provide that draft to Defense Counsel on or before August 24, 2021. The Motion for Preliminary Approval shall be written in a neutral manner that does not contain inflammatory language about the Parties or their perceived conduct in the Action. The Parties shall agree on the form of all exhibits attached to the Motion for Preliminary Approval, including but not limited to the Notice, the Summary Notice, and the Claims Form.

8.3 Upon filing of the Motion for Preliminary Approval, Apple shall provide timely notice of the Settlement as required by the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1711, *et seq.*

8.4 In accordance with the schedule set in the Preliminary Approval Order, Class Counsel shall draft the motion for Final Approval Order and Final Judgment and shall provide that draft to Defense Counsel at least seven (7) days before filing such motion with the Court.

8.5 In the event that the Settlement is not approved (following the exhaustion of any appellate review), then (a) this Settlement Agreement shall be null and void and of no force or effect, (b) any payments made to the Settlement Administrator, including any and all interest earned thereon less monies expended toward settlement administration and/or Small Developer Assistance Fund, shall be returned to Apple within ten (10) days from the date the Settlement Agreement becomes null and void, (c) any release shall be of no force or effect, and (d) neither the Settlement Agreement nor any facts concerning its negotiation, discussion, terms or documentation shall be referred to or used as evidence or for any other purpose whatsoever in the Action or in any other action or proceeding. In such event, the Action will proceed as if no settlement has been attempted, and the Parties shall be returned to their respective procedural postures existing on the date the Settlement is executed, so that the Parties may take such litigation steps that they otherwise

would have been able to take absent the pendency of this Settlement. However, any reversal, vacatur, or modification on appeal of (a) any amount of the Attorneys' Fees and Expenses awarded by the Court to Class Counsel, or (b) any determination by the Court to award less than the amounts requested in Attorneys' Fees and Expenses or Named Plaintiff Service Awards shall not give rise to any right of termination or otherwise serve as a basis for termination of this Settlement.

**9. ATTORNEYS' FEES**

9.1 Class Counsel may submit an application or applications to the Court for distribution to them from the Small Developer Assistance Fund of an award of attorneys' fees and expenses incurred in connection with prosecuting the Action and as may be awarded by the Court (the "Fee and Expense Award"). Apple reserves the right to object to or oppose a request for attorneys' fees and expenses.

9.2 The Fee and Expense Award, as approved by the Court, shall be paid solely from the Small Developer Assistance Fund to an account designated by Class Counsel within forty-five (45) days after the Effective Date.

9.3 Class Counsel has the authority and responsibility to allocate and distribute the awarded funds to other counsel based, in its sole discretion, on counsel's efforts and contributions in the Action, provided that the allocation and distribution is consistent with the Court's order(s) regarding the Fee and Expense Award. Apple and Defense Counsel shall have no liability or other responsibility for allocation of any such awarded funds, and, in the event that any dispute arises relating to the allocation of fees or costs, Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator agree to hold Apple and Defense Counsel harmless from any and all such liabilities, costs, and expenses of such dispute.

9.4 Apple shall not be liable for any additional fees or expenses of the Named Plaintiffs or any Settlement Class Member in connection with the Action. Class Counsel agree that they will not seek any additional fees, expenses, or costs from Apple in connection with the Action or the settlement of the Action beyond the approved Fee and Expense Award. Apple expressly agrees that it will not seek to recover its attorneys' fees, expenses, or costs from the Named Plaintiffs or Class Counsel once this Settlement Agreement becomes effective pursuant to the Effective Date.

9.5 The Court's Fee and Expense Award shall be separate from its determination of whether to approve the Settlement. In the event the Court approves the Settlement, but declines to award Class Counsel's attorneys' fees or expenses in the amounts requested by Class Counsel, the Settlement will nevertheless be binding on the Parties.

#### **10. RELEASES AND DISMISSAL OF ACTION**

10.1 As of the Effective Date, the Settlement Class Members and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents, partners, successors, and assigns shall have fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged any and all past, present, and future claims, actions, demands, causes of action, suits, debts, obligations, damages, rights and liabilities, that were brought, could have been brought, or <sup>arise from</sup> ~~are related to~~ the same facts underlying the claims asserted in the Action, known or unknown, recognized now or hereafter, existing or preexisting, expected or unexpected, pursuant to any theory of recovery (including, but not limited to, those based in contract or tort, common law or equity, federal, state, territorial, or local law, statute, ordinance, or regulation), against the Released Parties, for any type of relief that can be released as a matter of law, including, without limitation, claims for monetary relief, damages (whether compensatory, consequential, punitive, exemplary, liquidated, and/or statutory), costs, penalties, interest, attorneys' fees, litigation costs, restitution, or equitable relief. By example only,

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and without limitation, the Settlement Class Members expressly release any claim, contention, argument, or theory that the commissions charged by Apple on paid downloads or in-app purchases of digital content (including subscriptions) through the App Store are supracompetitive, inflated, or otherwise set at unlawful amounts. Accordingly, the Settlement shall terminate the Action. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the release shall not include any claims relating to the continued enforcement of the Settlement or the Protective Orders.

10.2 As of the Effective Date, the Named Plaintiffs and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents, partners, successors, and assigns shall have fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged any and all past, present, and future claims, actions, demands, causes of action, suits, debts, obligations, damages, rights and liabilities, that were brought, could have been brought, or ~~are related to~~ <sup>arise from</sup> the same facts underlying the claims asserted in the Action regarding the App Store, known or unknown, recognized now or hereafter, existing or preexisting, expected or unexpected, pursuant to any theory of recovery (including, but not limited to, those based in contract or tort, common law or equity, federal, state, territorial, or local law, statute, ordinance, or regulation), against the Released Parties, for any type of relief that can be released as a matter of law, including, without limitation, claims for monetary relief, damages (whether compensatory, consequential, punitive, exemplary, liquidated, and/or statutory), costs, penalties, interest, attorneys' fees, litigation costs, restitution, or equitable relief. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the release shall not include any claims relating to the continued enforcement of the Settlement or the Protective Orders.

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10.3 After entering into this Settlement, the Settlement Class Members and/or Named Plaintiffs may discover facts other than, different from, or in addition to, those that they know or believe to be true with respect to the claims released by this Settlement, but they intend to release

fully, finally and forever any and all such claims. The Settlement Class Members and Named Plaintiffs expressly agree that, upon the Effective Date, they waive and forever release any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by:

(a) Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

**A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.**

and

(b) any law of any state, territory, or possession of the United States (or for the non-U.S. Named Plaintiffs, their respective country, province, or state), or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to Section 1542 of the California Civil Code.

10.4 Upon the Effective Date, the Action shall be dismissed with prejudice. Class Counsel shall have the responsibility for ensuring that the Action is dismissed with prejudice in accordance with the terms of this Settlement.

10.5 The Court shall retain jurisdiction over this Action to enforce the terms of this Settlement. In the event that any applications for relief are made, such applications shall be made to the Court. To avoid doubt, the Final Judgment applies to and is binding upon the Parties, the Settlement Class Members, and their respective heirs, successors, and assigns.

#### **11. DEFENDANT'S DENIAL OF LIABILITY; AGREEMENT AS DEFENSE IN FUTURE PROCEEDINGS**

11.1 Apple has indicated its intent to vigorously contest each and every claim in the Action, and denies all of the material allegations in the Action. Apple enters into this Settlement

Agreement without in any way acknowledging any fault, liability, or wrongdoing of any kind. Apple nonetheless has concluded that it is in its best interests that the Action be settled on the terms and conditions set forth herein in light of the expense that would be necessary to defend the Action, the benefits of disposing of protracted and complex litigation, and the desire of Apple to conduct its business and provide additional assistance to the small developer community unhampered by the distractions of continued litigation.

11.2 Neither this Settlement Agreement, nor any of its terms or provisions, nor any of the negotiation or proceedings connected with it, shall be construed as an admission or concession by Apple of the truth of any of the allegations in the Action, or of any liability, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind.

11.3 To the extent permitted by law, this Settlement Agreement may be pleaded as a full and complete defense to, and may be used as the basis for an injunction against, any action, suit, or other proceeding which may be instituted, prosecuted, or attempted for claims, causes of action, and/or theories of relief covered by the covenant not to sue and/or the releases in this Settlement Agreement.

## **12. MODIFICATION OR TERMINATION OF THE SETTLEMENT**

12.1 Apple may, at its sole discretion, terminate this Settlement Agreement if the number of Developers who seek exclusion from the Settlement Class exceeds 10% of the total number of Developers in the Settlement Class.

12.2 The terms and provisions of this Settlement Agreement may be amended, modified, or expanded by written agreement of the Parties and approval of the Court; provided, however, that after entry of the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment, the Parties may by written agreement effect such amendments, modifications, or expansions of this Settlement Agreement

and its implementing documents (including all exhibits) without further notice to the Settlement Class or approval by the Court if such changes are consistent with the Court's Final Approval Order and Final Judgment and do not materially alter, reduce, or limit the rights of Settlement Class Members.

12.3 If any of the non-monetary terms of this Agreement are affected by a change in legislation, regulation, law, court or agency order, or any material change in circumstances, the Parties agree to meet and confer in good faith regarding an appropriate modification of the Agreement.

12.4 In the event the terms or conditions of this Settlement Agreement, other than terms pertaining to the Attorneys' Fees, are materially modified by any court, the Parties may within thirty (30) days of such material modification, declare this Settlement null and void as provided in Section 8.5. For purposes of this paragraph, material modifications include any modifications to the definitions of the Settlement Class, Settlement Class Members, Released Parties, or the scope of the releases (as provided in Sections 10.1 and 10.2), any modifications to the terms of the Settlement consideration (as provided in Sections 5.1 - 5.3). In the event of any modification by any court, and in the event Apple does not exercise its unilateral option to withdraw from this Settlement, the Parties shall meet and confer within fourteen (14) days of such modification to attempt to reach an agreement as to how best to effectuate the court-ordered modification.

12.5 If the Effective Date is not reached, this Settlement Agreement is without prejudice to the rights of any party hereto, and all terms, negotiations, and proceedings connected therewith shall not be deemed or construed to be an admission by any Party or evidence of any kind in this Action or any other action or proceeding.

### **13. NOTICES**

13.1 All notices to Named Plaintiffs shall be delivered to:

Steve W. Berman  
Robert F. Lopez  
Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP  
1301 Second Ave., Suite 2000  
Seattle, WA 98101

13.2 All notices to Apple shall be delivered to:

Heather Grenier  
Senior Director, Commercial Litigation  
Apple Inc.  
One Apple Park Way, MS 60-1AL  
Cupertino, CA 95014

With a copy to:

Mark A. Perry  
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP  
1050 Connecticut Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

13.3 The notice recipients and addresses designated in paragraphs 13.1 and 13.2 may be changed upon written notice provided to all individuals identified in those paragraphs.

#### **14. MISCELLANEOUS**

14.1 This Settlement Agreement may not be modified in any respect except upon the written consent of the Parties.

14.2 The undersigned each represent and warrant that each has authority to enter into this Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Party indicated below his or her name.

14.3 If, prior to the Effective Date, Class Counsel knows, or has reason to know, of any Named Plaintiff who intends to exclude himself or herself from the Settlement or who intends to submit an objection to the Settlement, Class Counsel shall promptly notify Defense Counsel within three (3) days. The Parties shall thereafter meet and confer within seven (7) days of such

notification to determine whether any modifications to the Settlement, or any other actions or filings, are required.

14.4 Class Counsel and the Named Plaintiffs represent and warrant that they have not assigned or transferred, or purported to assign or transfer, to any person or entity, any claim or any portion thereof or interest therein, including, but not limited to, any interest in the Action or any related action, and they further represent and warrant that they know of no such assignments or transfers on the part of any member of the Settlement Class.

14.5 The Parties, together with Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, have jointly participated in the drafting of this Settlement Agreement. No Party hereto shall be considered the drafter of this Settlement Agreement or any provision hereof for the purpose of any statute, case law or rule of interpretation or construction that would or might cause any provision to be construed against the drafter hereof.

14.6 As used in this Settlement Agreement, the masculine, feminine, or neutral gender, and the singular or plural wording, shall each be deemed to include the others whenever the context so indicates.

14.7 Unless otherwise noted, all references to “days” in this Settlement Agreement shall be to calendar days. In the event any date or deadline set forth in this Settlement Agreement falls on a weekend or federal legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be on the first business day thereafter.

14.8 Any and all disputes arising from or related to this Settlement Agreement must be brought by the Parties, Class Counsel, Defense Counsel, and/or members of the Settlement Class exclusively to the Court. The Parties, Class Counsel, Defense Counsel and members of the Settlement Class irrevocably submit to the exclusive and continuing jurisdiction of the Court for

any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Settlement Agreement. All terms of this Settlement Agreement and any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Settlement Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted according to the substantive laws of the State of California without regard to choice of law or conflicts of laws principles; however, nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall operate as a waiver of any Party's position regarding the applicable law governing the underlying claims at issue in the Action.

14.9 Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the Parties may jointly agree to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any of the provisions of this Settlement Agreement.

14.10 Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, all motions, discovery, and other proceedings in the Action shall be stayed until the Court enters the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment, or this Settlement Agreement is otherwise terminated.

14.11 Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall alter or abrogate any prior Court orders entered in the Action.

14.12 This Settlement Agreement may be executed in counterparts. Facsimile or PDF signatures shall be considered valid as of the date they bear.

14.13 The Parties, together with Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, agree to prepare and execute all documents, to seek Court approvals, to defend Court approvals, and to do all things reasonably necessary to complete the Settlement.

14.14 This Settlement Agreement is executed voluntarily by each of the Parties without any duress or undue influence on the part, or on behalf, of any of them. The Parties represent and warrant to each other that they have read and fully understand the provisions of this Settlement Agreement and have relied on the advice and representation of legal counsel of their own choosing.

14.15 This Settlement Agreement may be amended or modified only by a written instrument signed by Defense Counsel and Class Counsel and approved by the Court.

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The Parties have agreed to the terms of this Settlement Agreement and have signed below.

For the Named Plaintiffs:

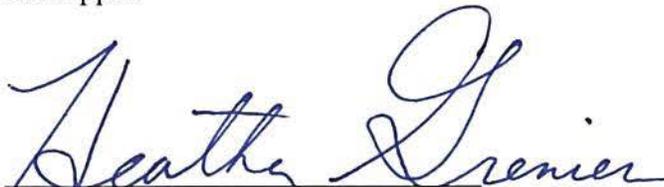


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Steve W. Berman  
Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP  
1301 Second Ave., Suite 2000  
Seattle, WA 98101

Dated: August 24, 2021

For Apple:



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Heather Grenier  
Senior Director, Commercial Litigation  
Apple Inc.  
One Apple Park Way, MS 60-1AL  
Cupertino, CA 95014

Dated: August 24, 2021