

Deputy Clerk

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

MATTHEW PAGOAGA and ANTHONY JONES, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

٧.

STEPHENS INSTITUTE d/b/a ACADEMY OF ART UNIVERSITY,

Defendant.

And Related Cross Claims

Case No. CGC 16-551952

CLASS ACTION

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

This Action is a class action lawsuit brought by Plaintiffs Matthew Pagoaga and Anthony Jones against Defendant Stephens Institute d/b/a Academy of Art University ("AAU") relating to a 2016 e-mail security incident that resulted in the personal and tax information of 3,373 current and former AAU employees being compromised.

On February 13, 2018, this Court entered an order granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement in which it preliminarily approved the Class for settlement purposes only; preliminarily approved the operative Settlement Agreement and Release ("Settlement" or the "Settlement Agreement"), which is attached as Exhibit A to the Supplemental Memorandum in Support of Plaintiffs' Unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, filed on February 6, 2018; approved the form, content, and mailing of the Notice; provisionally appointed the Class Representatives and Settlement Class Counsel; approved the Settlement Administrator; and set a Settlement implementation schedule, including a Final Approval Hearing.

Notice has been disseminated as directed in the Preliminary Approval Order and in

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accordance with the Settlement Agreement. On July 16, 2018, this Court held a Final Approval Hearing where it heard arguments on Plaintiffs' Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement for the purposes of: (i) entering the Order and Judgment; (ii) determining whether the Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, adequate and in the best interests of the Settlement Class Members; (iii) ruling upon an application by Plaintiffs' for attorneys' fees, costs and service awards; and (iv) ruling on any other matters raised or considered. At the hearing, the Court requested a supplemental declaration. That declaration was filed later the same day.

Based on the filings submitted and the arguments of counsel, having received no objections to the Settlement, it is ordered as follows:

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this litigation, Plaintiffs, the Settlement Class Members, and Defendant.
- 2. Notice of the Settlement, as well of the Final Approval Hearing, was given to Settlement Class Members as set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order and in accordance with Settlement Agreement. The Notice provided to the Settlement Class constituted the best notice practicable and conformed with the requirements of C.C.P. § 382, C.C. § 1781, California Rule of Court 3.766, and other applicable law. The Notice satisfied the requirements of due process.
- 3. No Class Members objected to the terms of the Settlement or Plaintiffs' motion for attorneys' fees, costs, and service awards, and three Class Members out of 3,373 requested exclusion from the Settlement.
- 4. Class Members who opted out of the Settlement are not members of the Settlement Class certified below, are named in the Judgment as having excluded themselves from the Settlement, shall receive no benefits under the Settlement or pursuant to this Order, and are not bound by the Judgment.
- 5. The Court certifies, for settlement purposes only, the Settlement Class defined as follows: "All current and former employees whose Personal Information was compromised as a result of the security incident announced by Stephens Institute d/b/a Academy of Art University in

April 2016."¹ The Settlement Class does not include the individuals who filed timely and valid requests for exclusion listed in Exhibit F to the Declaration of Brian Devery of Angeion Group Regarding Dissemination of Class Action Notice and Administration of Class Action Settlement.

- 6. The Court confirms Plaintiffs Matthew Pagoaga and Anthony Jones as the Class Representatives.
- 7. The Court confirms Norman E. Siegel and J. Austin Moore of Stueve Siegel Hanson LLP and Daniel C. Girard of Girard Gibbs LLP as Settlement Class Counsel.
- 8. For settlement purposes only, the proposed Settlement Class meets the requirements for certification under C.C.P. § 382. Specifically (1) the proposed Settlement Class is numerous and ascertainable; (2) there are predominant common questions of law or fact; (3) Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the members of the proposed Settlement Class; (4) Plaintiffs have fairly and adequately protected the interests of the Settlement Class Members; (5) Class Counsel is qualified to serve as counsel for Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class; and (6) a class action is superior to other methods to efficiently adjudicate this controversy through settlement.
- 9. The Settlement is approved. The Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and meets the requirements for final approval. Plaintiffs have satisfied the standards and applicable requirements for final approval of this class action Settlement under California law, including C.C.P. § 382 and California Rule of Court 3.769. The parties are ordered to effectuate the Settlement Agreement according to its terms and this Order.
- 10. As of the Effective Date, Participating Settlement Class Members other than the Settlement Class Representatives absolutely and unconditionally release and discharge AAU from any and all liabilities, rights, claims, actions, causes of action, demands, damages, penalties, costs, attorneys' fees, losses, and remedies, whether known or unknown, existing or potential, suspected or unsuspected, liquidated or unliquidated, legal, statutory, or equitable, that result from, arise out

¹ "Personal Information" is defined in paragraph 19 of the Settlement Agreement as "names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, addresses, employment information, and other information contained in Internal Revenue Service Wage and Tax Statements (W-2 Forms) that were accessed without authorization as a result of the E-mail Security Incident."

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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC SERVICE

(CCP 1010.6(6) & CRC 2.260(g))

I, DANIAL LEMIRE, a Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court of the County of San Francisco, certify that I am not a party to the within action.

On JUL 30 2018 , I electronically served THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT via File & ServeXpress on the recipients designated on the Transaction Receipt located on the File & ServeXpress website.

Dated:

JUL 3 0 2018

Michael Yuen, Clerk

DANIAL LEMIRE, Deputy Clerk