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DAQUIS SEALE, NICK VASQUEZ, ANNETTE BAKER, JEFF LAMOREE, KATHRYN MAJOR, NATIVIDAD CONCEPCION, XUE SHI LIN, and JESSE FRIEDMAN, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ALTICE USA, INC.; CEBRIDGE TELECOM CA, LLC (D/B/A SUDDENLINK COMMUNICATIONS); and CSC HOLDINGS, LLC (D/B/A OPTIMUM),

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY MERCER COUNTY LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER-L-618-23

Defendants.

ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL TO CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND RELATED RELIEF

AND NOW, this 13th October day of , 2023, upon consideration of Plaintiffs' unopposed motion to grant final approval to the proposed class action settlement and for related relief, following briefing and a public fairness hearing on October 13, 2023, it is hereby ORDERED that:

- 1. This action is appropriately treated for settlement purposes as a class action under Rule 4:32-1 and Rule 4:32-2. The settlement class as defined in the Court's prior Order of May 25, 2023 is hereby permanently certified because:
 - a. the settlement class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable;

- b. there are questions of law or fact common to the settlement class;
- c. the claims or defenses of the representative party are typical of the claims or defenses of the settlement class;
- d. the representative party will fairly and adequately assert and protect the interests of the settlement class;
- e. the questions of law or fact common to the members of the class predominate over any questions affecting only individual members; and
- f. a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.
- 2. The settlement class has been given notice of the proposed class action settlement consistent with the New Jersey Court Rules and due process, in accordance with the Court's Preliminary Approval Order dated May 25, 2023.
- 3. The class settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement was arrived at as a result of arm's-length negotiations conducted in good faith by counsel for the parties, and is supported by the class representatives.
- 4. The class settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement is fair, reasonable, and adequate to the members of the Class in light of the complexity, expense, and likely duration of litigation and the risks involved in establishing liability, damages, and in maintaining the class action through trial and appeal.
- 5. The relief provided under the Settlement Agreement constitutes fair value given in exchange for the releases of the Settled Claims against the Released Parties.
- 6. Any and all objections to the proposed Class Settlement have been considered and are hereby OVERRULED.
- 7. Plaintiff's motion for final approval of the class settlement and related relief is GRANTED.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

A. This action is finally certified for settlement purposes as a class action on behalf of a Settlement Class defined as follows:

All persons in the United States who, between July 27, 2018 and the date of preliminary approval, were customers of Altice's Optimum or Suddenlink services and were charged and paid at least one of the following: Network Enhancement Fee, Broadcast Station Programming Surcharge, TV Broadcast Fee, Sports Programming Surcharge, or Regional Sports Network Fee.

- B. The Court grants final approval to the proposed class action Settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, as agreed to by all parties and counsel and approved by the Court.
- C. Pursuant to the settlement, the Complaint is DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE.

 All claims of Plaintiffs and Settlement Class Members against Defendant which arise from the claims and facts pleaded in the Complaint are DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE and deemed released to the extent specified in the Settlement Agreement. This Order does not bind persons who filed timely and valid requests for exclusion. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a list of persons who properly requested to be and hereby are excluded from the class Settlement. All members of the settlement class, except those listed on **Exhibit A**, are bound by this Order and by the final judgment to be entered pursuant to this Order.
- D. Class counsel's Petition for Fees and Costs is GRANTED. The Court finds that the requested contingent award of 33.33% of the Settlement Fund for combined attorneys' fees and costs is reasonable, appropriate, and well within the typical range of attorneys' fees awarded in a class action. Accordingly, the combined award of attorneys' fees and costs to Class counsel in the amount of \$4,999,500.00 (33.33% of the \$15,000,000.00 Settlement Fund) is approved and is to be paid in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

E. Without affecting the finality of this Final Approval Order in any way, the Court retains jurisdiction over (1) implementation and enforcement of the Settlement Agreement until the parties have performed the required actions thereunder; (2) any other action necessary to conclude this Settlement or to implement the Settlement Agreement; and (3) the enforcement, construction and interpretation of the Agreement.

SO ORDERED.

/s/R. Brian McLaughlin
HONORABLE R. BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN, J.S.C.

On this date, pursuant to R. 1:6-2 the court's statement of reasons have been set forth on the record.