FILED: BRONX COUNTY CLERK 11/22/2024 12:38 PM INDEX NO. 805260/2024E

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 28

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 11/22/2024

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BRONX COUNTY

FREDERICK MCKINLEY and LISA VIZCARRA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

Index No. 805260/2024E Motion 2

- against -

CONOPCO INC. and UNILEVER UNITED STATES, INC.,

Defendants.

DECISION AND ORDER
GRANTING FINAL CERTIFICATION OF THE SETTLEMENT CLASS;
GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT;
GRANTING PAYMENT OF ATTORNEYS FEES AND EXPENSES TO CLASS COUNSEL AND PAYMENT OF SERVICE AWARDS TO THE CLASS REPRESENTATIVES;
AND ENTERING FINAL JUDGMENT

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WHEREAS:

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A. On July 3, 2024, Plaintiffs applied to the Court pursuant to Civil Practice Law and

Rules ("CPLR") Article 9 for an order preliminarily approving the settlement of this litigation (the

"Action") in accordance with the Settlement Agreement dated July 2, 2024, that was filed with the

Court on July 3, 2024 (NYSCEF Doc. No. 7) (the "Settlement");

В. The Settlement, together with the exhibits annexed thereto, sets forth the terms and

conditions for a proposed settlement of this Action and a related matter (collectively, "the

Actions") and for a judgment dismissing with prejudice the First Amended Class Action Complaint

filed with the Court on June 26, 2024 (NYSCEF Doc. No. 5) (the "Complaint") by the Plaintiffs;

C. In the Preliminary Approval Order of the Settlement of the Class Action, dated

August 14, 2024 (NYSCEF Doc. No. 20) (the "Preliminary Approval Order"), this Court

(i) certified the Settlement Class defined as:

All persons who, from April 21, 2016 to August 14, 2024 purchased one or more Breyers Natural Vanilla ice cream products in the United States for personal or household use and not for resale. Excluded from the Settlement Class and Settlement Class Members are: the Released Parties; any government entities; persons who made such purchase for the purpose of resale; persons who made a valid, timely request for exclusion; the presiding judges in the Actions; and mediator Peter Woodin of JAMS.

(ii) appointed Michael R. Reese and Sue J. Nam of Reese LLP and Spencer Sheehan of Sheehan

& Associates, P.C. as co-lead counsel for the Class ("Class Counsel"); (iii) preliminarily approved

the Settlement; (iv) scheduled a hearing for November 21, 2024 (the "Settlement Hearing") to

consider whether (a) to approve the Settlement as being fair, reasonable, and adequate, and to enter

final judgment thereon and (b) to approve payment of attorneys' fees and expenses to Class

Counsel and payment of service awards to the Class Representatives; and (v) directed that notice

be given of the pendency of the Actions, the Settlement, and the Settlement Hearing.

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D. Class Counsel has submitted affirmations from the Claims Administrator appointed

by the Preliminary Approval Order attesting that the Notice was disseminated in accordance with

the Preliminary Approval Order. (See NYSCEF Doc. Nos. 24 and 25) (Affirmation and

Supplemental Affirmation of Cameron R. Azari of Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc.

Regarding Implementation and Adequacy of Notice Plan).

E. Class Counsel has submitted a list of all Class Members who properly and timely

requested exclusion from the Class, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 1 hereto.

F. The Court held a Settlement Hearing on November 21, 2024 and has considered all

prior proceedings in the Action, the Settlement and the exhibits annexed thereto, any submissions

made in connection with the proposed Settlement, and all proceedings in the Action.

NOW, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED as follows:

1. To the extent not defined herein, this Order and Final Judgment incorporates by

reference the definitions in the Settlement, and all terms not otherwise defined herein shall have

the same meanings as set forth in the Settlement.

APPROVAL OF NOTICE

2. The Court hereby determines that the Notice Plan complied with the requirements

of CPLR §§ 904, 907, and 908 and due process, was the best notice practicable under the

circumstances, and constituted due and sufficient notice to all persons entitled thereto. The Notice

Plan provided due and adequate notice of these proceedings, the Settlement, the application of

Class Counsel for the payment of attorney fees and reimbursement of expenses to Class Counsel,

the application for payment of Service Awards to the Class Representatives, and the other matters

set forth therein, to all persons entitled to such notice.

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3. Due and adequate notice having been given to the Class Members, and a full opportunity having been offered to the Class Members to object to the proposed Settlement, to participate in the Settlement Hearing thereon, or to request exclusion from the Class, it is hereby determined that all Class Members who have not requested exclusion are bound by this Order and Final Judgment and are barred from contesting the Settlement or this Order and Final Judgment.

4. Those persons identified in Exhibit 1 hereto shall be excluded from the Class and any benefits under the Settlement and shall not be bound by the Settlement.

CERTIFICATION OF THE SETTLEMENT CLASS

5. Paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 8 of the Preliminary Approval Order pertaining to the certification of the Settlement Class; appointment of the Class Representatives; appointment of Class Counsel; and appointment of the Claims Administrator are hereby confirmed and made a part of this Order and Final Judgment.

APPROVAL OF THE SETTLEMENT

6. Pursuant to CPLR §§ 907 and 908, the Court finds that the Settlement is in all respects fair, reasonable, and adequate to each of the Releasing Parties and each Class Member. The Settlement is hereby approved by the Court. In making this determination, the Court has considered, among other things, the benefits conferred on the Class by the Settlement, the risks faced by the Class in establishing class certification, liability, and damages, and the value of settlement now in comparison to the likely probable duration, complexity, and further expense of this litigation in the absence of a settlement. The Court further finds that the Settlement has been the product of arm's-length negotiations and has been entered into in good faith. The Parties thereto are directed to consummate the Settlement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement.

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7. In determining that the Settlement is in all respects fair, reasonable and adequate to each of the Releasing Parties and each member of the Class, and in approving the Settlement, the Court has considered that no objections have been raised by any Class Members to the Settlement.

8. The Complaint against Defendants in this Action is dismissed on the merits and with prejudice, with each party to bear his, her, their, or its own costs, except for: the payment of valid claims to the Class Members; the payment of fees and costs of the Claims Administrator; the payment of the attorney fees and reimbursement of expenses to Class Counsel; and the payment of the service awards to the Class Representatives, as provided for below and in the Settlement.

PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND REIMBURSMENT OF EXPENSES TO CLASS COUNSEL

9. The application by Class Counsel for the payment of \$2,950,000 in attorney fees, which constitutes one-third of the \$8,850,000 Settlement Amount, and to which there was no objection, is hereby granted. Class Counsel's application for \$200,954.98 in reimbursement of expenses, to which there was no objection, is also hereby granted. Said fees and expenses shall be deducted from the Settlement Amount in the manner prescribed in the Settlement Agreement.

PAYMENT OF SERVICE AWARDS TO THE CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

10. The application by Class Counsel for payment of a \$5,000 service award to each of the two Class Representatives (for a total of \$10,000) for their efforts in connection with the prosecution of the Actions, and to which no objection was filed, is hereby granted.

FINAL EFFECT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SETTLEMENT

11. All Class Members who have not requested exclusion and all Plaintiffs are barred and enjoined from commencing, prosecuting, instigating or in any way participating in the commencement or prosecution of any action asserting any claims asserted in the Actions against Defendants, either directly, representatively, derivatively, or in any other capacity.

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12. Neither the Settlement nor any proceedings taken in accordance with the terms set forth therein shall be construed or deemed to be evidence, or any presumption, admission or concession, either (a) on the part of Plaintiffs, of the lack of merit of the Actions, or (b) on the part of Defendants, of any violation of any statute or regulation or principle of common law, or of any fault, liability, or wrongdoing as to any facts or claims alleged or asserted in the Actions, or any other action or proceeding, or that any person or entity has suffered any damages as a result of any matter that underlies any of the allegations or claims that were or could have been brought in the Actions, and shall not be interpreted, construed, deemed, invoked, offered, or received in evidence or otherwise used by any person in the Actions or in any other action or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, or administrative, except for any litigation or judicial proceeding arising out of or relating to the enforcement of the Settlement. Any such evidence, admission or concession is expressly denied and disclaimed by each of the Plaintiffs and each of the Defendants.

- Without in any way affecting the finality of this Order and Final Judgment, this 13. Court shall retain continuing jurisdiction over this Action and the Parties to the Settlement and the Class Members in order to: (a) effectuate the implementation of the Settlement; (b) enforce the terms of the Settlement including, but not limited to, the releases provided therein; (c) hear all claims, defenses, and counterclaims relating to the interpretation and enforcement of this Settlement before and after the Effective Date as the Court deems appropriate; (d) determine all other matters relevant to this Settlement; (f) to enter any further orders as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the Settlement and the provisions of this Order and Final Judgment.
- 14. The Court hereby enters this Final Order and Final Judgment and Dismissal with prejudice. The Court fully and finally dismisses this matter and this litigation in its entirety and with prejudice.

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Accordingly, motion sequence 2 is granted and the action is settled. The clerk shall mark motion sequence 2 decided and the action disposed in all court records.

This constitutes the decision and order of the court.

SO ORDERED this 21 day of November, 2024:

Honorable Veronica G. Hummel

Justice of Supreme Court of the State of New York

X Motion 2 granted X Action disposed

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EXHIBIT 1 (LIST OF PERSONS WHO REQUESTED EXCLUSION FROM THE SETTLEMENT)

THOMAS BIGGINS

CHARLES FIRESTONE

MARY JO DONAHUE

LIZETTE HERNANDEZ

HAYDEE CANTORAL

MICHELLE LOKUTA

KELVI MOLINA CANALES

GILDA ANDERSON

DEBBIE L MERRILL

KELVI MOLINA

BENJAMIN ASCONE

HAOI TRAN

PAUL PETROSKI

THOMAS NGUYEN

ALICIA SMITH

KRISTEN A SUTHERLAND

DORA MARAMAG

ZAK M AATEF

FLORA OLANDER

DARREL J DWIGHT

LEVERGNE FRIDAY

ROBERT MESITI

VINNE S VALENTINE

VIVIAN L CLARK

MARY JOINER

CHRISTAN WATTS

ANNA PARASKEVOPOULOS

CYNTHIA R HOLMES

MARK MCHUGH

SANDRA M GATES

LACRISHA MOORE

MARRISSA D ALVAREZ

TRISH PERRY

DEBRA VALENTINE

CYNTHIA TOWNSEND

KATARZYNA GANLEY

JOHN P PELTZER

LATRICIA WOOTEN

YANIRA SOTO

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MYRTLE PERRY

ZHE XIE

HALINA BUCHCAR

GARLAND PERRY

PAMELA PUTRICH

WAHID AZIZI

JOSEPH BARRATIERE

KIMBERLY CRAVER

MARITZA AGUILAR

SAMUEL M STEFFEN

MICHAEL KNAPP

MELISSA TRINH

LINGRU KONG

GRACE C BERGER

ALICIA F POUNCY

KEVIN CHONG

ALICIA ROWLAND

IVAN D MORRIS

ALINA DZIECIOL

CARMEL B MANLAPAZ

MONICA MEISTER

MICHELE M ALLEN

JEFF RAPOSO

SILVER CARROLL

HERBERT WILLIAMS

JENNIFER ANDERSON

LUBNA YUSUF

ISEMANA JEAN

MICHIKO IACUZIO

STEVEN DEMOOR

ELIZABETH M JAMES

KAROLYN R BROCKMEYER

KAYLA R BRUENING

ERIC B MOORE

JENNIFFER ARGUETA

JAMES K LAWSON

NICOLE SAGGIO

ABRIA OSSMAN

MARIO F GUERRERO

JESUS JIMENEZ

ANDRE O SCOTT

JOHN F WHITE

MARIANA E ROMAN

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DAVE D DUFFY

MELISSA NOLAN

JAMES LASCO

JOSEPH FORTE

DOMINIQUE V MORENO

KARLA L HEASTIE

LISA A ROBUCCIO

BRIGITTE ALDREDGE

DAVID ENG

JOHN NOON

NICKOLAS MORRIS

NATHAN KNIGHT

DAVID KRONBERG

EDWARD ROYBAL

RETH B UNG

HEATHER SURRENCY

BEN LICON

LISA HUDSPETH

KIMBERLY J COVELLA

LAVANGILE ECHOLS JR

SUSAN C MALONE

JF TRINKAUS

HANIN KAMAL

ENRIQUE FERNANDEZ

WON CHO

TARYN J HARLER

JASON L VANANDA

DANIEL MANGOME

JAQUELINE M HOLNESS

GRETCHEN M DANISH

VALERIE LINEBERGER

ABEL GUTIERREZ

ED FENG

CESAR H VILLALOBOS

MAUREEN OWENS

COLBY S DUNN

GARRETT JOHNSON

ELIZABETH VAZQUEZ GARCIA

DENISE T FENTON

ADRIANA BRIVIESCA

HALENA L MEISTERS

VANCE S SAFLEY

PAMELA GIANNI

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LUIS NICOLAS
ANNA NGYUEN
BARRY R GALLOWAY

JAQUELINE R JONES

DON J SPREEMAN

SUSANNA ACHINNIKOV

MICHAEL T SOWINSKI

NAGESH ROJANALA

10.051.7015.011.4.00

JOCELYNE DILLARD

FRANK S MAYBERRY

BARBARA WILLIAMS
MARILLEN D CABALLERO

SHARRON N WHITE

RON E COX

SCOTT T CRUMP

JEFFREY P KOLLING

FRANK C GRAHAM

ERNEST GOWER

KELLEY G PERRIN

MARC MILLER

STEPHEN SIMKO

RONGJUAN MI

SADIA KHAN

SYDNEY LIEBERKNECHT

BRICE QUIGLEY

JENNIFER R RESCHKE

MUBARAK S MAKNOJIA

TODD S FREEDMAN

NOEL LOPEZ

MADAHUSUDAN REDDY

PAMELA G CHAFFIN

BLANCA A VALDOVINOS

ROBERT D MIDDLETON

YVONNE N GALLARDO

LORI LANGELLIER

TANI M ODORFER

REGINALD ROBINSON

CURTIS INGRAM

JAMAAR WISE

MICHAEL MOLLOY

ROBERT MATONAK

JOHN PEACHEY

JAMIE RAINWATER

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ABRAHAM MATHEW
ODETE M ALEXANDER
YVONNE ELLER

ROSEMONA J ANDERSON

JILL C BACHA

SHONA BUTLER

DOLORES WATKINS

RONNIE MCGEE

ANITA L FRANCISCO

KATAUNYA BOOMER

RICHARD SCHAGRIN

JAIK R BOVEE

WALTER HERNANDEZ

JANECE QUADE

SHELDON H ZIVIN

JOAN HAYES

CHRISTINE L HEMBREE

SUSAN I LANDSMAN

ANDREW WOODHEAD

MARSHA HUGHES

MARVIN PHILIP

DONALD GORDON

MEHRAN BAHRANI

SHAYNE D FISHER

RICHARD A DUFFY

MIKE BRADSHAW

MARY RODRIGUEZ

MICHELLE CARRIZOSA

MOHAMMAD A KHILJI

MICHAEL K GARHARTT

MONICA LOPEZ

BENJAMIN L SMITH

MICHELLE N SUMMERLIN

MELANIE J SLATER

COLBIE LLYWELYN

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KAROL MENA

HEDY S GRIMALDI

MARY PHILBIN

MICHAEL A HUSKEY

MARINA ORTIZ

CHARLIE ARGENTO

FELISHA HUGHES

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VIRGIL L MONTEMAYOR ANA C RUIZ RAMIREZ STEPHEN PERNOT ANGELA D SCHULTZ **VIOLET GATLING** ANA J GRIJALVA **MARY G WINTERS JOAN FAUSZ DAVID W YASYSZCZUK TIWANA M ROLAND** TARISHA T DOWTIN **RENATE G HARDIE JOSE HEWITT** SHFIELA VICK LEONOR COLON LAURA M HUGHES **CARLESCIA KEYS VANESSA JUAREZ TAYLOR M TIPPIN RACHAEL WADDELL SANJAY PATEL**