

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
WESTERN DIVISION**

**MARTIN ZAKARIAN, and** )  
**MARY JONES, on behalf of themselves and** )  
**those similarly situated,** )

**Plaintiffs,** )

**v.** )

**THE RAWLINGS COMPANY LLC,** )  
**RAWLINGS FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC,** )  
**and RAWLINGS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC,** )

**Defendants.** )

**Case No.: 4:24-cv-00229**

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**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO APPOINT NOTICE ADMINISTRATOR**

Plaintiffs Martin Zakarian and Mary Jones, by and through the undersigned attorneys, move the Court to Appoint RG/2 Claims Administration LLC ("RG/2") as the class notice administrator for this matter. In further support, Plaintiffs state as follows:<sup>1</sup>

1. On August 15, 2025, this Court certified two classes of individuals pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23(b)(3)—a class comprised of Kansas residents and a class comprised of Missouri residents. *See* Doc. 123.

2. The classes certified by the Court are not large; the Kansas class is now estimated to consist of less than 700 members, and the Missouri class is now estimated to consist of less than 1,400 members.

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<sup>1</sup> On April 23, 2026, the Court ordered (*see* Doc. 153) Plaintiffs to file a motion to appoint a class action notice administrator for purposes of the class certified by this Court via order dated August 15, 2025, Doc. 123. This motion addresses the information requested in the Court's April 23<sup>rd</sup> order.

3. The Court's class certification order appointed the undersigned law firms as class counsel, and ordered that a notice program be implemented to advise the class members of their rights pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23.

4. Plaintiffs now move the Court for an order appointing RG/2 as the class notice administrator, to carry out the details of a Court-approved notice plan.<sup>2</sup>

5. RG/2 is qualified and capable of serving as notice administrator in this case, and has ample experience in the field of class administration. *See* Exhibit 1.

6. From the experience of the undersigned, there are essentially two types of class notice administrator in the United States: (1) large class administrators that charge premium fees and cater to massive nationwide class actions, and (2) smaller class administrators that charge reasonable fees and handle nationwide class actions as well as smaller, regional class actions.

7. The undersigned law firm has a long track record of working with RG/2 on regional class actions, and has found RG/2 to provide excellent service on every occasion.<sup>3</sup> More important, unlike some large class administrators, RG/2 is willing to take on regional class actions where the class size is relatively small.

8. RG/2 was selected by Class Counsel because: (1) RG/2 was willing to take on administration of this case, even though the class size is small; (2) RG/2 has provided proven results to Class Counsel over numerous cases going back years, and (3) the other class administrator contacted by Class Counsel (a large class administrator commonly involved in nationwide class actions) refused to even bid on the class notice program for this case due to its size.

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<sup>2</sup> *See* Doc. # 152 for the parties' joint proposed notice plan, and proposed notice forms.

<sup>3</sup> A list of prior class action cases in which the undersigned law firm has retained RG/2 is set forth in Exhibit 2.

9. Since the other class administrator contacted by Class Counsel refused to bid on the project, there were no competing bids to be the class administrator besides that of RG/2. However, the undersigned is confident that he would have to look very long and hard to find another qualified class administrator that would even come close to the price quoted by RG/2 for this class notice proposal.

10. Class Counsel understand that RG/2 has procedures in place for securely handling class member data, retention and destruction policies, crisis response protocols, and insurance, all of which is addressed in Exhibit 2.

11. Class Counsel have also attached as Exhibits 3-6 the ethics conflict disclosures previously submitted to the Court, and are cognizant of their continuing obligation to supplement their responses.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, Plaintiffs move the Court for an order appointing RG/2 Claims Administration LLC as the class notice administrator for this matter, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joseph A. Kronawitter

Joseph A. Kronawitter MO Bar No. 49280

Taylor P. Foye MO Bar No. 71527

HORN AYLWARD & BANDY, LC

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-and-

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[bmccart@btm-law.com](mailto:bmccart@btm-law.com)

**Attorneys for Plaintiffs**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on May 11, 2026, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will automatically send a notice of electronic filing to all person registered for ECF as of that date.

/s/ Joseph A. Kronawitter  
Attorney

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**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO APPOINT NOTICE ADMINISTRATOR**

# Exhibit 1



## SETTING A NEW STANDARD IN CLASS ACTION CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION

PHILADELPHIA • NEW YORK • ATLANTA • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



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## Class Action Experience

### High-Quality Service at Competitive Rates

RG/2 Claims seasoned professionals utilize their vast class action experience, tax and financial management resources to deliver high-quality service at competitive rates.

RG/2 Claims is a boutique class action claims administration firm with a nationwide presence founded by seasoned class action practitioners and highly credentialed tax professionals. Our leadership team has a collective 100 years' experience working in the field of class action litigation and settlement administration to leverage for the benefit of counsel. Our team of driven class action attorneys, *highly credentialed CPAs and forensic accountants* approach each matter with a personal goal to shepherd the settlement through the process from settlement negotiations through final approval. Our personal attention and care ensures that the administration is handled in a seamless matter that allows counsel to proceed with the knowledge and confidence that their settlement will receive the attention and care that they demand. In addition, our operations and IT personnel bring individualized innovations to each engagement, driving the notice and settlement administration to conclusion. We have the experience to handle large settlements with the personal attention and care expected from a boutique firm.

RG/2 Claims recognizes that cutting-edge technology is the key to efficient and reliable claim processing. Our IT Group, including an experienced web design team, enables RG/2 Claims to employ technologies used to enhance accuracy, efficiency and interaction of all participants in the claims process. Our approach focuses on analysis of case needs, development of solutions to maximize resources and reduce costs through accurate and efficient data collection and entry, and ongoing maintenance and support. Throughout the entire claims process, our goal is to (1) optimize completeness, accuracy and efficiency of the data management system, including online integration; (2) validate critical fields and data; and (3) track opt-outs and claimant responses. RG/2 Claims' proprietary database application provides a *single source for managing the entire claims administration process and expediting decision making and resource management*. From the initial mailing through distribution of settlement funds and reconciliation of distributed payments, RG/2 Claims' CLEVerPay® system centralizes data, facilitating information sharing and efficient communication.



## Cutting-Edge Technology and Skilled Resources

**The CLEVerPay<sup>®</sup> System: A proprietary and revolutionary application developed exclusively by RG/2 Claims.**

At RG/2 Claims, we developed a proprietary and customizable database with the goal of providing single-source management throughout the claims administration process, expediting decision making and resource management.

From the initial mailing through distribution of settlement funds and reconciliation of payments, RG/2 Claims' CLEVerPay<sup>®</sup> system centralizes the entire process while providing information sharing and communications solutions.

Our CLEVerPay<sup>®</sup> system is a robust and user-friendly resource that can be easily customized to meet your administration and distribution needs. We recognize how essential it is for data to be clean, centralized and readily accessible. RG/2 Claims' CLEVerPay<sup>®</sup> system has the capacity to assimilate and analyze large amounts of raw data from multiple inputs, to convert that raw data into useful information and to distribute the useful information in a variety of formats.

The integration of these elements results in timely and accurate distribution of secure payments generated from RG/2 Claims' single-source CLEVerPay<sup>®</sup> system.

For more information, please visit our website to download our CLEVerPay<sup>®</sup> System Datasheet at: <http://www.rg2claims.com/pdf/cleverPayDatasheet.pdf>.

# Locations



## PHILADELPHIA

30 South 17th Street • Philadelphia, PA 19103-4196  
P 215.979.1620 • F 215.979.1695

## NEW YORK

1540 Broadway • New York, NY 10036-4086  
P 212.471.4777 • F 212.692.1020

## ATLANTA

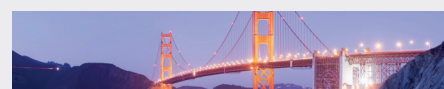
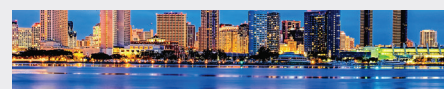
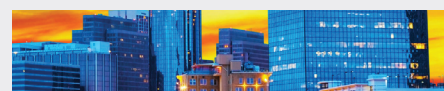
1075 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 2000 • Atlanta, GA 30309-3929  
P 404.253.6904 • F 404.253.6905

## SAN DIEGO

750 B Street, Suite 2900 • San Diego, CA 92101-4681

## SAN FRANCISCO

Spear Tower • One Market Plaza, Suite 2200 • San Francisco, CA 94105-1127  
P 415.957.3011 • F 415.957.3090



# Full Life-Cycle Support for Your Class Action With You Every Step of the Way

Whether engaged as a court-appointed settlement administrator, claims agent or disbursing agent, RG/2 Claims offers a complete range of claims, settlement administration and investment management services, including but not limited to:

## PROFESSIONAL CASE MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

RG/2 Claims provides custom pre-settlement consultation and highly personalized attention throughout the life cycle of settlement administration. Each retention begins with an in-depth consultation concerning the specific needs of the case. Our professionals routinely and proactively identify administrative concerns and identify and propose solutions that avoid delay and remove unpredictability from the equation. We work through a coordinated approach involving a core of specialists that are intimately familiar with the case entrusted to our care. Our retentions result in effective and efficient solutions and greater peace of mind for busy lawyers.

## NOTIFICATION PLANNING AND CAMPAIGNS

Whether routine or innovative, RG/2 Claims designs cost-effective and thorough notification plans that will suit your budget whether the settlement is national in scope or highly localized. RG/2 Claims guides you through the array of notice publication options at your disposal in a variety of media formats.

## WEBSITE DESIGN

RG/2 Claims can assist in the design and hosting of a website specific to the client's needs to allow for document posting, as well as pertinent information and deadlines about the case. RG/2 Claims can also provide various options for claims filing, which includes an online portal that allows claimants to submit their claims and supporting documentation through the website.

## CLAIMS PROCESSING

RG/2 Claims utilizes a proprietary and customizable database that provides a single-source management tool throughout the claims administration process, expediting decision making and resource management. RG/2 Claims' proprietary and sophisticated CLEVerPay® system centralizes the entire process while providing information sharing and communications solutions, from the initial mailing through distribution of settlement funds and reconciliation of payments.

## DISTRIBUTION AND TAX SERVICES

RG/2 Claims' in-house tax, accounting and financial services professionals provide disbursement services, including management of checking, sweep, escrow and related cash accounts, as well as non-cash assets, such as credits, gift cards, warrants and stock certificates. RG/2 Claims' in-house CPAs provide a broad array of accounting services, including securing private letter rulings from the IRS regarding the tax reporting consequences of settlement payments, the preparation of settlement fund tax returns and the preparation and issuance of IRS Forms 1099 and W-2.

## Range of Services

### Offering Unparalleled Value

RG/2 offers a range of quality value-added services for your class action administration.

#### SECURITIES

RG/2 Claims' highly experienced team uses its various resources to locate beneficial holders of securities, including working with the Depository Trust Company and a proprietary list of nominee firms to identify and mail notices to the class. With RG/2 Claims' CLEVerPay system, claims are processed efficiently and accurately using our proprietary damage grid that calculates class member damages in accordance with a broad array of complex plans of allocation. Claims are automatically flagged through a validation process so RG/2 Claims can communicate with class members concerning their claims and can assist them in filing claims that are complete and properly documented. Once ready for distribution, RG/2 Claims conducts an audit of the claims to insure against calculation errors and possible fraudulent claims. Once the audit is completed, RG/2 Claims calculates distribution amounts for eligible class members in accordance with the plan of allocation and issues checks and any applicable tax documents. RG/2 Claims is also often called upon to act as the Escrow Agent for the Settlement Fund, investing the funds and filing all required tax returns.

#### ANTITRUST

Because of the high-dollar settlements involved in most antitrust cases and potential large recoveries on behalf of class members, RG/2 Claims understands the importance of accuracy and attention to detail for these cases. RG/2 Claims works with counsel to arrive at the best possible plan to provide notice to the class. With RG/2 Claims' CLEVerPay system, claims filed with a large volume of data, which is common in an antitrust case, can be quickly and easily uploaded into our database for proper auditing. Our highly-trained staff consults with counsel to apply an audit plan to process claims in an efficient manner while ensuring that all claims meet class guidelines. Once ready for distribution, RG/2 Claims calculates check amounts for eligible class members in accordance with the plan of allocation and will issue checks (including wire transfers for large distributions) as well as any necessary tax documents. RG/2 Claims is also available to act as the Escrow Agent for the Settlement Fund, investing the funds and filing all required tax returns.

#### EMPLOYMENT

With an experienced team of attorneys, CPAs, damage experts and settlement administrators, RG/2 Claims handles all aspects of complex employment settlements, including collective actions, FLSA, gender discrimination, wage-and-hour and, in particular, California state court class and PAGA settlements. RG/2 Claims utilizes technological solutions to securely receive and store class data, parse data for applicable employment information, personalize consents forms or claim forms, collect consents or claims electronically, calculate settlement amounts and make payments through our proprietary CLEVerPay system. Our proprietary database also allows for up-to-the-minute statistical reporting for returned mail, consents or claims received and exclusions submitted. Our CPAs concentrate on withholding and payroll issues and IRC section 468(B) compliance and reporting. Customizable case-specific websites allow for online notification and claims filing capabilities. With Spanish/English bilingual call center representatives on-staff, class members are provided immediate attention to their needs.

#### CONSUMER

RG/2 Claims handles a wide range of complex consumer matters with notice dissemination to millions of class members and with settlements involving cash, coupons, credits and gift cards. Our experienced claims administrators are available to provide guidance on media, notice and distribution plans that are compliant with the Class Action Fairness Act and the state federal rules governing notice, and that are most beneficial to the class. Our proprietary CLEVerPay system provides a secure and efficient way to track class member data, claims and payments. Integrated with our database, we can provide a user-friendly claims filing portal that will allow class members to complete a static claim form or log-in using user-specific credentials to view and submit a claim personalized just for that user. A similar online portal can be provided as a highly cost-effective method for distribution where the class member can log in to obtain coupons, vouchers or credits as their settlement award.

Effective administration requires proactive planning and precise execution. Before we undertake any matter, we work with you to develop a specific plan for the administration of your case. The service plan is comprehensive, complete and tailored to your specific needs.

#### RG/2 CLAIMS PROVIDES THE SERVICES SUMMARIZED BELOW:

- Technical consultation during formulation of settlement agreement, including data collection criteria and tax consequences
- Design and development of notice and administration plan, including claim form design and layout
- Claim form and notice printing and mailing services
- Dedicated claimant email address with monitoring and reply service
- Calculation and allocation of class member payments
- Claim form follow-up, including issuing notices to deficient and rejected claims
- Mail forwarding
- Claimant locator services
- Live phone support for claimant inquiries and requests
- Claim form processing
- Claim form review and audit
- Check printing and issuance
- Design and hosting of website access portals
- Online claim receipt confirmation portal
- Ongoing technical consultation throughout the life cycle of the case
- Check and claim form replacement upon request

#### WE ALSO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING OPTIONAL SERVICES:

- Periodic status reporting
- Customized rapid reporting on demand
- Issue reminder postcards
- Consultation on damage analyses, calculation and valuation
- Interpretation of raw data to conform to plan of allocation
- Issue claim receipt notification postcards
- Online portal to provide claims forms, status and contact information
- Dedicated toll-free claimant assistance line
- Evaluation and determination of claimant disputes
- Opt-out/Objection processing
- Notice translation
- Integrated notice campaigns, including broadcast, print and e-campaigns
- Pre-paid claim return mail envelope service
- Web-based claim filing
- 24/7 call center support
- Damage measurement and development of an equitable plan of allocation

#### WE ALSO PROVIDE CALCULATION AND WITHHOLDING OF ALL REQUIRED FEDERAL AND STATE TAX PAYMENTS, INCLUDING:

- Individual class member payments
- Qualified Settlement Fund (QSF) tax filings
- Employment tax filings and remittance
- Generation and issuance of W-2s and 1099s
- Integrated reporting and remittance services, as well as client-friendly data reports for self-filing

**Don't see the service you are looking for?  
Ask us. We will make it happen.**



## BOUTIQUE ADMINISTRATOR WITH WORLD-CLASS CAPABILITIES

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**Defendants. )**

**Case No.: 4:24-cv-00229**

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**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO APPOINT NOTICE ADMINISTRATOR**

**Exhibit 2**



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Vice President, Business Development and Client Relations  
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wwwickersham@rg2claims.com ♦ 212-471-4777

May 11, 2026

**Via Electronic Mail**

Joe Kronawitter, Esq.  
Horn, Aylward, & Bandy, L.L.C.  
2600 Grand Blvd., Suite 1100  
Kansas City, MO 64108

Re: Zakarian et al v. The Rawlings Company et al.  
Case 4:24-cv-00229-SRB (W.D. MO)

Dear Joe:

RG/2 Claims Administration (“RG/2” or “RG/2 Claims”) is honored to respond to your invitation to submit a response to the Court’s April 23, 2026 Order on Vendor Disclosure in the above-referenced matter.

RG/2 Claims Administration LLC (“RG/2”) is a full-service class action settlement administration company formed over two decades ago by a team of attorneys and financial and accounting professionals with substantial experience handling complex claims. RG/2 has several offices across the United States, with its corporate headquarters at 30 South 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A description of RG/2 experience and expertise can be referenced on our firm website here: <https://www.rg2claims.com/about.html>.

**Horn Aylward & Bandy, LLC - Class Cases**

RG/2 Claims Administration has worked with attorneys from Horn Aylward & Bandy, LLC on the following cases:

Huff et al. v. CoreCivic, Inc. et al., Case No. 2:17-cv-02320 (D. Kansas)

Yoakum et al. v. Genuine Parts Company, Case No. 4:19-cv-00718-BP (W.D. MO)

Miller et al. v. O’Reilly Automotive, Inc., et al., Case No. 4:18-cv-687 (W.D. MO)

Allicks et al. v. Omni Specialty Packaging, LLC, et al., Case No. 4:19-cv-01038 (W.D. MO.)

Famuliner et al., v. WalMart, Inc., et al., Case No. 19-00060-CV-W-ODS (W.D. MO)

Hornbeck et al., v. Tractor Supply Company, et al., Case No. 4:18-cv-00523- NKL (W.D. MO)

Hornbeck et al. v. Orscheln Farm and Home LLC et al., Case No. 18-00941-CV-W-BP (W.D. MO.)

In Re: Smitty's/CAM2 303 Tractor Hydraulic Fluid Marketing, Sales Practices, And Products Liability Litigation, MDL No. 2936, Master Case No. 4:20-MD-02936-SRB (W.D. MO)

Johnson, et al. v. Stonegate Meadows Apartments, LLC et al., Case No. 2316-cv-09588 (Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri at Kansas City)

Tran v. Weaver Creek Apartments, LLC, Case No: 2231-CC00795 (Circuit Court of Greene County, Missouri)

### **Privacy and Quality Control Procedures**

An integral part of our claims administration projects is the quality assurance review. RG/2 maintains all claimant identifying information in the strictest confidence by the use of strong internal controls, protocols, and proprietary technology. RG/2 has never experienced any breach nor any leak of confidential class member identifying information or other sensitive class member information.

Documentation received in response to the notice is carefully reviewed, evaluated, and properly stored. RG/2 maintains a Record Retention and Destruction Policy (hereafter "Records Policy") which generally requires it to maintain, store, and make available, in an indexed and readily retrievable form, all records and documentation associated with a particular matter for a period, generally seven (7) years, following the distribution of any fund. The Records Policy also allows for the time period and the triggering event to be adjusted to appropriate client and court requirements, such as retention for six years from the transfer of any remaining funds to the SEC or the closing of the account from which the funds were disbursed, whichever is earlier. RG/2 will be able to accommodate this retention and destruction arrangement and smoothly implement it into its operating procedures.

### **Data Security**

RG/2 takes privacy and security very seriously. Anyone who enters one of our facilities must have an access badge. Visitors must be identified and escorted at all times. Our information systems are well-protected by multiple fire-walls and by various other means. Every department adheres to written privacy procedures that govern access to information, the handling of paper documents, CDs and other media, the use of portable information devices, email and voicemail and other security essentials.

RG/2 requires personnel screening and background checks prior to an offer of employment, which includes both credit and criminal record checks. All individuals are provided a unique user ID and password and users are locked out of the system after five invalid login attempts. Users must also change their password every 90 days. Given the fact that RG/2 is often tasked with housing sensitive and confidential information, including social security numbers, health records, PII, as well as financial data such as bank account records and information, data security is a critical priority. Furthermore, RG/2 minimizes information security risk by performing all administration services in-house, from our headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

RG/2 is routinely provided with sensitive data and information, including social security numbers, bank account information, credit card numbers, debit card numbers, health records, among other sensitive data. As a result, we are committed to ensuring the safety of our client's data from unauthorized use, access, disclosure, theft, manipulation, reproduction or possible security breach, during the tenure of our relationship. Our Information Security Program has been tested and continually passed intensive security reviews by the most demanding organizations in a variety of industries including, but not limited to, financial and professional services, software and technology manufacturing, retail, energy and utility organizations, government entities, healthcare providers and leading financial institutions.

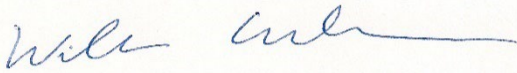
Our Information Security Program employs a **layered security approach**, forming a defense-in-depth strategy to mitigate known or potential security risks. Major components of the program include Risk Assessment, Security Assessment, Security Awareness, Security Policies and Standards as well as Risk Mitigation. Dedicated Information Security, Network and Systems Infrastructure personnel are responsible for the management of the program in order to ensure the prevention of unauthorized access to the environment supporting the services provided to our clients. Our Information Security Program implements best in class commercially accepted technologies and applies appropriate methods of security to ensure that the integrity and privacy of our client's data is protected. Our security program adheres to industry standards and best practices that addresses the critical requirements of safeguarding information based on: International Organization for Standardization (ISO/IEC 27001:2013) NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Legal Compliance Requirements including all applicable state and federal laws and regulations relating to safeguarding information.

RG/2 maintains a Record Retention and Destruction Policy, which generally requires us to maintain, store and make available an indexed and readily retrievable form of all records and documentation associated with a particular matter. Our Information Security Program recognizes the need for client assurance and validation that all sensitive data is being protected. As a result, all security policies are reviewed and updated as necessary in accordance to regulatory changes and industry best practices. Security policies are confidential and will not be disseminated to any third-party.

**Insurance Coverage**

Insurance coverage includes but is not limited to General Liability insurance of \$10 million and \$55 million of Errors and Omissions professional liability insurance. Additionally, we maintain crime coverage of \$10 million and fiduciary liability insurance coverage of \$12 million as well as a \$30 million umbrella liability policy. It is RG/2's practice to carry specific insurance equal to its current liabilities calculated on the risk regarding the current caseload. This strategy enables RG/2 to flexibly contain costs and not charge our clients exorbitant rates for non-existent risks. In order to provide the most efficient and cost-effective services while ensuring sufficient insurance coverage for matters handled by our firm, we will, should it be necessary, obtain additional case-specific riders for large-scale matters.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. W. Wickersham", is written over a light beige rectangular background.

William W. Wickersham

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**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO APPOINT NOTICE ADMINISTRATOR**

**Exhibit 3**

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RAWLINGS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, )

Defendants. )

**DECLARATION OF COUNSEL**

Class counsel Joseph A. Kronawitter, provides the following declaration in response to the Court's August 15, 2025 order (Doc. 124):

1. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any company or entity that is financing the litigation for this matter? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

2. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any bank, private equity, hedge fund, settlement administrator, vendor, or similar institution (except for holdings in mutual funds that do not grant control over such entities) that has a role in this litigation? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

3. Have you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel accepted

anything of value from any bank, settlement administrator, or vendor who is or might provide services in this matter more than \$100? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

4. Do you, your firm, or any co-counsel have any financing that is contingent upon this litigation? Please describe your investigation and its results. If yes, the following questions shall be answered:

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

5. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any litigation lending companies that would provide funds directly to potential claimants in this case? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

6. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect), including but not limited to as an investor, Officer, Director, employee, or contractor, with any party or client/claimant involved in this MDL or class action (other than a written retainer or engagement agreement for a client in this case)? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

7. Do you, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel partner or employee have any personal relationship (including but not limited to familial, romantic, or

financial/business) with any party, client, claimant, counsel, or vendor involved in this MDL or class action? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

8. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel represent any present parties or claimants in this litigation who you have represented in any other capacity or in any other court (either currently or within the past 3 years)? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: it is my understanding that my co-counsel at the Law Office of Brian Meyers have represented the named plaintiffs on prior claims, which is explained in their respective declarations.

9. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial interest (direct or indirect) in any similar claims or lawsuits filed or registered by any other counsel in this MDL or class action? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

10. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any bank or financial institution for lending services or solutions which also serves as the custodial or escrow bank in any case in which you have held a leadership position? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-

counsel, declarant responds: No.

11. Do you know of any other relationship or fact that you believe, if known, would be material to the Court with respect to either an actual conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest has not already disclosed to the Court?

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

/s/ Joseph A. Kronawitter  
Joseph A. Kronawitter

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on August 20, 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will automatically send a notice of electronic filing to all person registered for ECF as of that date.

/s/ Joseph A. Kronawitter

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
WESTERN DIVISION**

**MARTIN ZAKARIAN, and )  
MARY JONES, on behalf of themselves and )  
those similarly situated, )**

**Plaintiffs, )**

**v. )**

**THE RAWLINGS COMPANY LLC, )  
RAWLINGS FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, )  
and RAWLINGS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, )**

**Defendants. )**

**Case No.: 4:24-cv-00229**

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**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO APPOINT NOTICE ADMINISTRATOR**

# Exhibit 4

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
WESTERN DIVISION**

MARTIN ZAKARIAN, and MARY JONES, on )  
behalf of themselves and those similarly situated, )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

Case No. 24-cv-00229-SRB

THE RAWLINGS COMPANY LLC, )  
RAWLINGS FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, ) and  
RAWLINGS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, )

Defendants. )

**DECLARATION OF COUNSEL**

Class counsel Taylor P. Foye, provides the following declaration in response to the Court's August 15, 2025 order (Doc. 124):

1. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any company or entity that is financing the litigation for this matter? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

2. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any bank, private equity, hedge fund, settlement administrator, vendor, or similar institution (except for holdings in mutual funds that do not grant control over such entities) that has a role in this litigation? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

3. Have you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel accepted

anything of value from any bank, settlement administrator, or vendor who is or might provide services in this matter more than \$100? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

4. Do you, your firm, or any co-counsel have any financing that is contingent upon this litigation? Please describe your investigation and its results. If yes, the following questions shall be answered:

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

5. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any litigation lending companies that would provide funds directly to potential claimants in this case? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

6. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect), including but not limited to as an investor, Officer, Director, employee, or contractor, with any party or client/claimant involved in this MDL or class action (other than a written retainer or engagement agreement for a client in this case)? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

7. Do you, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel partner or employee have any personal relationship (including but not limited to familial, romantic, or

financial/business) with any party, client, claimant, counsel, or vendor involved in this MDL or class action? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

8. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel represent any present parties or claimants in this litigation who you have represented in any other capacity or in any other court (either currently or within the past 3 years)? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: it is my understanding that my co-counsel at the Law Office of Brian Meyers have represented the named plaintiffs on prior claims, which is explained in their respective declarations.

9. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial interest (direct or indirect) in any similar claims or lawsuits filed or registered by any other counsel in this MDL or class action? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

10. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any bank or financial institution for lending services or solutions which also serves as the custodial or escrow bank in any case in which you have held a leadership position? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-

counsel, declarant responds: No.

11. Do you know of any other relationship or fact that you believe, if known, would be material to the Court with respect to either an actual conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest has not already disclosed to the Court?

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

Taylor P. Foye  
Taylor P. Foye

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on August 20, 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will automatically send a notice of electronic filing to all person registered for ECF as of that date.

/s/ Joseph A. Kronawitter

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
WESTERN DIVISION**

**MARTIN ZAKARIAN, and )  
MARY JONES, on behalf of themselves and )  
those similarly situated, )**

**Plaintiffs, )**

**v. )**

**THE RAWLINGS COMPANY LLC, )  
RAWLINGS FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, )  
and RAWLINGS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, )**

**Defendants. )**

**Case No.: 4:24-cv-00229**

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**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO APPOINT NOTICE ADMINISTRATOR**

**Exhibit 5**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
WESTERN DIVISION**

MARTIN ZAKARIAN, and MARY JONES, on )  
behalf of themselves and those similarly situated, )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

Case No. 24-cv-00229-SRB

THE RAWLINGS COMPANY LLC, )  
RAWLINGS FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, ) and  
RAWLINGS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, )

Defendants. )

**ATTORNEY BRIAN MCCART'S DECLARATIONS REGARDING  
THE COURT'S QUESTIONS**

1. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any company or entity that is financing the litigation for this matter? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

2. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any bank, private equity, hedge fund, settlement administrator, vendor, or similar institution (except for holdings in mutual funds that do not grant control over such entities) that has a role in this litigation? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

3. Have you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel accepted anything of value from any bank, settlement administrator, or vendor who is or might

provide services in this matter more than \$100? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

4. Do you, your firm, or any co-counsel have any financing that is contingent upon this litigation? Please describe your investigation and its results. If yes, the following questions shall be answered:

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

- a. Does the litigation funder have any control (direct or indirect, actual or apparent or implied) over the decision to file or the content of any motions or briefs, or any input into the decision to accept a settlement offer?
- b. Does the financing (1) create any conflict of interest for counsel, (2) undermine counsel's obligation of vigorous advocacy, (3) affect counsel's independent judgment, (4) give to the lender any control over litigation strategy or settlement decisions (as to either the common benefit work done by counsel or work for individual retained clients), or (5) affect party control of settlement?
- c. Briefly explain the nature of the financing, the amount of the financing, and submit a copy of the documentation to the Court, or if applicable, to the Special Master.

5. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any litigation lending companies that would provide funds directly to potential claimants in this case? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

6. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect), including but not limited to as an investor, Officer, Director, employee, or contractor, with any party or client/claimant involved in this MDL or class action (other than a written retainer or engagement agreement for a client in this case)? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

7. Do you, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel partner or employee have any personal relationship (including but not limited to familial, romantic, or financial/business) with any party, client, claimant, counsel, or vendor involved in this MDL or class action? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

8. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel represent any present parties or claimants in this litigation who you have represented in any other capacity or in any other court (either currently or within the past 3 years)? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: Yes. Our firm has represented Plaintiff Martin Zakarian on two prior occasions within the last three years regarding a slip and fall and motor vehicle collision. Our firm has previously represented Plaintiff Mary Ann Jones on one prior occasion within the last three years regarding a motor vehicle collision. All three of these cases were closed prior to initiation of the instant case, and do not create any potential conflict with the instant case.

9. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial interest (direct or indirect) in any similar claims or lawsuits filed or registered by any other counsel in this MDL or class action? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

10. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any bank or financial institution for lending services or solutions which also serves as the custodial or escrow bank in any case in which you have held a leadership position? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

11. Do you know of any other relationship or fact that you believe, if known, would be material to the Court with respect to either an actual conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest has not already disclosed to the Court?

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 20th day of August, 2025.

/s/ Brian C. McCart  
Brian C. McCart

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on August 20, 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will automatically send a notice of electronic filing to all person registered for ECF as of that date.

/s/ Joseph A. Kronawitter

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
WESTERN DIVISION**

**MARTIN ZAKARIAN, and )  
MARY JONES, on behalf of themselves and )  
those similarly situated, )**

**Plaintiffs, )**

**v. )**

**THE RAWLINGS COMPANY LLC, )  
RAWLINGS FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, )  
and RAWLINGS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, )**

**Defendants. )**

**Case No.: 4:24-cv-00229**

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**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO APPOINT NOTICE ADMINISTRATOR**

**Exhibit 6**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
WESTERN DIVISION**

MARTIN ZAKARIAN, and MARY JONES, on )  
behalf of themselves and those similarly situated, )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

Case No. 24-cv-00229-SRB

THE RAWLINGS COMPANY LLC, )  
RAWLINGS FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, ) and  
RAWLINGS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, )

Defendants. )

**ATTORNEY BRIAN MEYERS' DECLARATIONS REGARDING  
THE COURT'S QUESTIONS**

1. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any company or entity that is financing the litigation for this matter? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

2. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any bank, private equity, hedge fund, settlement administrator, vendor, or similar institution (except for holdings in mutual funds that do not grant control over such entities) that has a role in this litigation? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

3. Have you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel accepted anything of value from any bank, settlement administrator, or vendor who is or might

provide services in this matter more than \$100? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

4. Do you, your firm, or any co-counsel have any financing that is contingent upon this litigation? Please describe your investigation and its results. If yes, the following questions shall be answered:

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

- a. Does the litigation funder have any control (direct or indirect, actual or apparent or implied) over the decision to file or the content of any motions or briefs, or any input into the decision to accept a settlement offer?
- b. Does the financing (1) create any conflict of interest for counsel, (2) undermine counsel's obligation of vigorous advocacy, (3) affect counsel's independent judgment, (4) give to the lender any control over litigation strategy or settlement decisions (as to either the common benefit work done by counsel or work for individual retained clients), or (5) affect party control of settlement?
- c. Briefly explain the nature of the financing, the amount of the financing, and submit a copy of the documentation to the Court, or if applicable, to the Special Master.

5. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any litigation lending companies that would provide funds directly to potential claimants in this case? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

6. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect), including but not limited to as an investor, Officer, Director, employee, or contractor, with any party or client/claimant involved in this MDL or class action (other than a written retainer or engagement agreement for a client in this case)? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

7. Do you, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel partner or employee have any personal relationship (including but not limited to familial, romantic, or financial/business) with any party, client, claimant, counsel, or vendor involved in this MDL or class action? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

8. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel represent any present parties or claimants in this litigation who you have represented in any other capacity or in any other court (either currently or within the past 3 years)? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: Yes. Our firm has represented Plaintiff Martin Zakarian on two prior occasions within the last three years regarding a slip and fall and motor vehicle collision. Our firm has previously represented Plaintiff Mary Ann Jones on one prior occasion within the last three years regarding a motor vehicle collision. All three of these cases were closed prior to initiation of the instant case, and do not create any potential conflict with the instant case.

9. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial interest (direct or indirect) in any similar claims or lawsuits filed or registered by any other counsel in this MDL or class action? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

10. Do you, your firm, any firm partner or employee, or any co-counsel have any financial relationship (direct or indirect) with any bank or financial institution for lending services or solutions which also serves as the custodial or escrow bank in any case in which you have held a leadership position? Please describe your investigation and its results.

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

11. Do you know of any other relationship or fact that you believe, if known, would be material to the Court with respect to either an actual conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest has not already disclosed to the Court?

ANSWER: After reasonable and detailed inquiry within my law firm and with co-counsel, declarant responds: No.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 20th day of August, 2025.

/s/ Brian Timothy Meyers  
Brian Timothy Meyers

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on August 20, 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will automatically send a notice of electronic filing to all person registered for ECF as of that date.

/s/ Joseph A. Kronawitter