# NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Askrens, et al. v. Pallet Logistics of America, LLC, Case No. 3:25-cv-00008-S A court has authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

If You Were Subject to the Pallet Logistics of America, LLC Security Incident and Previously Received a Notice Letter Notifying You of the Data Security Incident, You Could be Eligible for a Payment from a Class Action Settlement

- You may be eligible to receive a payment from a proposed \$635,000 non-reversionary class action settlement (the "Qualified Settlement Fund").
- The class action lawsuit concerns a data security incident that occurred in September 2024 (the "Security Incident") involving Pallet Logistics of America, LLC. ("PLA" or "Defendant") in which it was determined that an unauthorized third party may have gained access to certain PLA files containing sensitive personal information of employees of PLA stored on PLA's network, including names, social security numbers, and driver's license or state identification card numbers ("Private Information"). PLA denies any wrongdoing and denies that it has any liability but has agreed to settle the lawsuit on a class wide basis.
- To be eligible to make a claim, you must have received a Notice of Data Security Incident letter of the PLA Security Incident that occurred in September 2024.
- Eligible claimants under the Settlement Agreement will be eligible to receive up to three or four of the following Settlement benefits:
  - **❖** Out-of-Pocket Loses: Reimbursement for the actual amount of unreimbursed Out-of-Pocket Losses or expenses up to \$5,000, with supporting documentation of the monetary losses or expenses;
  - **❖** Pro Rata Cash Payment: Estimated \$50 cash payment from the Qualified Settlement Fund that will be increased or decreased pro rata depending on the amount remaining in the Qualified Settlement Fund after allocation of the Qualified Settlement Fund for reimbursement of documented Out-of-Pocket Losses, Service Awards, attorneys' fees and expenses, and Notice and Administrative Expenses.
  - **Credit and Identity Monitoring:** Two years of one-bureau credit monitoring that provides up to \$1 million in identity theft insurance.
  - ❖ California Statutory Cash Payment: Members of the Settlement Class who were residing in the state of California at the time of the Security Incident may also receive an additional cash payment estimated at \$50.
- For more information or to submit a claim visit **www.PalletDataSettlement.com** or call 1-800-305-9437 Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. CST.
- Please read this Notice carefully. Your legal rights will be affected, and you have a choice to make at this time.

|                                | Summary of Legal Rights                    | Deadline(s)                   |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Submit a Claim Form            | The only way to receive payment.           | Submitted or Postmarked on or |
|                                |  | Before October 16, 2025       |
| Exclude Yourself By            | Receive no payment. This is the only       | Submitted or Postmarked on or |
| <b>Opting Out of the Class</b> | option that allows you to keep your right  | Before September 16, 2025     |
|                                | to bring any other lawsuit against         |                               |
|                                | Defendant for the same claims if you are   |                               |
|                                | a Settlement Class Member.                 |                               |
| Object to the                  | You can write to the Court about why you   | Received on or Before         |
| Settlement and/or              | agree or disagree with the Settlement. The | September 16, 2025            |
| Attend the Final               | Court cannot order a different Settlement. |                               |
| Approval Hearing               | You can also ask to speak to the Court at  |                               |
|                                | the Final Approval Hearing on October      |                               |
|                                | 28, 2025 about the fairness of the         |                               |
|                                | Settlement, with or without your own       |                               |
|                                | attorney.                                  |                               |
| Do Nothing                     | Receive no payment. Give up rights if you  | No Deadline.                  |
|                                | are a Settlement Class Member.             |                               |

- Your rights and options as a Settlement Class Member and the deadlines to exercise your rights are explained in this Notice.
- The Court still will have to decide whether to approve the Settlement. Payments to class members will be made if the Court approves the Settlement and after any possible appeals are resolved.

## **What This Notice Contains**

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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

## 1. Why is there a notice?

The Court authorized this Notice because you have a right to know about the Settlement, and all of your options, before the Court decides whether to give "final approval" to the Settlement. This Notice explains the nature of the lawsuit that is the subject of the Settlement, the general terms of the Settlement, and your legal rights and options.

United States District Judge Karen Gren Scholer of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas is overseeing this case captioned as *Askrens, et al. v. Pallet Logistics of America, LLC*, Case No. 3:25-cv-00008-S (N.D. Tex.). The people who brought the lawsuit are called the Plaintiffs. The Plaintiffs are Allan Askrens, Robert L. Bennett, and Shawn Boschert. The entity being sued, Pallet Logistics of America, LLC, is called the Defendant.

## 2. What is this lawsuit about?

The lawsuit claims that Defendant was responsible for the Security Incident and asserts claims such as negligence, negligence per se, invasion of privacy (public disclosure of private facts), invasion of privacy (intrusion upon seclusion), breach of express contract, breach of implied contract, unjust enrichment, breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, breach of confidence, breach of fiduciary duty, and declaratory judgment.

Defendant denies these claims and says it did not do anything wrong. No court or other judicial entity has made any judgment or other determination that Defendant has any liability for these claims or did anything wrong.

#### 3. Why is this lawsuit a class action?

In a class action, one or more people called class representatives or representative plaintiffs sue on behalf of all people who have similar claims. Together, all of these people are called a class, and the individuals are called class members. One court resolves the issues for all class members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

## 4. Why is there a Settlement?

The Court has not decided in favor of the Plaintiffs or Defendant. Instead, both sides agreed to the Settlement. The Settlement avoids the cost and risk of a trial and related appeals, while providing benefits to members of the Settlement Class ("Settlement Class Members"). The Class Representatives appointed to represent the Settlement Class and the attorneys for the Settlement Class ("Class Counsel," see Question 18) think the Settlement is best for all Settlement Class Members.

### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

#### 5. How do I know if I am part of the Settlement?

You are affected by the Settlement and potentially a member of the Settlement Class if you reside in the United States and your Personal Information was accessed or potentially accessed in connection with the Security Incident, including if you were mailed a notification by or on behalf of PLA regarding the Security Incident.

Only Settlement Class Members are eligible to receive benefits under the Settlement. Specifically excluded from the Settlement Class are (1) the judge presiding over the class action lawsuit and the judge's direct family members; (2) the Defendant, its subsidiaries, parent companies, successors, predecessors, and any

entity in which the Defendant or its parents have a controlling interest, and their current or former officers, directors, and employees; and (3) Settlement Class Members who submit a valid request to be excluded from the Settlement.

## 6. What if I am not sure whether I am included in the Settlement?

If you are not sure whether you are included in the Settlement, you may call 1-800-305-9437 with questions. You may also write with questions to:

> PLA Settlement Administrator c/o Atticus Administration PO Box 64053 St. Paul, MN 55164 www. PalletDataSettlement.com

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS – WHAT YOU GET IF YOU QUALIFY

## 7. What does the Settlement provide?

The Settlement provides that Defendant will fund the following payments up to a total of \$635,000: (a) up to \$5,000 for reimbursement of your documented Out-of-Pocket Losses reasonably traceable to the Security Incident; (b) an estimated pro rata \$50 payment, subject to adjustment as set forth below; (c) two years of credit monitoring services including an up to \$1 million identity theft insurance policy; and (d) for Settlement Class Members residing in California at the time of the Security Incident, an additional \$50 pro rata cash payment.

The estimated \$50 pro rata payments will be dispersed after the distribution of attorneys' fees, Class Counsel's litigation expenses, Notice and Administrative Expenses, and other Settlement benefits to claimants. The other Settlement benefits are also subject to pro rata reduction as needed in the event that the total claims exceed the \$635,000 cap on payments to be made by Defendant, and payments may also be increased on a pro rata basis until the Qualified Settlement Fund is distributed. Payment of (1) attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses (see Question 19) and (2) the costs of notifying the Settlement Class and administering the Settlement will also be paid out of the Qualified Settlement Fund.

Also, as part of the Settlement, Defendant either has undertaken or will undertake certain reasonable steps to further secure its systems and environments.

## 8. What payments are available for reimbursement under the Settlement?

Settlement Class Members who submit a claim are eligible to receive one or all of the following:

- Reimbursement of actual, documented, unreimbursed Out-of-Pocket Losses resulting from the Security Incident (up to \$5,000 in total), such as the following incurred on or after September 6, 2024:
  - any costs incurred from credit monitoring services or ordering copies of your credit report;
  - late fees, declined payment fees, overdraft fees, returned check fees, customer service fees, and/or card cancellation or replacement fees;
  - late fees from transactions with third parties that were delayed due to fraud or card replacement;
  - unauthorized charges on credit, debit, or other payment cards that were not reimbursed;
  - parking expenses or other transportation expenses for trips to a financial institution to address fraudulent charges or receive a replacement payment card;

- costs incurred obtaining credit freezes; and
- other expenses that are reasonably attributable to the Security Incident that were not reimbursed.
- b) A potential *pro rata* cash payment of the remainder funds, which is estimated to be \$50 but may be adjusted upward or downward pro rata based on how many other claims are made.
- c) Two years of one-bureau credit monitoring with an up to \$1 million identity theft insurance policy.
- d) For members of the Settlement Class who resided in the state of California at the time of the Security Incident, an additional *pro rata* cash payment estimated at \$50, but which may be adjusted upward or downward pro rata based on how many other claims are made.

#### HOW DO YOU SUBMIT A CLAIM?

## 9. How do I get a benefit?

To receive a benefit under the Settlement, you must complete and submit a claim for that benefit (a "Claim"). Everv Claim must be made on a form ("Claim Form") www.PalletDataSettlement.com or by calling 1-800-305-9437. Claim Forms will also be sent to Settlement Class Members as part of the postcard notice and tear-off claim form that will be mailed to Settlement Class Members. Read the instructions carefully, fill out the Claim Form, provide the required documentation, and submit it according to the instructions on the Claim Form.

## 10. How will claims be decided?

The Settlement Administrator, Atticus Administration, will decide whether and to what extent any Claim made on each Claim Form is valid. The Settlement Administrator may require additional information. If you do not provide the additional information in a timely manner then the Claim will be considered invalid and will not be paid.

## 11. When will I get my payment?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on October 28, 2025 at 2 p.m. CST to decide whether to approve the Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement, there may be appeals from that decision and resolving those can take time, perhaps more than a year. It also takes time for all the Claim Forms to be processed. Please be patient.

#### WHAT DOES DEFENDANT GET?

## 12. What am I giving up as part of the Settlement?

The Defendant gets a release from all claims covered by this Settlement. Thus, if the Settlement becomes final and you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement, you will be a Settlement Class Member and you will give up your right to sue Defendant and other persons ("Released Parties") as to all claims ("Released Claims") arising out of or relating to the Security Incident. This release is described in the Settlement Agreement, which is available at <a href="www.PalletDataSettlement.com">www.PalletDataSettlement.com</a>. If you have any questions you can talk to the law firms listed in Question 18 for free or you can talk to your own lawyer.

## **EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT**

If you do not want to be part of this Settlement, then you must take steps to exclude yourself from the Settlement Class. This is sometimes referred to as "opting out" of the Settlement Class.

## 13. If I exclude myself, can I get a payment from this Settlement?

No. If you exclude yourself, you will not be entitled to receive any benefits from the Settlement, but you will not be bound by any judgment in this case. \_ 5 \_

## 14. If I do not exclude myself, can I sue Defendant for the same thing later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up any right to sue Defendant (and any other Released Parties) for the claims that this Settlement resolves. You must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class to start your own lawsuit or to be part of any different lawsuit relating to the claims in this case. If you want to exclude yourself, do not submit a Claim Form to ask for any benefit under the Settlement.

### 15. How do I exclude myself from the Settlement?

To exclude yourself, send a letter that says you want to opt-out or be excluded from the Settlement in Askrens, et al. v. Pallet Logistics of America, LLC, Case No. 3:25-cv-00008-S (N.D. Tex.). The letter must: (a) state your full name, address, and telephone number; (b) contain your personal and original signature or the original signature of a person authorized by law to act on your behalf; and (c) state unequivocally your intent to be excluded from the Settlement. You must mail your exclusion request postmarked by September 16, 2025, to:

PLA Settlement Administrator Attn: Exclusion Request PO Box 64053 St. Paul, MN 55164

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

## 16. How do I tell the Court that I do not like the Settlement?

You can tell the Court that you do not agree with the Settlement or some part of it by objecting to the Settlement. The Court will consider your views in its decision on whether to approve the Settlement. The Court can only approve or deny the Settlement and cannot change its terms. To object, timely written notice of an objection in the appropriate form must be filed with the Clerk of the Court on or before the Objection Deadline: **September 16, 2025.** The address for the Clerk of Court is U.S. District Court Clerk's Office, 1100 Commerce Street, Room 1452, Dallas, TX 75242.

Your objection must be written and must include all of the following: (i) the objector's full name, address, telephone number, and email address (if any); (ii) information identifying the objector as a Settlement Class Member, including proof that the objector is a member of the Settlement Class (e.g., copy of notice or copy of original notice of the Security Incident); (iii) a written statement of all grounds for the objection, accompanied by any legal support for the objection the objector believes applicable; (iv) the identity of all counsel representing the objector who will appear at the Final Approval Hearing; (vi) a list of all Persons who will be called to testify at the Final Approval Hearing in support of the objection; (vii) a statement confirming whether the objector intends to personally appear and/or testify at the Final Approval Hearing; and (viii) the objector's signature and the signature of the objector's duly authorized attorney or other duly authorized representative, along with documentation setting forth such representation.

## 17. What is the difference between objecting and asking to be excluded?

Objecting is telling the Court that you do not like the Settlement and why you do not think it should be approved. You can object only if you are a Settlement Class Member. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class and do not want to receive any payment or benefit from the Settlement. If you exclude yourself, then you have no basis to object because you are no longer a member of the Settlement Class and the case no longer affects you. If you submit both a valid objection and a valid request to be excluded, you will be deemed to have only submitted the request to be excluded.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

## 18. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

Yes. The Court appointed Terence R. Coates of Markovits, Stock & DeMarco, LLC, Raina Borrelli of Strauss Borrelli PLLC, and Daniel Srourian, Srourian Law Firm, P.C. as Class Counsel to represent the Class. Mr. Coates may be contacted at 119 E. Court Street Suite 530, Cincinnati, OH 45202; Email: <a href="mailto:msd@msdlegal.com">msd@msdlegal.com</a>.

If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, then you may hire one at your own expense.

## 19. How will the lawyers be paid?

Class Counsel will ask the Court for an award for attorneys' fees up to one-third of the Qualified Settlement Fund (\$211,666.66) plus reimbursement of reasonable litigation expenses not to exceed \$20,000.00, as well as service awards of \$3,000.00 for each Class Representative. Defendant has agreed to any award of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses up to those amounts, to the extent they are approved by the Court. This payment for any attorneys' fees and expenses to Class Counsel and service awards will be made out of the Qualified Settlement Fund. Any such award would compensate Class Counsel for investigating the facts, litigating the case, and negotiating the Settlement and will be the only payment to them for their efforts in achieving this Settlement and for their risk in undertaking this representation on a wholly contingent basis.

Any award for attorneys' fees and expenses for Class Counsel and any Service Awards must be approved by the Court. The Court may award less than the amount requested. Class Counsel's papers in support of final approval of the Settlement will be filed no later than October 14, 2025 and their application for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses will be filed no later than September 2, 2025 and will be posted on the settlement website.

## THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

## 20. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing at 2 p.m. CT on October 28, 2025, at the United States District Courthouse at 1100 Commerce Street, Room 1632, Dallas TX 75242, or by remote or virtual means as ordered by the Court. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are timely and valid objections, then the Court will consider them and will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing if such a request has been properly made. The Court will also rule on the request for an award of attorneys' fees, reasonable costs and expenses, and any service awards. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long these decisions will take. The hearing may be moved to a different date or time without additional notice, so Class Counsel recommend checking <a href="https://www.PalletDataSettlement.com">www.PalletDataSettlement.com</a> or calling 1-800-305-9437.

#### 21. Do I have to attend the hearing?

No. Class Counsel will present the Settlement Agreement to the Court. You or your own lawyer are welcome to attend at your expense, but you are not required to do so. If you send an objection, you do not have to visit the Court to talk about it. As long as you filed your written objection on time with the Court and mailed it according to the instructions provided in Question 16, the Court will consider it.

## 22. May I speak at the hearing?

You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Final Approval Hearing. To do so, you must file an objection according to the instructions in Question 16, including all the information required.

Your objection must be <u>filed</u> with the Clerk of the Court no later than September 16, 2025. See Question 16 for further details on the requirements for submitting an objection to the Settlement.

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

## 23. What happens if I do nothing?

If you do nothing, you will not get any money from this Settlement. If the Settlement is granted final approval and the judgment becomes final, then you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant and the other Released Parties based on any of the Released Claims related to the Security Incident, ever again.

#### **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

## 24. How do I get more information?

This Notice summarizes the proposed Settlement. More details are in the Settlement Agreement itself. A copy of the Settlement Agreement is available at <a href="www.PalletDataSettlement.com">www.PalletDataSettlement.com</a>. You may also call the Settlement Administrator with questions or to receive a Claim Form at 1-800-305-9437.

This Notice is approved by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas. **DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT DIRECTLY IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT**. Please contact the Settlement Administrator or Class Counsel if you have any questions about the Settlement.