	Case4:11-cv-01457-PJH Document60	Filed11/23/11	Page1 of 83
1 2 3 4 5			
6			
7	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
8	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA		
9	OAKLAND DIVISION		
10	NANSEE PARKER and PHONG PHAM, on Behalf of Themselves and All Others Similarly	Case No. 11-cv-01457-PJH	
11 12	Situated, Plaintiffs,	CERTIFICATI CLASS AND P	NTING PROVISIONAL ION OF SETTLEMENT RELIMINARY APPROVAL
13	V.	OF CLASS AC AGREEMENT	TION SETTLEMENT
14	DISH NETWORK L.L.C.,		
15	Defendant.		
16			
17	WHEREAS, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and all similarly situated DISH		
18	subscribers, and Defendant, all acting by and through their respective counsel, have agreed,		
19	subject to Court approval following notice to the Settlement Class and a hearing, to settle this		
20	litigation upon the terms as set forth in the Settlement Agreement;		
21	WHEREAS, this Court has reviewed and considered the Settlement Agreement dated		
22	October 27, 2011, entered into among the parties in this Action (the "Agreement"), a copy of		
23	which is attached to the Declaration of Eric H. Gibbs as Exhibit 1 , together with all exhibits		
24	thereto, the record in this case, and the briefs and arguments of counsel;		
25	WHEREAS, this Court preliminarily finds, for the purposes of settlement only, that the		
26	Action meets all the prerequisites of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including		
27	numerosity, ascertainability, community of interest, predominance of common issues, superiority		
28	ORDER GRANTING PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT CLASS AND PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT CASE NO. 11-CV-01457-PJH		

and typicality, that the Class Representatives are adequate representatives of the Settlement Class,
 and that Class Counsel are adequate to represent the Settlement Class (as defined below);

NOW, THEREFORE, based upon the files, records, and proceedings herein, and it
appearing to the Court that a hearing should be held on notice to the Settlement Class of the
proposed settlement to determine finally if the terms of the settlement are fair, reasonable, and
adequate;

7

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

8 1. All terms and definitions used herein have the same meanings as set forth in the
9 Agreement.

10

2. The proposed settlement set forth in the Agreement is hereby preliminarily

11 approved as being within the range of reasonableness such that notice thereof should be given to

- 12 members of the Settlement Class.
- 13

3. The following Settlement Class is conditionally and preliminarily certified for

14 settlement purposes only:

15 All persons residing in the United States who activated DISH programming services between February 1, 2009 and January 31, 16 2011 with a 24-month commitment term and an initial 12-month, promotional discounted price, and subscribed to a programming 17 package that was subject to DISH's February 2011 Price Increase, excluding only: (a) customers who received programming, 18 equipment, and/or monetary accommodations after the February 19 2011 Price Increase in response to complaint(s) about the price increase, (b) customers who were in the second year (i.e., months 20 13-24) of their 24-month commitment term for one of the following packages: DISH's America's Everything Pak, Latino Welcome 21 Pack, Latino Clásico, Latino Plus, Latino Dos, or Latino Max at the time of the February 2011 Price Increase, and (c) the judge to 22 whom this case is assigned, any member of the judge's immediate 23 family, and the judge's staff and their immediate families.

representatives of the Settlement Class (the "Class Representatives").

24 25

4.

26

27

28

Plaintiffs are hereby found to be adequate and are therefore appointed as

ORDER GRANTING PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT CLASS AND PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT CASE NO. 11-CV-01457-PJH

	Case4:11-cv-01457-PJH Document60 Filed11/23/11 Page3 of 83			
1	5. The following counsel are hereby found to be adequate and are therefore appointed			
2	as class counsel for the Settlement Class ("Class Counsel"):			
3	GIRARD GIBBS LLP			
4	Eric H. Gibbs, Esq. David Stein, Esq.			
5	Amy M. Zeman, Esq. 601 California Street, Suite 1400			
6	San Francisco, CA 94108 Telephone: 415.981.4800			
7	COHEN MILSTEIN SELLERS & TOLL PLLC			
8				
9				
10	Washington, DC 20005 Telephone: 202.408.4600			
11	THE WENTZ LAW FIRM Richard B. Wentz, Esq.			
12	Jean W. Wentz, Esq. 82955 East Hillcrest Drive, Suite 123			
13	Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 Telephone: 805.374.0060			
14				
15	6. If final approval of the settlement is not obtained, this certification order, including			
16	the above description of the Settlement Class and appointment of the Class Representatives and			
17	Class Counsel, shall be vacated and this action shall proceed as though the certification and			
18	appointments never occurred.			
19	7. Pending final determination of whether the settlement should be approved, neither			
20	Plaintiffs nor any member of the Settlement Class, whether directly, indirectly, representatively, or			
21	in any other capacity, shall commence or prosecute any action or proceeding in any court or			
22	tribunal asserting any of the claims herein against Defendant.			
23	8. The Notice of Pendency and Settlement of Class Action ("Class Notice") and			
24	Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement ("Postcard Notice"), attached hereto as Exhibits A			
25	and B respectively, are hereby approved as to form. Defendant shall cause the Class Notice to be			
26	disseminated by sending out the Class Notice via e-mail to its current and former customers within			
27	the Settlement Class (the "Class Notice E-mails") by January 30, 2012. If DISH does not possess 3			
28	ORDER GRANTING PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT CLASS AND PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT CASE NO. 11-CV-01457-PJH			

Case4:11-cv-01457-PJH Document60 Filed11/23/11 Page4 of 83

1 a valid e-mail address for any Settlement Class Member, DISH will send by U.S. Mail to the 2 Settlement Class Member's last known mailing address a Postcard Notice, which shall inform the 3 Member of his or her designated Sub-Group and direct the Member to a website to download the 4 applicable Class Notice and Claim Form. To the extent that any Class Notice E-mails are returned 5 to DISH as undeliverable, DISH will then send a Postcard Notice by U.S. Mail to the Settlement Class Member's last known mailing address. For current DISH customers, all Postcard Notices or 6 7 other notices or communications that are sent via U.S. Mail may be included in the customers' 8 monthly bill.

9 9. The Claim Forms attached hereto as Exhibit C are hereby approved as to form and
10 shall be disseminated with the Class Notice. To be valid, completed Claim Forms must be
11 returned to Defendant within 40 days of service of the Class Notice.

12 10. The date by which Defendant shall cause the Class Notice to be disseminated may
13 be subject to change by stipulation of the parties and approval of the Court. If the Class Notice
14 dissemination date is changed, all other agreed-upon dates will be changed accordingly.

15 11. Tracking and reporting of Persons eligible to be Settlement Class Members who
16 request exclusion (the "Opt-Outs") shall be compiled by Defendant and reported to Class Counsel
17 and the Court. Defendant shall pay all costs associated with such tracking and reporting of
18 Persons electing to be excluded from the Settlement Class.

19 12. Defendant shall pay all costs associated with preparing and publishing the Class20 Notice.

21 13. Defendant shall provide and bear the cost of notice to appropriate federal and state
22 officials as required by the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, 28 U.S.C. 1715(a).

14. Defendant is directed to file with the Court and serve upon Class Counsel, no later
than March 9, 2012, a declaration confirming that dissemination of the Notice has taken place in
accordance with this Order.

26 15. The Court finds that the dissemination of the Notice under the terms and in the
27 format provided for in the Agreement and this Order constitutes the best notice practicable under 4

28

ORDER GRANTING PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT CLASS AND PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT CASE NO. 11-CV-01457-PJH

the circumstances, that it is due and sufficient notice for all purposes to all persons entitled to such
 notice, and that it fully satisfies the requirements of due process and all other applicable laws.

16. A hearing (the "Fairness Hearing") shall be held on March 21, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., in the Honorable Phyllis J. Hamilton's courtroom, United States District Court, Northern District of California, to determine whether the proposed settlement of this action should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate and whether the Final Judgment approving the

settlement and dismissing all claims asserted in the litigation on the merits and with prejudice
should be entered. The Court will hear Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees, costs, and
Class Representative incentive payments concurrently with the Fairness Hearing. The Fairness
Hearing may be postponed, adjourned, or rescheduled by order of the Court without further notice
to the members of the Class.

12 17. Objections by any Settlement Class Member to the Agreement shall be heard by the 13 Court at the Fairness Hearing. Written objections shall (1) be filed with the Clerk of the United States District Court, Northern District of California and served on counsel for the parties 14 15 identified in the Class Notice by March 2, 2012, (2) describe the objection and its basis, (3) include the objector's full name, address, telephone number and current or former DISH Network 16 17 account number, and (4), if the objecting Settlement Class Member is represented by separate 18 counsel, identify his, her or its attorney. A Settlement Class Member need not appear at the 19 Fairness Hearing in order for his, her, or its written objection to be considered, and the filing of a 20 written objection is not a precondition to speak at the Fairness Hearing.

18. Any Settlement Class Member shall have the right to opt-out of the class and the
settlement. To be effective, all requests for exclusion from the Settlement Class must: (1) be in
writing, (2) comply with the provisions of and contain the information requested in the Class
Notice, and (3) be sent to the address identified in the Class Notice, post-marked by March 2,
2012. Any Settlement Class Member who does not submit a timely and valid request for
exclusion shall be subject to and bound by the Settlement Agreement and every order or judgment
entered concerning the Settlement Agreement.

28

3

4

5

6

5

- 1 19. Class Counsel shall file any application for an award of attorneys' fees and costs
 2 and for incentive payments to the named Plaintiffs ("Fee Application") no later than February 13,
 3 2012, which shall be set for the same date as the Fairness Hearing.
- 4 20. Counsel for the parties shall file memoranda, declarations, or other statements and
 5 materials in support of final approval of the Settlement Agreement (the "Motion for Final
 6 Approval") no later than February 13, 2012.

7 21. Counsel for the parties shall file any reply papers in support of the parties' Motion
8 for Final Approval of the Settlement Agreement and in response to any objections from Settlement
9 Class Members by March 9, 2012.

10 22. Class Counsel shall file any reply papers in support of its Fee Application and in
11 response to any objections from Settlement Class Members by March 9, 2012.

12 23. The settlement on the terms and conditions of the Agreement filed concurrently
13 with the parties' joint motion for preliminary approval is hereby preliminarily approved, but is not
14 to be deemed an admission of liability or fault by Defendant or by any other party or person, or a
15 finding of the validity of any claims asserted in the litigation or of any wrongdoing or of any
16 violation of law by Defendant. The settlement is not a concession and shall not be used as an
17 admission of any fault or omission by Defendant or any other party or person.

18 24. Any Settlement Class Member may enter an appearance in the Action and/or may
19 seek to intervene in the Action, individually or through the counsel of their choice at their expense.
20 Other than (a) Settlement Class Members who enter an appearance and (b) Opt-Outs, the Class
21 will be represented by Class Counsel.

22 25. Counsel for the parties are hereby authorized to utilize all reasonable procedures in
23 connection with the administration of the settlement which are not materially inconsistent with
24 either this Order or the terms of the Agreement.

- 25
- 26 //
- 27 ||.

28

ORDER GRANTING PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT CLASS AND PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT CASE NO. 11-CV-01457-PJH

6

	Case4:11-cv-01457-PJH Document60	Filed11/23/11 Page7 of 83		
1	26. Summary of Dates and Deadlines:			
2	Last day to disseminate class notice:	January 30, 2012		
3	Last day to file (1) Motion for Final Approval and (2) Fee Application:	February 13, 2012		
4	Last day for class members to file comments and objections to the Motion for Final	March 2, 2012		
5	Approval or Fee Application:			
6	Last day for class members to opt-out of the settlement class:	March 2, 2012		
7	Last day for the parties to file replies to any	March 9, 2012		
	class member objections to the Motion for			
8	Final Approval or Fee Application:			
	Due date for completed Claim Forms:	40 days after service of Class Notice		
9	Fairness Hearing:	March 21, 2012		
10				
11	IT IS SO ORDERED.	TES DISTRICT		
12 13		Strat		
15	DATED: November $\frac{23}{2}$, 2011	ANDERED R		
14	(玉)	IT IS SO ORDERED		
15				
16	Z Judge Phyllis J. Hamilton			
17				
18		TERN DISTRICT OF CE		
19 20				
20				
22				
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				
20	7			
28	ORDER GRANTING PROVISIONAL CEF AND PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLA CASE NO. 11-0	SS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT		