

RYAN J. CLARKSON (SBN 257074)
 rclarkson@clarksonlawfirm.com
 YANA HART (SBN 306499)
 yhart@clarksonlawfirm.com
 BRYAN P. THOMPSON (SBN 354683)
 bthompson@clarksonlawfirm.com
CLARKSON LAW FIRM, P.C.
 22525 Pacific Coast Highway
 Malibu, CA 90265
 Tel: (213) 788-4050
 Fax: (213) 788-4070

LAURENCE D. KING (SBN 206423)
 lking@kaplanfox.com
 MATTHEW B. GEORGE (SBN 239322)
 mgeorge@kaplanfox.com
 BLAIR E. REED (SBN 316791)
 breed@kaplanfox.com
 CLARISSA OLIVARES (SBN 343455)
 colivares@kaplanfox.com
KAPLAN FOX & KILSHEIMER LLP
 1999 Harrison Street, Suite 1501
 Oakland, CA 94612
 Tel: (415) 772-4700
 Fax: (415) 772-4707

Interim Co-Lead Counsel

JOSEPH W. COTCHETT (SBN 36324)
 jcotchett@cpmlegal.com
 BRIAN DANITZ (SBN 247403)
 bdanitz@cpmlegal.com
 KARIN B. SWOPE (*Pro Hac Vice*)
 kswope@cpmlegal.com
 ELLE D. LEWIS (SBN 238329)
 elewis@cpmlegal.com
 CAROLINE A. YUEN (SBN 354388)
 cyuen@cpmlegal.com
COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY, LLP
 840 Malcolm Road
 Burlingame, California 94010
 Tel: (650) 697-6000
 Fax: (650) 697-0677

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

PETER LANDSHEFT, individually, and on behalf
 of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

APPLE INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. 5:25-cv-02668-NW

Consolidated Class Action

**JOINT DECLARATION OF RYAN
 CLARKSON, BRIAN DANITZ, AND
 LAURENCE KING IN SUPPORT OF
 PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
 PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF
 PROPOSED CLASS ACTION
 SETTLEMENT**

Date: June 17, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Judge: Hon. Noël Wise

Crtm: 3 – 5th Floor

We, Ryan Clarkson, Brian Danitz, and Laurence D. King, declare and state as follows:

1. I, Ryan Clarkson, am a member of the Bar of the State of California and a managing partner at Clarkson Law Firm, P.C., and a founder of the firm. (“Clarkson”).

2. I, Brian Danitz, am a member of the Bar of the State of California and a partner at the law firm of Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP (“Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy”).

3. I, Laurence D. King, am a member of the Bar of the State of California and a partner at the law firm of Kaplan Fox & Kilsheimer LLP (“Kaplan Fox”).

4. On May 22, 2025, the Court appointed us interim co-lead counsel in this Action.¹

5. We submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs’ Motion for Preliminary Approval of Proposed Class Action Settlement. We have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and if called upon as witnesses, could and would testify to the facts set forth herein.

6. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** is a true and correct copy of the Class Action Settlement Agreement and Release (“Settlement”).

7. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 2** is a true and correct copy of the Declaration of Jonathan Carameros, Senior Vice President and Head of Strategy, Class Action and Mass Tort Settlement at Verita Global, LLC (“Carameros Declaration”).

8. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 3** is a true and correct copy of the Declaration of Bryan Heller, Chief Operating Officer at Covalynt (“Heller Declaration”).

9. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 4** is a true and correct copy of the Expert Declaration of Steven P. Gaskin (“Gaskin Declaration”).

10. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 5** is a true and correct copy of the Expert Declaration of Colin B. Weir (“Weir Declaration”).

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

11. On March 19, 2025, Plaintiff Landsheft, represented by Clarkson, filed the first putative class action in this matter, which was assigned to this Court. Seven related actions were then filed in, removed to, or transferred to this District, including those filed by Plaintiffs represented by Cotchett, Pitre

¹ Capitalized terms are defined in the Settlement.

1 & McCarthy and Kaplan Fox. Rather than engaging in protracted, contested leadership practice, Plaintiffs’
2 Counsel coordinated early and agreed that this case would require substantial resources to litigate on
3 multiple fronts. They organized accordingly and began collaborating on strategies to advance the litigation
4 efficiently, avoiding unnecessary delays associated with consolidation, multi-district litigation, removal
5 and transfer motions, and contested lead counsel appointment procedures. Recognizing that effective
6 prosecution would require a well-resourced leadership structure - both in personnel and financial capacity
7 - Plaintiffs’ Counsel jointly submitted a stipulated leadership proposal to the Court, together with
8 counsel’s declarations and firm resumes documenting their extensive collective experience in prosecuting
9 consumer fraud class actions. The Court granted that proposal on May 22, 2025, appointing Ryan Clarkson
10 of Clarkson Law Firm, Brian Danitz of Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, and Laurence King of Kaplan Fox as
11 Interim Co-Lead Counsel. ECF No. 28. Interim Co-Lead Counsel are not aware of any conflicts of
12 interests that would preclude them or their firms from continuing to fairly and adequately represent the
13 proposed Settlement Class.

14 12. Following appointment as Interim Co-Lead Counsel, Plaintiffs implemented a time and
15 expense tracking and reporting protocol intended to promote efficiency and avoid unnecessary billing,
16 consistent with practices used in other coordinated litigations.

17 13. Following extensive factual and legal research, including the vetting of hundreds of
18 potential class representatives to secure representation across nearly every state, Interim Co-Lead Counsel
19 prepared a Consolidated Class Action Complaint (“CCAC”). Filed on July 21, 2025, the CCAC spans
20 more than 200 pages and includes over 1100 paragraphs of allegations, 69 Plaintiffs serving as putative
21 class representatives, and 54 causes of action asserted under the consumer protection statutes of nearly
22 every state. ECF No. 39.

23 14. On September 25, 2025, Apple filed its motion to dismiss the CCAC. ECF No. 47. In its
24 briefing, Apple advanced multiple defenses, including whether Plaintiffs adequately alleged reliance on
25 Apple’s advertising and marketing of the Enhanced Siri features to satisfy the heightened pleading
26 standard under the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 9(b). Apple also argued that its marketing was not
27 misleading because many of Enhanced Siri’s features were already available with the rollout of the iPhone
28 16 and that others were understood by consumers to be forthcoming with future software updates. Apple

1 also challenged the viability of a nationwide class, contending that the California choice of law provision
2 in its Terms of Use was neither operative nor assented to at the time the alleged misconduct. These
3 arguments previewed the core issues Apple intended to raise at later stages of the litigation, including
4 class certification, summary judgment, and trial. Plaintiffs filed their Opposition to Apple's Motion to
5 Dismiss on November 6, 2025, addressing these arguments and reinforcing the sufficiency of their claims.
6 ECF No. 60. Apple's Reply brief was filed on December 3, 2025. ECF No. 64.

7 15. While preparing the CCAC, Plaintiffs actively negotiated with Apple regarding initial case
8 management procedures, scheduling, and the scope of discovery, while also interviewing, consulting,
9 retaining, and working with multi-disciplinary experts. Plaintiffs and Apple held a Rule 26 conference on
10 July 29, 2025. Plaintiffs issued an initial set of 68 document requests on October 1, 2025. Plaintiffs also
11 developed drafts of written discovery materials, including a proposed protocol for the production of
12 electronically-stored information ("ESI") and a stipulated protective order governing the confidential
13 treatment of documents, and engaged in substantial discussions with Apple regarding these matters. In
14 doing so, Interim Co-Lead Counsel analyzed ESI and protective orders previously negotiated by Apple in
15 other matters and the protocols entered in this District, to ensure that their proposals were both reasonable
16 and consistent with prevailing practice.

17 16. To facilitate the review of forthcoming document productions and to support these efforts,
18 including forensic imaging of Plaintiffs' phones, Plaintiffs solicited and evaluated proposals from
19 potential ESI vendors through a competitive bidding process and retained a vendor. Apple responded to
20 Plaintiffs' document requests with a set of wide-ranging objections that necessitated significant efforts to
21 meet and confer.

22 17. Apple made its first production of documents on December 3, 2025, and began rolling
23 productions thereafter. To facilitate the document review, Plaintiffs drafted a document review and coding
24 protocol manual and documents were assigned to a dedicated team of attorneys. Apple continued rolling
25 productions of documents both during the course of litigation and settlement negotiations as confirmatory
26 discovery. Plaintiffs also served two sets of Interrogatories to which Apple provided detailed and
27 substantive verified responses regarding the development and timing of the Enhanced Siri features and
28 other core facts critical to further understanding the company's potential culpability. Where details

1 remained unclear, Apple provided follow-up clarification and detail through the course of several
2 conversations. Plaintiffs also conducted an informal interview with a designated Apple employee to ensure
3 all remaining questions were answered.

4 18. Plaintiffs also retained an investigative firm to assist in identifying potential whistleblowers
5 and the roles of relevant Apple personnel. Plaintiffs' counsel separately gathered and catalogues all public
6 statements, filings, social media posts, and reporting concerning Apple Intelligence and the Enhanced Siri
7 features. Plaintiffs' Counsel also researched the retailers and resellers likely to possess class member
8 information, consumer complaints, and pricing data relevant to damages, and drafted and served
9 subpoenas to such retailers. Throughout the litigation, Plaintiffs monitored all developments concerning
10 Apple's rollout of Apple Intelligence and the Enhanced Siri features, including software updates,
11 departures of key Apple AI personnel, and potential third-party development partnerships with Apple.

12 **CLASS COUNSEL CONDUCTED EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION**

13 19. In sum, Class Counsel conducted an extensive investigation, research, and analysis of the
14 Settlement Class's claims and possessed sufficient information to assess the strengths and weaknesses of
15 the Parties' respective claims and defenses. Prior to finalizing the Settlement, Plaintiffs' investigation and
16 discovery included: (1) conducting a comprehensive and ongoing factual investigation and related legal
17 research to prepare the consolidated and later operative complaints, including analysis of the nature, scope
18 and reach of Apple's marketing of the Enhanced Siri features and Apple Intelligence, the pervasive nature
19 of the marketing campaign which, to a significant degree, took place on social media platforms;
20 researching consumers' reactions to Apple's marketing campaign; (2) researching, evaluating, and
21 comparing Apple's AI business strategies to competing AI products and services, and researching sales
22 and pricing information for iPhones and competitors' products; (3) serving both formal and informal
23 document requests and interrogatories, and engaging in extensive discovery negotiations; (4) analyzing
24 Apple's production of 14,471 documents comprising 38,315 pages of documents and other files including
25 videos, spreadsheets totaling almost 100 GB of data; (5) investigating potential witnesses, including
26 relevant Apple personnel to identify relevant document custodians and deponents involved in AI
27 development and marketing; (6) issuing and analyzing the substantive responses to two set of
28 interrogatories; (7) interviewing multiple experts across all key dimensions of the case, retaining and

1 working with experienced subject matter experts on damages who performed a comprehensive
2 conjoint survey and provided expert analyses based on real-world data to determine the viability and the
3 value of Plaintiffs' claims; and (8) interviewing Apple representative witness during confirmatory
4 discovery to clarify and verify several remaining issues. Finally, the Parties also exchanged substantial
5 data and other information regarding their respective claims and defenses during the mediation sessions
6 overseen by Judge Phillips and the two additional mediators.

7 **MEDIATION WITH JUDGE LAYN R. PHILLIPS (RET.)**

8 20. While briefing Apple's Motion to Dismiss and engaging in discovery, the Parties agreed
9 to retain the Hon. Layn R. Phillips (Ret.) of Phillips ADR, a nationally recognized mediator for the largest
10 and most complex legal disputes across the country. The Parties attended an initial full-day mediation
11 session with Judge Phillips on October 24, 2024. In advance of that mediation, the Parties exchanged
12 detailed mediation briefs and rebuttal reports outlining their respective positions. Apple also produced
13 documents and information in advance of the mediation to enable the Parties to engage in a productive
14 mediation. Prior to the mediation, Plaintiffs worked with their experts to conduct consumer surveys and
15 related analyses to assess the range of potential damages. At the mediation, the parties presented oral
16 arguments highlighting core evidence on both sides, and Judge Phillips assisted by Caroline Cheng, a
17 former General Counsel for PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC and Principal Deputy White House Counsel
18 for President Barack Obama, and Clay Cogman, who has assisted with over 500 mediations, including the
19 recent \$1.5 billion class action settlement involving Anthropic that recently received preliminary approval
20 from the Hon. William Alsup (Ret.). The participation of these two experienced mediators, in addition to
21 Judge Phillips, demonstrates the importance and complexity of this case as each devoted significant time
22 working with the Parties throughout the months' long mediation process. While the matter did not settle
23 during that full day of mediation, the Parties agreed to have a second day of mediation on December 8,
24 2025.

25 21. After the first mediation, the Parties continued to litigate the case, including by completing
26 the briefing on Apple's Motion to Dismiss, and continuing to meet and confer regarding the ESI Protocol,
27 the Stipulated Protective Order and Apple's productions of documents and information.

22. With the resulting fact record significantly enhanced, the Parties submitted supplemental mediation briefs and other materials in advance of the December 8, 2025, mediation. At the end of the second full day of mediation, the Parties were closer to a resolution on some key issues; but still deadlocked on others. The case ultimately reached a settlement in principle late in the day. During the following nine days, the Parties continued to negotiate and finalize the term sheet, including a provision for confirmatory discovery to ensure the Settlement was in the best interests of the Class.

23. At all times, the settlement discussions were conducted at arms' length and were informed by comprehensive fact and expert discovery, and applicable law. On December 18, 2025, the Parties notified the Court that they had reached an agreement in principle to resolve this matter on a nationwide class basis and requested a continuance of applicable hearings and deadlines. ECF No. 65. The Court granted the Parties' request, directing them to file a joint report updating the Court on the status of the settlement or to file a motion for preliminary approval by March 18, 2026.

24. Over the next three months, Plaintiffs engaged in substantial confirmatory discovery as well as thorough competitive bidding process with potential Settlement Administrators. The Parties also continued to meet and confer regarding the final settlement terms. On March 13, 2026, the Parties filed a Joint Status Report and jointly requested an additional 5 weeks to finalize the Settlement Agreement and file the Motion for Preliminary Approval, as the Parties were unable to resolve all disputes regarding the material terms of the Settlement despite their good faith efforts.

25. Following additional briefing, the Parties returned to Judge Phillips on March 23, 2026 for a third full-day mediation session aimed at resolving the remaining, highly contested issues. During that session, several remaining disputes were resolved through the Mediator's arbitral determinations, while others required further discussion and development. At the Mediator's direction and under his team's close supervision, the Parties engaged in extensive follow-up efforts, including the exchange of additional information and consultations with third-party vendors in an effort to bridge the remaining gaps. Despite these sustained and arms-length efforts, they could not resolve the remaining issues. The Parties thereafter submitted further targeted briefing during the week of April 6, 2026, upon which Judge Phillips issued rulings that ultimately resolved the outstanding issues and enabled the Parties to finalize the Settlement.

TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT AND ESTIMATED RECOVERY

26. The Settlement provides substantial monetary relief in the form of a non-reversionary \$250 million Total Settlement Fund that will be distributed to Settlement Class Members on a pro rata basis. This amount will be paid into a non-reversionary Qualified Settlement Fund that will be used to pay Notice costs and costs of administering the Settlement, to pay any approved Attorneys' Fees and Expenses to Class Counsel and any Service Awards to the Class Representatives, and to distribute the Net Settlement Amount to Settlement Class Members.

27. The Settlement Agreement provides that Claimants are entitled to a presumptive payment from the Net Settlement Amount of \$25 per Eligible Device, with a per-device cap of \$95. The Net Settlement Amount will be allocated to Claimants who submit valid Claim Forms during the Claim Period establishing that they purchased an Eligible Device in the United States during the Class Period (e.g. between June 10, 2024, and March 29, 2025), and that, at the time of purchase, they expected to receive a Siri Apple Intelligence feature and did not receive it. These amounts are subject to a pro rata upward or downward adjustment based on the amount of funds available for distribution to Class Members submitting Valid Claims. In no event will any portion of the \$250,000,000 Total Settlement Amount revert to Apple.

28. If final approval is granted, each Settlement Class Member submitting a valid claim or claims will automatically receive their Settlement Payment through their preferred form of payment such as digital payments through Venmo, PayPal, or by check. The proposed Long Form Notice (Exhibit D to the Settlement Agreement) provides this information and further details on Plaintiffs' proposed notice plan, which will include direct notice by email or, where email is unavailable, by U.S. Mail., Email and postcard notice will be supplemented with follow-up reminders, as reasonably necessary to maximize deliverability and receipt. The notice plan is also described in more detail in the accompanying Declaration of Jonathan Carameros ("Carameros Declaration"), the Senior VP & Head of Strategy, Class Action & Mass Tort Settlement at Verita Global ("Verita"), attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**. Verita, the proposed Settlement Administrator, was selected through a competitive bidding process as discussed below. Verita will work with Covalynt to analyze claims, identify and remove fraudulent submissions, and increase claims rate by enriching data for valid Class Members to improve and update contact information used for

1 email notice. Covalynt's work is further described in the accompanying Declaration of Bryan Heller, Chief
2 Executive Officer of Covalynt, attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**.

3 29. Under the Settlement Agreement, the Administrator will implement a comprehensive and
4 robust notice program designed to drive a higher claim rate. Apple will provide the Administrator with
5 contact information to enable them to direct Notice through email and/or mail to the vast majority of Class
6 Members according to information provided by Apple.

7 30. Consistent with the Northern District of California's guidance, the notice program also
8 includes publication notice to newspapers and other widely read media outlets, as well as Online Media
9 Campaign through online advertisements, including appropriate advertising channels such as paid online
10 ads via Google, Meta or other ad platforms, as well as social media channels such as Facebook. The
11 Settlement Website is also designed to enable access and includes a Spanish language version of the Long
12 Form Notice and the Claim Form, as well as a toll-free helpline with a live operator. Upon request, Class
13 Members can request that a claim form, or other settlement documents be mailed to them.

14 31. Settlement Class Members will retain all rights to object, comment on, or opt-out of the
15 Settlement pursuant to prevailing law and the Northern District's Procedural Guidelines for Class Action
16 Settlements.

17 **REVISED SETTLEMENT CLASS DEFINITION**

18 32. On May 1, 2026, Plaintiffs filed a proposed Second Consolidated Amended Class Action
19 Complaint ("SCAC"). ECF No. 76. The Settlement Class definition will be consistent with that alleged in
20 the SCAC and reflects two minor expansions of the Class. First, it will add purchasers of iPhone 15 Pro
21 and iPhone 15 Pro Max which were anticipated to receive the Enhanced Siri features. Second, the class
22 period will commence on June 10, 2024 (instead of September 13, 2024). The expanded Settlement Class
23 and Class Period were modified early in the settlement process, well vetted during settlement negotiations,
24 and resulted in additional settlement value to the Class. The SCAC also has added a plaintiff who
25 purchased the iPhone 15 Pro Max.

26 **REASONABLENESS OF THE SETTLEMENT**

27 33. Plaintiffs determined that the settlement is reasonable, fair, adequate, and in the best
28 interests of the Class, given the risks to success on liability and to the amount of any potential recovery.

1 In addition to all of the typical challenges a complex class action case brings, this case involves the
2 development, implementation, and marketing of groundbreaking AI technology associated with one of the
3 world's most recognizable products, the iPhone. Apple, represented by able counsel at Covington and
4 Burling LLP, mounted a vigorous defense in all aspects of the case and would continue to do so through
5 class certification, summary judgment, trial and appeals.

6 34. While Plaintiffs believe their claims are strong, there were significant factual and legal
7 issues that were not typical and that presented real risks to Plaintiffs' successful litigation of this case
8 through trial.

9 35. Class Counsel are not aware of any prior cases involving a high-profile marketing
10 campaign involving alleged false advertising about AI technology for as ubiquitous a product as the
11 iPhone that was advertised on such a multiplicity of non-traditional channels that has laid a blueprint for
12 litigation. This differentiates this case from those arising from typical consumer fraud actions predicated
13 on misrepresentations in traditional ads or on labels.

14 36. The case involves cutting edge AI technology being developed in a rapidly developing
15 landscape where tectonic shifts in the marketplace could occur at any time that may readily impact
16 consumer awareness, expectations, and experiences in ways that could have unexpected consequences
17 more than other false advertising or even technology cases Class Counsel has prosecuted.

18 37. Apple maintained that its ads were not misleading because it disclosed that some Apple
19 Intelligence functionality would be available only through later software updates, with disclaimers such
20 as: "This feature is in development and will be available in future software updates."

21 38. Apple has also argued that it successfully delivered more than 20 Apple Intelligence
22 features, raising questions regarding the materiality of the alleged statements concerning the Enhanced
23 Siri features.

24 39. Apple has also maintained that consumers purchase new iPhones for any number of
25 reasons that have nothing to do with the Enhanced Siri features.

26 40. This case also raises a number of legal issues of first impression that are inherently risky,
27 such as whether consumers could demonstrate reliance on representations about AI-integrated products
28 software and whether Plaintiffs could isolate the damages associated with such representations. There is

1 much more limited trial court, and virtually no appellate court, opinions involving AI products and
2 services compared with more traditional false advertising claims.

3 41. In sum, Plaintiffs faced a significant risk that, after years of litigation, there would be no
4 recovery at all. While Plaintiffs firmly believe that their liability case is strong and class certification is
5 warranted, it is uncertain whether the Court would ultimately grant certification or deny Apple's
6 dispositive motions. And, even if Plaintiffs ultimately proved their case at trial, the amount of recovery,
7 if any, could be reduced. Importantly, even if there was a recovery, it would take years to secure, and
8 Apple would undoubtedly appeal any adverse judgment. Guided by substantial investigation, informal
9 and confirmatory discovery, and expert analysis, Class Counsel considered all of these issues and risks in
10 weighing whether and how to fairly settle this case.

11 42. The Settlement here falls well within the acceptable range of Court-approved class action
12 settlements seeking recovery for consumers in false advertising cases.

13 CLASS COUNSEL ENGAGED EXPERTS TO VALUE THE CLASS CLAIMS

14 43. To determine potential damages, Plaintiffs sought to determine the value consumers
15 placed on Apple's representations about the Enhanced Siri features in connection with the sales of iPhones.
16 Accordingly, Plaintiffs engaged experienced experts to perform a survey and an economic analysis of the
17 facts presented here. Their work is detailed in the accompanying expert declarations of Steven P. Gaskin
18 and Colin B. Weir, attached hereto as **Exhibit 4** and **Exhibit 5**, respectively.

19 44. As detailed in his declaration, Mr. Gaskin ran a consumer survey and applied a choice-
20 based conjoint analysis that was designed to estimate the market price premium, if any, of the Eligible
21 Devices with the Enhanced Siri features compared with the same Eligible Devices without the Enhanced
22 Siri features. Based on the survey and analysis, Mr. Gaskin concluded that the price premium due to a
23 change from an iPhone that "Includes Basic Siri" to an iPhone that "Includes an AI Enhanced Siri" is
24 5.5% of the overall cost of the device.

25 45. As detailed in his declaration, Mr. Weir applied Mr. Gaskin's conclusions to sales data
26 for the Eligible Devices to determine the quantum of class-wide damages in this case. Mr. Weir concluded
27 that in the event Plaintiffs ultimately prevailed at trial, the maximum damages attributable to the price
28 premium applied to all of the Eligible Devices sold during the relevant period, estimated to be 37,078,131,

1 would be \$2,264,064,781. *See* Weir Decl., ¶¶61, 67-68.

2 46. In sum, Plaintiffs' experts' analysis revealed that consumers would have placed a 5.5%
3 price premium on the Eligible Devices due to the challenged representations. *See* Exhibit 4 and Exhibit 5.
4 Based on pricing sales and pricing data produced by Apple, which indicate an average sales price of \$1,110
5 across the more than 37 million Eligible Devices, this represents a total damages scenario of approximately
6 \$2,264,064,781 across the class, or a \$61.06 per device at the average price of the Eligible Devices. *See*
7 Weir Decl., ¶¶ 61, 67-68. Accordingly, the total amount offered in settlement represents approximately
8 11% of the potential estimated recoveries if Plaintiffs were to proceed under their primary legal theories.
9 *Id.* However, for those who file claims, at \$25 per device, the settlement represents approximately 40% of
10 the price premium, and potentially more depending on the number of claims made.

11 SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION

12 47. Plaintiffs engaged in a competitive bid process to select the proposed Settlement
13 Administrator, Verita Global, in this case. Plaintiffs prepared a written Request for Proposal ("RFP") that
14 was submitted to four experienced class action administrators. In the RFP process, Class Counsel required
15 all bidders to provide representations and warranties regarding their practices that specifically addressed
16 the allegations currently being litigated in MDL No. 3162, *In re Class Action Settlement Administration*
17 *Litigation*.

18 48. After receiving three bids in response to the RFP, Class Counsel engaged in follow-up
19 meetings and several rounds of bids to adjust to the specific needs of this case. The bids also needed to be
20 modified after several disputed issues were resolved by the Parties. Class Counsel selected Verita, based
21 on its detailed bid and also because Verita had the requisite experience, data security measures and other
22 capabilities that we believed would be appropriate in this matter. We have selected Verita as a settlement
23 administrator in the past two years in four total matters across three firms, including two for Clarkson,
24 none for CPM, and two for Kaplan Fox. After selecting Verita, we again fine-tuned the notice plan based
25 on the resolution of additional disputed issues with the assistance of the Mediator. The ultimate notice
26 plan was also informed by detailed discussions with Apple's counsel regarding the notice plan, including
27 Apple's understanding that they have direct notice information (email or physical address) for the vast
28 majority of Class Members (as high as 99% of the registered users of the applicable devices).

after the post-distribution accounting has been filed with the Court.

53. As of April 30, 2026, the approximate lodestar for co-lead counsel and members of the Executive Committee is \$11,912,039.50, having devoted approximately 12,723.69 hours to litigating this Action. These amounts include all time from the investigation of the complaint through April 30, 2026. Should preliminary approval be granted, Class Counsel will provide a complete, audited accounting of their lodestar and hours billed in connection with their motion for attorneys' fees and costs, which Class Members will have the chance to review and comment on before the objection deadline. A summary of the hours and lodestar figures by firm is included below:

Role	Firm Name	Hours	Lodestar Total
Interim Co-Lead Counsel	Clarkson Law Firm	5,907	\$5,449,935.50
Interim Co-Lead Counsel	Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy	3,601.46	\$3,351,323.50
Interim Co-Lead Counsel	Kaplan Fox	2,319.75	\$2,494,982.50
Executive Committee	Chimicles Schwartz Kriner & Donaldson- Smith LLP	240.00	\$196,977.50
Executive Committee	Miller Shah LLP	119.10	\$80,060.00
Executive Committee	Pomerantz LLP	337.10	\$177,907.50
	Janove PLLC	25.70	\$15,005.00
	Malk & Pogo Law Group LLP	172.78	\$145,848.00
	TOTAL:	12,723.69	\$11,912,039.50

54. Class Counsel will also seek reimbursement for expenses not to exceed \$600,000.00. These expenses include (i) costs paid out from the litigation fund maintained by Class Counsel, totaling \$225,685.70, including expert costs, ESI vendor fees, mediation fees, and other similar costs; and (ii)

1 additional costs separately incurred and advanced by counsel totaling \$123,326.85, including filing fees,
2 service fees, legal research charges, travel and lodging costs, and similar costs. Such expenses were
3 necessarily incurred in this Action and are routinely charged to clients billed by the hour. Per the Northern
4 District's Procedural Guidelines, Class Counsel specify that to date, of the total costs, \$93,543.75 has been
5 billed and paid to date for experts, with additional invoices to follow for which they will be paying and
6 seeking reimbursement from the Settlement Fund of approximately \$40,000.00. Class Counsel anticipate
7 incurring additional expenses in connection with completing this case - estimated up to \$250,987.45,
8 including travel and lodging for preliminary and final approval hearings, hearing-related costs (e.g.
9 transcripts), any outstanding mediation-related fees, document management and hosting fees from the ESI
10 vendor, and other litigation support expenses associated with finalizing the settlement.

11 55. Class Counsel anticipate incurring substantial fees after the filing of preliminary approval,
12 including managing a large-scale notice and corresponding with hundreds (if not thousands) of potential
13 class members, preparing and filing their fee motion, overseeing settlement administration, addressing
14 opt-outs and objections, continuing coordination with experts and consultants, addressing any post-
15 distribution, and appeals.

16 56. The Settlement Agreement provides that after entry of the Court's final order approving
17 any Attorneys' Fees and Expenses Payment, the Settlement Administrator will pay Class Counsel any
18 Court-approved Attorneys' Fees and Expenses Payment from the QSF no later than two (2) business days
19 after the Apple's transfer of the Court-approved Attorneys' Fees and Expenses Payment to the QSF, which
20 payment will be subject to the Undertaking attached as Exhibit G to the Settlement Agreement.

21 We declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
22

23 Executed on May 5, 2026, at Malibu, California

24 /s/ Ryan J. Clarkson

25 Ryan J. Clarkson
26
27
28

Executed on May 5, 2026, at Burlingame, California.

/s/ Brian Danitz

Brian Danitz

Executed on May 5, 2026, at Oakland, California.

/s/ Laurence D. King

Laurence D. King

ATTESTATION PURSUANT TO CIVIL LOCAL RULE 5-1(i)(3)

I, Ryan J. Clarkson, attest that concurrence in the filing of this document has been obtained from the other signatory. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 5th day of May, 2026, at Malibu, California.

/s/ Ryan J. Clarkson

Ryan J. Clarkson, Esq.

Public court record.

This copy was downloaded from <https://www.smartphoneaisettlement.com/case-documents/> on 2026-09-23 and is hosted, unaltered, for reference at <https://chimo.ai/class-action/iphone-15-pro-max>

Court: U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

Case number: 5:25-cv-02668-NW

Filed: 2026-05-05

Chimo hosts public court records for readers' reference; documents are unaltered copies from the court docket or the court-approved settlement website.