

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION**

MATHEW LaPRADE, individually and on behalf of
all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

INDECK POWER EQUIPMENT COMPANY,

Defendant.

Case No. 2021-CH-00805

The Honorable Eve M. Reilly

**FINAL JUDGMENT AND
ORDER OF DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE**

WHEREAS, a class action is pending before the Court entitled *LaPrade v. Indeck Power Equipment Company*, No. 2021-CH-00805; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiff Mathew LaPrade (“Plaintiff”) and Defendant Indeck Power Equipment Company (“Indeck” or “Defendant”) (together with Plaintiff, the “Parties”) have entered into a Class Action Settlement Agreement, which, together with the exhibits attached thereto, sets forth the terms and conditions for a proposed settlement and dismissal of the Action with prejudice as to Defendant upon the terms and conditions set forth therein (the “Settlement Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2023, the Court granted Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, conditionally certifying a Class pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-801 of “[a]ll individuals who worked or are currently working for Defendant in the State of Illinois, including current or former temporary workers or contractors engaged by Defendant, who had their Biometric Identifiers and/or Biometric Information allegedly collected, captured, received, or otherwise obtained or disclosed by Defendant or its agents, without first signing a

written consent form, for the period extending from February 19, 2016, to and through [March 10, 2023]”; and

WHEREAS, the Court has considered the Parties’ Class Action Settlement Agreement, as well as Plaintiff’s Unopposed Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement Agreement and Plaintiff’s Unopposed Motion for Attorneys’ Fees, Costs, Expenses, And Service Award, together with all exhibits thereto, the arguments and authorities presented by the Parties and their counsel at the Final Approval Hearing held on June 29, 2023, and the record in the Action, and good cause appearing;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, DECREED, AND ADJUDGED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Terms and phrases in this Final Judgment shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the Parties’ Amended Class Action Settlement Agreement (the “Amended Settlement Agreement” or “Settlement Agreement”).

2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action and over all Parties to the Action, including all Settlement Class members.

3. The notice provided to the Settlement Class pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and order granting Preliminary Approval – including (i) direct notice to the Settlement Class via U.S. mail, based on the comprehensive Settlement Class List provided by Defendant, (ii) direct notice to the Settlement Class via email, and (iii) the creation of the Settlement Website – fully complied with the requirements of 735 ILCS 5/2-803 and due process, and was reasonably calculated under the circumstances to apprise the Settlement Class of the pendency of the Action, their right to object to or to exclude themselves from the Settlement Agreement, and their right to appear at the Final Approval Hearing.

4. This Court now gives final approval to the Settlement Agreement, and finds that the Settlement Agreement is fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement

Class. The settlement consideration provided under the Settlement Agreement constitutes fair value given in exchange for the release of the Released Claims against the Released Parties. The Court finds that the consideration to be paid to members of the Settlement Class is reasonable, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class Members, considering the total value of their claims compared to (i) the disputed factual and legal circumstances of the Action, (ii) affirmative defenses asserted in the Action, and (iii) the potential risks and likelihood of success of pursuing litigation on the merits. The complex legal and factual posture of this case, the amount of discovery completed, and the fact that the Settlement is the result of arms'-length negotiations between the Parties support this finding. The Court finds that these facts, in addition to the Court's observations throughout the litigation, demonstrate that there was no collusion present in the reaching of the Settlement Agreement, implicit or otherwise.

5. The Court has specifically considered the factors relevant to class action settlement approval, including:

(1) the strength of the case for the plaintiff on the merits, balanced against the money or other relief offered in settlement; (2) the defendant's ability to pay; (3) the complexity, length and expense of further litigation; (4) the amount of opposition to the settlement; (5) the presence of collusion in reaching a settlement; (6) the reaction of members of the class to the settlement; (7) the opinion of competent counsel; and (8) the stage of proceedings and the amount of discovery completed.

City of Chicago v. Korshak, 206 Ill. App. 3d 968, 972 (1st Dist. 1990).

6. The Court finds that the Class Representative and Class Counsel adequately represented the Settlement Class for the purposes of litigating this matter and entering into and implementing the Settlement Agreement.

7. Accordingly, the Settlement is hereby finally approved in all respects.

8. The Parties are hereby directed to implement the Settlement Agreement according to its terms and provisions. The Settlement Agreement is hereby incorporated into this Final

Judgment in full and shall have the full force of an Order of this Court.

9. This Court hereby dismisses the Action, as identified in the Settlement Agreement, on the merits and with prejudice.

10. Upon the Effective Date of this Final Judgment, Plaintiff and each and every Settlement Class Member who did not opt out of the Settlement Class, including the Releasing Parties shall be deemed to have released Defendant, as well as the Released Parties from any and all claims or causes of action for actual damages, liquidated damages, penalties, injunctive relief, declaratory relief, attorneys' fees and costs, expenses and interest, liabilities, demands, or lawsuits against the Released Parties under the Biometric Information Privacy Act, 740 ILCS 14/1 *et seq*, and all other related federal, state, and local laws, including the common law, whether known or unknown, whether legal, statutory, equitable, or of any other type or form, and whether brought in an individual, representative, or any other capacity, of every nature and description whatsoever that were or could have been brought in any of the actions filed (or to be filed) by Plaintiff and the Settlement Class Members.

11. Upon the Effective Date of this Final Judgment, the above release of claims and the Settlement Agreement will be binding on, and will have *res judicata* and preclusive effect on, all pending and future lawsuits or other proceedings maintained by or on behalf of Plaintiff and all other Settlement Class Members and Releasing Parties. All Settlement Class Members are hereby permanently barred and enjoined from filing, commencing, prosecuting, intervening in, or participating (as class members or otherwise) in any lawsuit or other action in any jurisdiction based on or arising out of any of the Released Claims.

12. The Court has also considered Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion For Attorneys' Fees, Costs, Expenses, And Service Award, as well as the supporting memorandum and declarations, and adjudges that the payment of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses in the amount of \$26,730 is

reasonable in light of the multi-factor test used to evaluate fee awards in Illinois. *See McNiff v. Mazda Motor of Am., Inc.*, 384 Ill. App. 3d 401, 407 (4th Dist. 2008). Such payment shall be made pursuant to and in the manner provided by the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

13. The Court has also considered Plaintiff's Motion, memorandum of law, and supporting declaration for service award to the Class Representative, Mathew LaPrade. The Court adjudges that the payment of a service award in the amount of \$2,500 to Mr. LaPrade to compensate him for his efforts and commitment on behalf of the Settlement Class, is fair, reasonable, and justified under the circumstances of this case. Such payment shall be made pursuant to and in the manner provided by the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

14. Any unclaimed funds remaining in the Settlement Fund due to, among other things, potential Class Members opting out of the Settlement, un-cashed settlement checks sent to Class Members and any potential Class Members the Settlement Administrator is unable to contact or find, shall be redistributed on a *pro rata* basis (after first deducting any necessary settlement administration expenses from such uncashed check funds) to all Settlement Class Members who cashed checks during the initial distribution, but only to the extent each Settlement Class Member would receive at least \$5.00 in any such secondary distribution and if otherwise feasible. To the extent each Settlement Class Member would receive less than \$5.00 in any such secondary distribution or if a secondary distribution is otherwise infeasible, any uncashed check funds shall, subject to Court approval, revert to the Chicago Legal Clinic, a non-sectarian, not-for-profit organization, which the Court approves as an appropriate *cy pres* recipient.

15. Except as otherwise set forth in this Order, the Parties shall bear their own costs and attorneys' fees.

16. The Parties, without further approval from the Court, are hereby permitted to

agree and adopt such amendments, modifications, and expansions of the Settlement Agreement and its implementing documents (including all exhibits to the Settlement Agreement) so long as they are consistent in all material respects with this Final Judgment and do not limit the rights of Settlement Class Members.

17. Without affecting the finality of this Final Judgment for purposes of appeal, until the Effective Date the Court shall retain jurisdiction over all matters relating to administration, consummation, enforcement, and interpretation of the Settlement Agreement, for one year from the date of entry of this order.

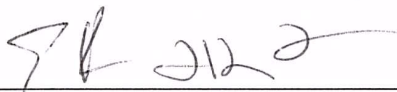
18. The Court finds that there is no just reason to delay, and therefore directs the Clerk of Court to enter this Final Approval Order and Judgment as the judgment of the Court forthwith.

Judge Eve M. Reilly

JUN 29 2023

Circuit Court-2122

IT IS SO ORDERED, this _____ day of _____, 2023.



Honorable Eve M. Reilly