



AlaFile E-Notice

01-CV-2026-901158.00

Judge: CHUCK PRICE

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NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA

MYKEL MEYERS V. JEFFERSON-BLOUNT-ST. CLAIR MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
01-CV-2026-901158.00

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**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA
BIRMINGHAM DIVISION**

MEYERS MYKEL,	)	
BELL LEATOYA,	)	
POWELL BONNIE,	)	
ATWOOD SHARON ET AL,	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
V.	)	Case No.: CV-2026-901158.00
	)	
JEFFERSON-BLOUNT-ST. CLAIR	)	
MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY,	)	
Defendant.	)	

ORDER

This Court's Order dated August 25, 2026, (Doc. 55) is hereby **AMENDED** to correct date as set out below.

WHEREAS, this Action is a putative class action before the Court;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of the Settlement Class, and Defendant have agreed, subject to Court approval under Alabama Rule of Civil Procedure 23, to settle this Action upon the terms and conditions stated in the Class Action Settlement Agreement and Release (the "Settlement Agreement" or "Agreement"), which, among other things and together with its exhibits, provides for a complete dismissal on the merits and with prejudice of the claims asserted in the Action against Defendant should the Court grant Final Approval of the Settlement; WHEREAS, Plaintiffs filed an unopposed motion requesting entry of an order to: (1) conditionally certify the Settlement Class; (2) appoint Plaintiffs as Class Representatives; (3) appoint counsel listed in the Agreement as Class Counsel; (4) preliminarily approve the Settlement; (5) approve the Notice Program and Notices and direct that Notice be sent to the Settlement Class Members; (6) approve the Claim Form and Claims Process; (7) order the Settlement's opt-out and objection procedures; (8) appoint the Settlement Administrator; (9) stay all deadlines in the Action pending Final Approval of the Settlement; (10) enjoin and bar all members of the Settlement Class from initiating or

continuing in any litigation or asserting any claims against Defendant and the Released Parties arising out of, relating to, or in connection with the Released Claims prior to the Court's decision to grant Final Approval of the Settlement; and (11) set a date for the Final Approval Hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the Agreement, all the files, records, and proceedings herein, statements of counsel, and it appearing to the Court that a Final Approval Hearing should be held to determine whether the proposed settlement described in the Agreement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All capitalized terms herein shall have the same meanings as those defined in Section II of the Settlement Agreement.

2. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Action and the Parties, including Plaintiffs and all Settlement Class Members.

3. The Court preliminarily approves of the Settlement, including the Notice Program, finding that the proposed Settlement is sufficiently fair, reasonable, and adequate to warrant providing Notice to the Settlement Class, but such finding is not to be deemed as an admission of fault or liability by Defendant or a finding of the validity of any claims asserted in the Action or of any wrongdoing or of any violation of law by Defendant. Defendant shall maintain all rights to assert that, but for settlement purposes, the Action should not be certified as a class.

4. For purposes of determining whether the terms of the Settlement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate, the following Settlement Class is preliminarily certified for settlement purposes only:

All individuals residing in the United States or its territories whose Private Information was determined to have been potentially impacted in the Data Security Incident, including all individuals who were sent a Notice Letter.

Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) all persons who are governing board members of Defendant; (b) governmental entities; (c) the Court, the Court's immediate family, and Court staff; and (d) any individual who timely and validly opts out of the Settlement.

5. Pursuant to the *Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure 23(a)(1)–(4), (b)(3)*, the Court finds that, for purposes of settlement: the number of members of the Settlement Class is so numerous that joinder is impracticable; there are questions of law and fact common to the members of the Settlement Class; the claims of the Plaintiffs are typical of the claims of the members of the Settlement Class; the Plaintiffs are adequate representatives for the Settlement Class, and have retained experienced and adequate Class Counsel; the questions of law and fact common to the members of the Settlement Class predominate over any questions affecting any individual members of the Settlement Class; and a class action is superior to the other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

6. For purposes of settlement only, the Court finds and determines that Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Settlement Class in enforcing their rights in the Action, and appoints them as Class Representatives, and the following attorney is preliminarily appointed as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class—Jonathan S. Mann of Pittman, Dutton, Hellums, Bradley & Mann, P.C.

7. The Parties have selected CPT Group to serve as the Settlement Administrator. The Court hereby approves of and appoints CPT Group and directs it to commence the Notice Program and initiate the Claims Process and to otherwise comply with all obligations of the Settlement Administrator as outlined in the Agreement.

8. The Parties have prepared the Notices, which are attached to the Agreement. The Court preliminarily finds that pursuant to *Alabama Rule of Civil Procedure 23(c)(2)*, the Notice provided to Settlement Class Members is the most practicable notice; is reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Settlement Class Members of the pendency of the Action and of their right to object or to exclude themselves from the Settlement; and is reasonable and constitutes due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all Settlement Class Members entitled to receive notice.

9. The Court has carefully reviewed and hereby approves the Notices as to form and content and directs that they be without material alteration unless otherwise modified by agreement of the Parties and approved by the Court. The Court **DIRECTS** that the Notice Program be implemented as outlined in the Agreement.

10. No later than seven (7) days after entry of this Preliminary Approval Order, Defendant shall make available to Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator the

Class List. Within fifteen **(15)** days following receipt of the Class List, the Settlement Administrator shall commence the Notice Program using the forms of Notice approved by the Court.

11. Settlement Class Members who wish to opt out of the Settlement and exclude themselves from participation may do so by submitting timely and valid requests at any time before the Opt-Out Deadline **(60 days after the Notice Deadline)**. The process to opt out is set forth in the Agreement and in the Notices. Settlement Class Members who opt out shall have no rights under the Settlement, shall not share in any Settlement Class Member Benefits, and shall not be bound by the Settlement or by the Final Approval Order. The opt-out request must be personally signed by the Settlement Class Member, contain the Settlement Class Member's name, address, telephone number, and email address (if any), and include a statement indicating a request to be excluded from the Settlement Class. "Mass" or "class" requests for exclusion filed by third parties on behalf of a "mass" or "class" of Settlement Class Members or multiple Settlement Class Members where the opt-out has not been signed by each and every individual Settlement Class Member will not be allowed.

12. All Settlement Class Members who do not submit a timely, written request for exclusion in the manner set forth in the Notice and Agreement shall be bound by any Final Approval Order and final judgment entered, even if such Settlement Class Members never received actual notice of this Action or the Settlement. If Final Approval of the Settlement is granted, they shall be barred, now and in the future, from asserting any of the Released Claims, as defined in the Agreement, against any Released Parties as defined in the Agreement.

13. Settlement Class Members who wish to object to the Settlement and/or to Class Counsel's Application for Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Service Awards shall file any objections pursuant to the requirements of this paragraph. To be considered, the objection must include: (a) the name of this Action, *Mykel Meyer, et al. v. Jefferson Blount-St. Clair Mental Health Authority*, Case No. 01-CV-2026-901158.00 (Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, Birmingham Division); (b) the objector's full name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address (if any); (c) all grounds for the objection, accompanied by any legal support for the objection known to the objector or objector's counsel; (d) the number of times the objector has objected to a

class action settlement within the five years preceding the date that the objector files the objection, the caption of each case in which the objector has made such objection, and a copy of any orders related to or ruling upon the objector's prior objections that were issued by the trial and appellate courts in each listed case; (e) the identity of all counsel who represent the objector, including any former or current counsel who may be entitled to compensation for any reason related to the objection to the Settlement and/or Application for Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Service Awards; (f) the number of times in which the objector's counsel and/or counsel's law firm have objected to a class action settlement within the five years preceding the date of the filed objection, the caption of each case in which counsel or the firm has made such objection and a copy of any orders related to or ruling upon counsel's or the counsel's law firm's prior objections that were issued by the trial and appellate courts in each listed case in which the objector's counsel and/or counsel's law firm have objected to a class action settlement within the preceding five years; (g) the identity of all counsel (if any) representing the objector, and whether they will appear at the Final Approval Hearing; (h) a list of all persons who will be called to testify at the Final Approval Hearing in support of the objection (if any); (i) a statement confirming whether the objector intends to personally appear and/or testify at the Final Approval Hearing; and (j) the objector's signature (an attorney's signature is not sufficient). Class Counsel and/or Defendant's Counsel may conduct limited discovery on any objector or objector's counsel, including taking depositions and propounding written document requests. Failure to fully and completely comply with all requirements herein will result in the Court overruling the objection without consideration.

14. Objections to the Settlement and/or the Application for Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Service Awards must be filed with the Court, and sent by U.S. Mail to Class Counsel, Defendant's Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator. For an objection to be considered by the Court, the objection must be submitted no later than the Objection Deadline **(60 days after the Notice Deadline)**, as specified in the Notices. If submitted by mail, an objection shall be deemed to have been submitted on the date the mail is postmarked. If submitted by courier, an objection shall be deemed to have been submitted on the shipping date reflected on the shipping label. Any Settlement Class Member who does not make an objection in the manner provided herein shall be

deemed to have waived the right to object to any aspect of the Settlement and/or to the Application for Attorneys' Fees and Costs and, if Final Judgment is entered, shall forever be barred and foreclosed from raising such objections in this or any other proceeding and from challenging or opposing, or seeking to reverse, vacate, or modify, the Final Judgment or any aspect thereof.

15. In advance of the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator shall prepare a declaration for the Parties confirming that the Notice Program was completed in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and this Preliminary Approval Order, describing how the Notice Program was completed, indicating the number of Claim Forms received, providing the names of each Settlement Class Member who timely and properly requested to opt-out from the Settlement Class, indicating the number of objections received, and other information as may be necessary to allow the Parties to seek and obtain Final Approval.

16. The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing to consider the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement. The Court will advise the Parties in advance of the Final Approval Hearing whether the hearing will be held in person at the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Alabama, or virtually by Zoom. The date and time of the Final Approval Hearing will be set forth below, in the Notices, and published on the Settlement Website. During the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate, and whether the Court should enter the proposed Final Approval Order and final judgment approving the Settlement and dismissing this Action on the merits, with prejudice. The Court will also consider the amount of any attorneys' fees and costs to be awarded to Class Counsel and whether to approve the amount of any Service Award to the Class Representatives. The Final Approval Hearing may be postponed, adjourned, or rescheduled by order of the Court without further notice to Settlement Class Members other than on the Settlement Website and the Court's docket.

17. The Court confirms the following schedule (where “Notice Deadline” means 30 days after entry of this Preliminary Approval Order and the Court, upon a showing of good cause by the Parties, may extend any of the deadlines):

-Deadline to commence Notice Program:

- o Within 30 days of Preliminary Approval

-Deadline to complete Notice Program:

- o At least 45 days before the initially scheduled Final Approval Hearing

- Deadline for filing Motion for Attorneys’ Fees, Costs, and Service Awards:

- o At least 14 days before the Objection Deadline and Opt-Out Deadline

-Opt-Out Deadline:

- o 60 days after the Notice Deadline

-Objection Deadline:

- o 60 days after the Notice Deadline

-Claim Form Deadline:

- o 90 days after the Notice Deadline

-Deadline for filing Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement:

- o 14 days before the Final Approval Hearing

-Final Approval Hearing:

- o February 16, 2027 at 10:30 A.M.

18. If the Settlement is terminated, not approved, canceled, fails to become effective for any reason, or the Effective Date does not occur, this Order shall become null and void and shall be without prejudice to the rights of Plaintiffs, the Settlement Class Members, and Defendant, all of whom shall be restored to their respective positions in the Action as provided in the Agreement.

19. The Court stays all proceedings in this Action until further order of the Court, except that the Parties may conduct such limited proceedings as may be necessary to implement the Settlement or to effectuate the terms of the Agreement. Upon the entry of this Order, except for proceedings necessary for Class Counsel, Defendant's Counsel, Defendant, and the Class Representatives to implement the Settlement and complete the approval process in this Action, all members of the Settlement Class shall be provisionally enjoined and barred from asserting any claims or continuing any litigation against Defendant and the Released Parties arising out of, relating to, or in connection with the Released Claims prior to the Court's decision as to whether to grant Final Approval of the Settlement. For the benefit of the Settlement Class and to protect this Court's jurisdiction, this Court retains continuing jurisdiction over the Settlement proceedings to ensure the effectuation thereof in accordance with the Settlement preliminarily approved herein and the related orders of this Court.

DONE this 25th day of August, 2026.

/s/ CHUCK PRICE
CIRCUIT JUDGE