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FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles
10/13/2025

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court
By: E. Muñoz Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

RYAN CORNATEANU, individually, and
on behalf of other members of the general
public similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

STONELEDGE FURNITURE, LLC,

Defendant.

Case No. 21STCV09403

Assigned For All Purposes To The
Hon. William F. Highberger, Dept. 10

CLASS ACTION

~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER GRANTING
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT

Hearing Date: August 7, 2025
Hearing Time: 10: 30 a.m.
Dept.: 10

Complaint Filed: March 9, 2021

1 TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNSEL:

2 The Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement came before this Court, the
3 Honorable William F. Highberger presiding, on 10/13/25. The Court having considered the papers
4 submitted in support of the Motion, HEREBY ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:

5 1. Capitalized terms shall have the definitions set forth in the Settlement Agreement
6 entered into between the Parties.

7 2. The Settlement, including the Email Notice, Direct Mail Notice, Internet Posting, and
8 Claim Form, attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibits B through E, are preliminarily
9 approved.

10 3. The following Class is conditionally certified for purposes of settlement only: "All
11 persons within the State of California who purchased products from a Stoneledge store in the State of
12 California during the period from March 9, 2017 to March 27, 2022, where the 'original price' or
13 'regular price' was at least 10% greater than the 'invoice price.'"

14 4. The Settlement Class shall consist of all Class Members who either make claims or do
15 not timely exclude themselves ("opt out") from the Settlement Class by submitting a timely Request
16 for Exclusion in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Class Notice and Settlement
17 Agreement.

18 5. The Court grants preliminary approval of the Gross Settlement Amount in the total
19 amount of \$750,000.00 to be distributed to Claimants as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, along
20 with the distribution to each valid Claimant of a \$35.00 Voucher upon the terms set forth in the
21 Settlement Agreement filed herewith, and finds that the Settlement Class meets the requirements for
22 conditional certification for settlement purposes only under California Code of Civil Procedure section
23 382. 6. The Settlement appears to be fair, adequate and reasonable to the Settlement Class. The
24 Settlement falls within the range of reasonableness and appears to be presumptively valid, subject only
25 to any objections that may be raised in connection with the Final Approval Hearing.

26 7. Plaintiff Ryan Cornateanu is conditionally approved as the class representative for the
27 Settlement Class.

28 8. Plaintiff's Counsel (Todd Friedman and Adrian Bacon of the Law Offices of Todd M.
Friedman, P.C.) is conditionally approved as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class.

9. A Final Approval Hearing on the question of whether the Settlement, attorneys' fees
and costs to Class Counsel, and, if Plaintiff moves for a Class Representative Service Payment, the
amount of any such request, as fair, reasonable and adequate as to the Settlement Class is scheduled
in Department 10 on the date and time set forth below.

1 10. The estimated Administration Expense Payment of up to \$300,000.00 in costs to be
2 paid by Defendant to the Administrator separate from (and not out of) the Gross Settlement Amount,
3 as further provided in the Settlement Agreement, are hereby conditionally approved.

4 11. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Class Notice in substantially the
5 form(s) attached to the Declaration of Todd Friedman submitted in conjunction with the Motion and
6 attached as Exhibits B, C and D to the Settlement Agreement, as applicable. The Court approves the
7 procedures for Class Members to participate in, to request exclusion from, and to object to the
8 Settlement as set forth in the Class Notice and Settlement Agreement.

9 12. The Court directs the provision of Class Notice by email, and if valid email addresses
10 are not available, then by first class mail to all known Class Members in accordance with the terms of
11 the Settlement Agreement and as summarized in the Implementation Schedule set forth in below. The
12 Court finds the dates selected for the distribution of the Class Notice, as set forth in the Settlement
13 Agreement and Implementation Schedule, meet the requirements of due process and provide the best
14 notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons
15 entitled thereto.

16 13. Any Class Member may choose to opt-out of and be excluded from the Class, as
17 provided in the Settlement Agreement, by following the instructions for requesting exclusion from the
18 Class that are set forth in the Class Notice and Settlement Agreement. Any such person who chooses
19 to opt-out of and be excluded from the Class will not be entitled to any recovery under the Settlement
20 and will not be bound by the Settlement or have any right to object, appeal, or comment thereon. Any
21 Request for Exclusion be signed by each such person opting out. Class Members who have not
22 requested exclusion shall be bound by all determinations of the Court, the Settlement, and Judgment.

23 14. Only Participating Class Members may object to the Settlement. Participating Class
24 Members may object in writing, provided that they do so by filing their objections with the Court and
25 sending a copy to the Administrator, by fax, email, or mail, no later than the Response Deadline. Any
26 written objections must contain: (i) the Class Member's full name; and (ii) attested facts supporting
27 the person's status as a Class Member. In the alternative, any Participating Class Members may appear
28 in Court (or hire at their personal expense an attorney to appear in Court) at the Final Approval Hearing
to present oral objections. If the objecting Participating Class Member (or the objecting Participating
Class Member's counsel) intends to request the Court to allow the Participating Class Member to call
witnesses at the Final Approval Hearing, they must file and serve on Class Counsel and Defense
Counsel a list of any such witnesses and a summary of each witness's expected testimony.

 15. The Settlement is not a concession or admission, and shall not be used against

1 Defendant or any of the Released Parties as an admission or indication with respect to any claim of
2 any fault or omission by Defendant, or any of the Released Parties. Whether or not the Settlement is
3 finally approved, neither the Settlement, nor any document, statement, proceeding, or conduct related
4 to the Settlement, nor any reports or accounts thereof, shall in any event be:

5 a. Construed as, offered or admitted in evidence as, received as or deemed to be evidence
6 for any purpose adverse to the Released Parties, including, but not limited to, evidence of a
7 presumption, concession, indication, or admission by Defendant or any of the Released Parties
8 of any liability, fault, wrongdoing, omission, concession, or damage; or

9 b. Disclosed, referred to, or offered or received in evidence against Defendant or any of
10 the Released Parties in any further proceeding in the Action, or in any other civil, criminal, or
11 administrative action or proceeding, except for purposes of settling the Action pursuant to the
12 Settlement.

13 16. In the event the Settlement does not become effective in accordance with the terms of
14 the Settlement, or the Settlement is not finally approved, or is terminated, canceled or fails to become
15 effective for any reason, this Order shall be rendered null and void and shall be vacated, and the Parties
16 shall revert to their respective positions as of before entering into the Stipulation.

17 17. All pretrial proceedings and deadlines are stayed and suspended until further notice
18 from the Court, except for such actions as are necessary to implement the Settlement Agreement and
19 this Order.

20 18. The Court orders the following **Implementation Schedule** for further proceedings:

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| a. | Deadline for Settlement Administrator to
Provide Notice to Class Members: | <u>12/12/25</u>
[60 days after entry of
Preliminary Approval Order] |
| b. | Claim Deadline: | <u>2/10/26</u>
[120 days after entry of
Preliminary Approval Order] |
| c. | Objection/Exclusion Deadline: | <u>2/10/26</u>
[120 days after entry of
Preliminary Approval Order] |
| e. | Deadline for Class Counsel to file Motion
for Final Approval of Class Action
Settlement: | <u>3/16/26</u>
.....
[16 court days before the Final |

Approval Hearing Date]

- f. Deadline for Class Counsel to file Motion for Attorneys’ Fees, Costs and Class Representative Service Payment: 3/16/26
[16 court days before the Final Approval Hearing Date]

- g. Deadline for Settlement Administrator to Provide Declaration Detailing Distribution of Class Notice/Claims/Opt Outs/Objections: 3/2/26
[26 court days before the Final Approval Hearing Date]

- h. Deadline to Submit Any Responses to Objections: 3/16/26

- g. Final Approval Hearing Date: 4/8/26 at 10 a.m.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 10/13, 2025

BY 
Hon. William F. Highberger
Superior Court Judge