

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND
9TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

MATTHEW FARST, *individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated*,

Plaintiff,

v.

AUTOZONE, INC. and AUTOZONE.COM, INC.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2024-00002

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

AND NOW, this 16th day of July, 2025, upon consideration of Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement (the "Motion"), the terms of which are set forth in a Settlement Agreement with accompanying exhibits attached to Plaintiff's Motion (the "Settlement Agreement"),¹ we GRANT the Motion and order as follows:

1. **Class Certification for Settlement Purposes Only.** The Settlement Agreement provides for a Settlement Class defined as follows:

All persons residing within the State of Pennsylvania, from two years prior to the filing of this action to the present, who: (1) placed an order on Defendants' website; (2) while Defendants' website was equipped with Session Replay technology; and (3) were not members of the AutoZone Rewards program.

Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (i) Defendants, their officers and directors; (ii) all Settlement Class Members who timely and validly request exclusion from the Settlement Class; and (iii) any judges assigned to this case and their staff and family.

¹ All capitalized terms herein have the same meaning as set forth in the Settlement Agreement unless otherwise specified.

Defendant represents that the Settlement Class comprises approximately 61,000 individuals.

Pursuant to 231 Pa. Code 1700 *et. seq.* the Court finds that giving notice is justified. The Court finds that it will likely be able to approve the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate. The Court finds also that it will likely be able to certify the Settlement Class for purposes of judgment on the Settlement because it meets all of the requirements of the Pennsylvania Code.

Specifically, the Court finds for settlement purposes only that: (a) the Settlement Class is so numerous that joinder of all Settlement Class Members would be impracticable; (b) there are issues of law and fact that are common to the Settlement Class; (c) the claims and defenses of the Settlement Class Representative are typical of the claims and defenses of the Settlement Class; (d) the Settlement Class Representative will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Settlement Class under the criteria set forth in 231 Pa. Code Sec. 1709; (e) a class action provides a fair and efficient method for adjudication of the controversy under the criteria set forth in 231 Pa. Code Sec. 1708.

2. **Settlement Class Representative and Settlement Class Counsel.** The Court finds that Plaintiff Matthew Farst should be appointed as Settlement Class Representative. Additionally, the Court finds that Ari Marcus of Marcus Zelman, LLC, Andrew Shamis of Shamis & Gentile, P.A., and Joseph Kanee of The Kanee Law Firm, PLLC should be appointed as Class Counsel.

3. **Preliminary Settlement Approval.** Upon preliminary review, the Court finds the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate to warrant providing Notice of Settlement to the Settlement Class and accordingly is preliminarily approved. In making this determination, the Court has considered the benefits provided to the Settlement Class through the Settlement, the specific risks faced by the Settlement Class in prevailing on their claims, the stage of the

proceedings at which the Settlement was reached and the discovery that was conducted, the effectiveness of the proposed method for distributing relief to the Settlement Class, the proposed manner of allocating benefits to Settlement Class Members, and all of the other factors required.

4. **Jurisdiction.** The Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to Pa. Cons. Art. 5 sec. 5 and 42 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 931, and personal jurisdiction pursuant to 42 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 5301. Additionally, venue is proper in this District pursuant to Pa. R. Civ. P. 2179(a).

5. **Final Approval Hearing.** A Final Approval Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., in Courtroom Number 1, Cumberland County Courthouse, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to determine, among other things, whether: (a) this Litigation should be finally certified as a class action for settlement purposes; (b) the Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable and adequate, and be finally approved; (c) this Litigation should be dismissed with prejudice pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement; (d) Settlement Class Members should be bound by the releases set forth in the Settlement Agreement; (e) the application of Settlement Class Counsel for an award of Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Expenses should be approved; and (f) the application of the Settlement Class Representative for a Service Award should be approved.

6. **Claims Administrator.** The Court appoints Angeion Group ("Angeion") as the Claims Administrator, with responsibility for class notice and claims administration. The Claims Administrator is directed to perform all tasks the Settlement Agreement requires. The Claims Administrator's fees will be paid by Defendant pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

7. **Notice.** The proposed Notice Plan set forth in the Settlement Agreement and the Notices and Claim Form attached to the Settlement Agreement are hereby approved. Non-material modifications to these Exhibits may be made with approval by the parties but without further order of the Court.

8. **Findings Concerning Notice.** The Court finds that the proposed form, content, and method of giving Notice to the Settlement Class as described in the Settlement Agreement and its Exhibits: (a) will constitute the best practicable notice to the Settlement Class; (b) are reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Settlement Class Members of the pendency of the Litigation, the terms of the proposed Settlement, and their rights under the proposed Settlement, including but not limited to their rights to object to or exclude themselves from the proposed Settlement and other rights under the terms of the Settlement Agreement; (c) are reasonable and constitute due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all Settlement Class Members and other persons entitled to receive notice; (d) meet all applicable requirements of law; and (e), and the Due Process Clause(s) of the United States Constitution. The Court further finds that the Notice is written in plain language, uses simple terminology, and is designed to be readily understandable by Settlement Class Members.

The Claims Administrator is directed to carry out the Notice in conformance with the Settlement Agreement.

9. **Exclusion from Class.** Any Settlement Class Member who wishes to be excluded from the Settlement Class must submit a written opt-out Exclusion Request to the Claims Administrator at the address and in the manner provided in the Notice. Such opt-out Exclusion Requests must meet the Opt-Out Deadline established by this Order and stated in the Notice.

An opt-out Exclusion Request must state that the Settlement Class Member wants to be excluded from the Settlement in *Farst v. AutoZone, Inc. et al.*, and must include the Class Member's name, address, telephone number and unique identifier of the Class Member seeking exclusion, identify any lawyer representing the Class Member seeking to opt out, be physically signed by the person seeking exclusion and must contain a statement to the effect that "I hereby

request to be excluded from the proposed Settlement Class in ‘*Farst v. AutoZone, Inc. et al.*.’” An Opt-Out Exclusion Request that does not include the foregoing information, or that is sent to an address other than the one designated in the Notice, or that is not postmarked within the specified time shall be invalid and the Settlement Class Member serving such a request shall, if the Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal is entered, be considered a Settlement Class Member and shall be bound by any judgment entered herein with respect to the Settlement Class.

If the Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal is entered, any Settlement Class Member who has not submitted a timely, valid written Opt-Out Exclusion Request from the Settlement Class shall be bound by all subsequent proceedings, orders, and judgments in this Litigation, including but not limited to the release set forth in the Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal. Settlement Class Members who submit valid and timely Opt-Out Exclusion Requests shall not be entitled to receive any benefits from the Settlement.

11. **Objections and Appearances.** Any Settlement Class Member may object to the Settlement, Settlement Class Counsel’s request for Attorneys’ Fee Award and Costs, or the request for the Service Award payment to the Settlement Class Representative; provided, however, that no Settlement Class Member shall be heard or entitled to contest such matters, unless they have filed in this Action the objection, together with any briefs, papers, statements, or other materials the Class Member or other person wishes the Court to consider by the Notice Date in this order and on the Notice. For the objection to be considered by the Court, the objection must be in writing and must clearly: (i) the name of the proceedings; (ii) the Settlement Class Member’s full name and current mailing address; (iii) a statement that states with specificity the grounds for the objection, as well as any documents supporting the objection; (iv) the identity of any attorneys representing the objector; (v) a statement regarding whether the Settlement Class Member (or

his/her attorney) intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing; and (vi) the signature of the Settlement Class Member or the Settlement Class Member's attorney. All objections must be submitted to the Settlement Administrator at the address identified on the Long Notice, and to the Court either by mailing them to: Prothonotary, Cumberland County Court of Common Pleas, 1 Courthouse Square, Suite 100, Carlisle, PA 17103, or by filing them in person at the Courthouse.

Any Settlement Class Member who fails to comply with the provisions in this Order will waive and forfeit any and all rights they may have to object, will have their objection stricken from the record, and will lose their rights to appeal from approval of the Settlement. Any such Settlement Class Member also shall be bound by all subsequent proceedings, orders, and judgments in this Litigation, including but not limited to the release set forth in the Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal if entered.

12. **Claims Process.**

Settlement Class Counsel and Counsel for Defendants have created a process for Settlement Class Members to claim benefits under the Settlement. The Court preliminarily approves this process and directs the Claims Administrator to make the Claim Form or its substantial equivalent available to Settlement Class Members in the manner specified in the Notice.

The Claims Administrator will be responsible for effectuating the claims process.

Settlement Class Members who qualify for and wish to submit a Claim Form shall do so in accordance with the requirements and procedures specified in the Notice and the Claim Form. If the Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal is entered, all Settlement Class Members who qualify for any benefit under the Settlement but fail to submit a claim in accordance with the requirements and procedures specified in the Notice and the Claim Form shall be forever barred from receiving

any such benefit, but will in all other respects be subject to and bound by the provisions in the Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal, including the release.

13. **Termination of Settlement.** This Order shall become null and void and shall be without prejudice to the rights of the parties, all of whom shall be restored to their respective positions existing immediately before the Court entered this Order, if: (a) the Settlement is not finally approved by the Court or is terminated in accordance with the Settlement Agreement; or (b) there is no Effective Date. In such event, the Settlement and Settlement Agreement shall become null and void and be of no further force and effect, and neither the Settlement Agreement nor the Court's orders, including this Order, relating to the Settlement shall be used or referred to for any purpose whatsoever.

14. **Use of Order.** This Order shall be of no force or effect if the Final Judgment and Order of Dismissal is not entered or there is no Effective Date and shall not be construed or used as an admission, concession, or declaration by or against Defendants of any fault, wrongdoing, breach, or liability. Nor shall this Order be construed or used as an admission, concession, or declaration by or against the Settlement Class Representative or any other Settlement Class Member that his or her claims lack merit or that the relief requested is inappropriate, improper, unavailable, or as a waiver by any party of any defense or claims they may have in this Litigation or in any other lawsuit.

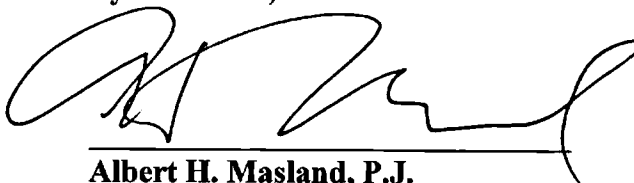
15. **Continuance of Hearing.** The Court reserves the right to adjourn or continue the Final Approval Hearing and related deadlines without further written notice to the Settlement Class. If the Court alters any of those dates or times, the revised dates and times shall be posted on the Settlement Website maintained by the Claims Administrator. The Court may approve the Settlement, with such modifications as may be agreed upon by the parties, if appropriate, without

further notice to the Settlement Class.

16. **Schedule and Deadlines.** The Court orders the following schedule of dates for the specified actions/further proceedings:

Event	Date
Notice Deadline	30 days after entry of this Preliminary Approval Order
Motion for Attorneys' Fees, Reimbursement of Costs and Expenses, and Service Awards to be Filed by Class Counsel	At least 14 days before the Opt-Out/Objection Deadline
Deadline for requests for Exclusion (Opt-Out) or Objections	60 days after the Notice Deadline
Claims Deadline	90 days after the Notice Deadline
Motion for Final Approval to be Filed by Class Counsel	No later than 14 days before the Final Approval Hearing
Final Approval Hearing	No earlier than 120 days after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order

By the Court,



Albert H. Masland, P.J.