# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

| DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY                              |                      |
|---|----------------------|
|   | X                    |
| Michael Johnson, on behalf of himself and situated, | all others similarly |

Plaintiff,

v.

Comodo Group, Inc.,

Defendant.



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## NOTICE REGARDING RIGHT TO BENEFIT FROM CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

A Settlement Agreement has been reached in a class action lawsuit alleging that Comodo Group, Inc. ("Comodo") unlawfully used prerecorded messages in telemarketing calls to sell SSL certificates. A \$1,625,000 Settlement Fund has been agreed upon, which, after deducting attorneys' fees, costs, an incentive award to the Class Representative (Michael Johnson) and settlement administration costs, will be used to pay Class Members who submit Valid Claims. Each Class Member who submits a Valid Claim Form is entitled to up to \$1,500 per each prerecorded call as reflected in the call records. Each Class Member will receive an equal amount per phone call.

Cash payment amounts will depend on the total number of Valid Claims filed by all Class Members and the amount of money remaining in the fund after making the deductions listed above. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act, so <u>read</u> this notice carefully.

## VISIT WWW.COMODOTCPA.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FOR UPDATES.

| YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS   |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Option 1:                       | Complete and submit a Claim Form and receive a share of the Settlement Fund.   |  |
| Submit a Claim<br>Form          | By completing and submitting a Claim Form, you may recover a pro-rata share of the Settlement Fund. This is the only way to claim and receive money from the Fund. |  |
| Deadline:<br>September 15, 2025 |  |  |
| Option 2:                       | Get out of this lawsuit and get no benefits from it.   |  |
| Ask to be Excluded              | You may ask to be excluded from the lawsuit. By excluding yourself, you remove yourself from the   |  |
| Deadline:<br>September 15, 2025 | Class, receive no rights under the settlement and you keep the right to sue on your own.   |  |
| Option 3:                       | Object to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.   |  |
| Object to the<br>Settlement     | You may object to the terms of the Settlement Agreement and have your objections heard at the October 27, 2025 Final Approval Hearing.                             |  |
| Deadline:<br>September 15, 2025 |  |  |

## 1. What is this lawsuit about?

Johnson claims that Comodo violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act ("TCPA") by using a prerecorded telemarketing message in calls placed to him. The message set forth:

Hello. We are calling in regards to an expiring security certificate on one of your websites and like to talk to you about some renewal options. If you can give us a call back at 973-915-3190, again the number is 973-915-3190. Thank you.

Johnson claims that he was not a customer of Comodo, he did not have a security certificate with Comodo, and Comodo did not have his prior express consent to use prerecorded messages on telemarketing calls. Johnson alleges that Comodo violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 by using prerecorded calls to his cellular telephone without his prior express consent. The TCPA carries statutory damages of \$500 to \$1,500 per each unlawful call.

Comodo denies any wrongdoing, denies that it used prerecorded messages that would trigger Section 227(b) of the TCPA, denies that it did not have prior express consent, and denies that it violated the TCPA or any other law.

The case is titled *Michael Johnson v. Comodo Group, Inc.*, 16-cv-04469, and it is pending in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.

You can read Plaintiff's Complaint, Defendant's Answer to the Complaint, the Class Certification Order and other case documents at <a href="https://www.ComodoTCPA.com">www.ComodoTCPA.com</a>.

## 2. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, a Class Representative (in this case, Plaintiff Michael Johnson) sues on behalf of a group (or a "Class") of people. Here, the Class Representative sues on behalf of people who Plaintiff alleges Comodo called using a prerecorded or artificial voice for telemarketing purposes where Comodo did not have prior express consent. In a Class Action, one court resolves the issues for everyone in the Class—except for those people who choose to exclude themselves from the Class.

You can read Plaintiff's Complaint, the Class Certification Order and other case documents at www.ComodoTCPA.com.

## 3. How do I know if I am a part of the Class?

The Class is (1) All persons in the United States (2) to whose cellular telephone number Comodo made a telemarketing call (3) using a prerecorded voice (4) within four years of the filing of the complaint.

Four years before the filing of the complaint was July 22, 2012.

#### 4. How do I recover?

Submit a Claim Form. This is the only way to get a payment. If you are a member of the Class and submit a Valid Claim Form, you are entitled to receive a share of the Settlement Fund.

The final cash payment will depend on a number of factors, including the total number of valid and timely claims filed by all Class Members as determined by the Settlement Administrator. Each claiming Class Member will be entitled to an equal share of the Settlement Fund, up to \$1,500, for each phone call that used a prerecorded voice, after deductions from the fund for administrative costs, attorneys' fees and expenses, and any incentive award to the Plaintiff.

You can submit a Claim Form online at www.ComodoTCPA.com

Or, you can download Claim Form and mail it to:

P.O. Box 301134 Los Angeles, CA 90030-1134

All Claim Forms must be postmarked or filed online no later than September 15, 2025.

After all Valid Claim Forms are counted, and the settlement is given final approval by the Court, the Settlement Administrator will provide each claiming Class Member their share of the Settlement Fund after the deductions above. Any excess settlement funds or benefit checks not cashed by Class Members will be provided to a charitable organization.

## 5. What am I giving up to receive these benefits?

By staying in the Class, all of the Court's orders will apply to you, and you give a "release" for any claims arising from or related to Comodo's prerecorded messages. A release means you cannot sue or be part of any other lawsuit against Comodo and/or the Released Parties (as defined in the Settlement Agreement) about the claims or issues in this lawsuit and you will be bound by the Settlement Agreement.

## 6. How much will the Class Representatives receive?

The Class Representative will receive his portion of the settlement as a Class Member and an incentive award for having pursued this action. Any incentive payment is subject to Court Approval. The Class Representative will request an incentive award of up to \$40,000.

#### 7. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

To represent the Class, the Court has appointed attorneys with the law firm of Lemberg Law, LLC, 43 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897 as "Class Counsel."

Class Counsel will request an award of attorneys' fees of up to 45% of the Settlement Fund and for reimbursement of expenses. Any attorneys' fees and expense award is subject to Court Approval. You may hire your own attorney, but only at your own expense.

## 8. I don't want to be part of this case, how do I ask to be excluded?

If you don't want a payment from this settlement or be bound by any of the Court's decisions, but you want to keep the right to individually sue the Defendant about the issues in this case, then you must take steps to get out of the settlement. This is called excluding yourself, or "opting out" of the Class. To request to exclude yourself, you must send a letter by mail with: (a) the Requester's full name, address, and the name of the Action and telephone number; (b) the telephone number at which the Requester received a prerecorded message that is the subject of this Settlement Agreement; (c) the Requester's personal and original signature, or the original signature of a person previously authorized by law, such as a trustee, guardian, or person acting under a valid power of attorney, to act on behalf of the Requester; and (d) state unequivocally that the Requester desires to be excluded from the Class.

You must mail your exclusion request postmarked no later than September 15, 2025 to P.O. Box 301134 Los Angeles, CA 90030-1134.

#### 9. How do I object?

Any Class Member who has not requested to be excluded from the Class may object to the settlement. In order to exercise this right, you must submit your objection to the Court by the Objection Deadline. Your objection must: (i) set forth the Class Member's full name, current address, and telephone number; (ii) identify the phone number of the Class Member at which the Class Member received a prerecorded message that is the subject of this Settlement Agreement; (iii) contain the Class Member's original signature or the original signature of a person previously authorized by law, such as a trustee, guardian, or person acting under a valid power of attorney, to act on behalf of the Class Member, or the signature of counsel for the Class Member; (iv) state that the Class Member objects to the settlement, in whole or in part; (v) set forth the complete legal and factual bases for the Objection; (vi) provide copies of any documents that the Class Member wishes to submit in support of his/her position; and (vii) state whether the objecting Class Member intends on appearing at the Final Approval Hearing either *pro se* or through counsel and whether the objecting Class Member plans on offering testimony at the Final Approval Hearing. Any Class Member that fails to object in the manner set forth herein shall be foreclosed from making such objection or opposition, by appeal, collateral attack, or otherwise and shall be bound by all of the terms of this settlement upon Final Approval and by all proceedings, orders and judgments, including but not limited to the Release in this Action.

Objections must be filed with the Clerk of the Court no later than September 15, 2025, and must be mailed to Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel no later than September 15, 2025.

The Court's address is: Clerk of the Court, District of New Jersey, 50 Walnut St., #4015, Newark, NJ 07102.

Class Counsel's address is: Lemberg Law, LLC, 43 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897 Defendant's counsel's address is: Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, One Jefferson Road, 2nd Floor, Parsippany, NJ 07054 and Three World Trade Center, 175 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10007

#### The Final Approval Hearing

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on **October 27, 2025**, in the courtroom of the Hon. Jamel K. Semper, U.S. Courthouse, District of New Jersey, 50 Walnut St., #4015, Newark, NJ 07102. The purpose of the hearing will be for the Court to determine whether the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and in the best interests of the Class and to rule on applications for compensation for Class Counsel and an incentive award for the Class Representative. At that hearing, the Court will be available to hear any objections and arguments concerning the fairness of the proposed settlement.

YOU ARE <u>NOT</u> REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS HEARING TO BENEFIT FROM THIS SETTLEMENT. The hearing may be postponed to a later date without notice.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information and documents, including case documents, are available at <a href="www.ComodoTCPA.com">www.ComodoTCPA.com</a>, or you can call 1-833-777-7781.