

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HILLSBOROUGH, SS
NORTHERN DISTRICT

SUPERIOR COURT

CIVIL ACTION NO. 217-2025-CV-00292

KAREN DESMARAIS, KIRI CHAPMAN on behalf of her minor child P.C., ANDREA MAIN, PATRICIA ANSLEY, CLAIRE WASHBURN, JAMES WALLEN on behalf of his minor child A.W., LISA GIGUERE, TOREY DUGGAN, MICHAEL LEBLANC, JONATHAN PAQUET, JENNY HARRINGTON, and SHAWN HENNESSEY individually and on behalf of those similarly situated,

v.

CONCORD ORTHOPAEDICS PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

~~PROPOSED~~ **PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER**

Before the Court is Plaintiffs' Karen Desmarais, Kiri Chapman on behalf of her minor child P.C., Andrea Main, Patricia Ansley, Claire Washburn, James Wallen on behalf of his minor child A.W., Lisa Giguere, Torey Duggan, Michael Leblanc, Jonathan Paquet, Jenny Harrington, and Shawn Hennessey ("Plaintiffs") Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement (**Doc. No. __**) (the "Motion"), the terms of which are set forth in a Settlement Agreement between Plaintiffs and Defendant Concord Orthopaedics Professional Association ("Concord," and together with Plaintiffs, the "Parties"), with accompanying exhibits attached as **Exhibit 1** to Plaintiffs' Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of their Motion (the "Settlement Agreement").¹ Having fully considered the issue, the Court hereby **GRANTS** the Motion and **ORDERS** as follows:

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

¹ All defined terms in this Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement ("Preliminary Approval Order") have the same meaning as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, unless otherwise indicated.

All individuals within the United States whose Private Information was accessed in the Data Breach.

Excluded from the Settlement Class are (1) the judges presiding over this Action, and members of their direct families; (2) the Defendant, its subsidiaries, parent companies, successors, predecessors, and any entity in which Defendant or its parents have a controlling interest, and any of their current or former officers and directors; and (3) Settlement Class Members who submit a valid Request for Exclusion prior to the Opt-Out Deadline.

Pursuant to New Hampshire Rule of Civil Procedure 16(e), 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 also finds 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 Rule 16(a). Specifically, the Court finds for settlement purposes only that: (a) the Settlement Class are 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 that predominate over any questions affecting only individual members; (c) the claims of the Settlement Class Representatives are typical, (d) the Settlement Class Representatives will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Settlement Class; (e) and a class action and class settlement is superior to other methods available for a fair and efficient resolution of this Litigation.

2. **Settlement Class Representatives and Settlement Class Counsel.** The Court finds that Plaintiffs Karen Desmarais, Kiri Chapman on behalf of her minor child P.C., Andrea Main, Patricia Ansley, Claire Washburn, James Wallen on behalf of his minor child A.W., Lisa Giguere, Torey Duggan, Michael Leblanc, Jonathan Paquet, Jenny Harrington, and Shawn Hennessey will likely satisfy the requirements of Rule 16 and should be appointed as the Settlement Class Representatives. Additionally, the Court finds that Leanna A. Loginov of Shamis

& Gentile, P.A. as Class Counsel will likely satisfy the requirements of Rule 16 and should be appointed as Settlement Class Counsel.

3. **Preliminary Settlement Approval.** Upon preliminary review, the Court finds the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate to warrant providing notice of the Settlement to the Settlement Class and accordingly is preliminarily approved. In making this determination, the Court has considered the monetary and non-monetary benefits provided to the Settlement Class through the Settlement, the specific risks faced by the Settlement Class in prevailing on their claims, the good faith, arms' length negotiations between the Parties and absence of any collusion in the Settlement, the effectiveness of the proposed method for distributing relief to the Settlement Class, the proposed manner of allocating benefits to Settlement Class Members, the equitable treatment of the Settlement Class Members under the Settlement, and all of the other factors required by New Hampshire Rule 16 and relevant case law.

4. **Jurisdiction.** The Court has subject-matter jurisdiction pursuant to N.H. Rev. Stat. § 491:7 and personal jurisdiction over the Parties before it. Additionally, venue is proper in this District pursuant to N.H. Rev. Stat § 507:9.

5. **Final Approval Hearing.** A Final Approval Hearing shall be held on at Hillsborough County Superior Courthouse North, 300 Chestnut St., Manchester, NH 03101 [or via telephone or videoconference], on _____, 2026, where the Court will determine, among other things, whether: (a) the Settlement Class should be finally certified for settlement purposes pursuant to Rule 16; (b) the Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate, and finally approved pursuant to Rule 16; (c) this Action should be dismissed with prejudice pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement; (d) Settlement Class Members (who have not timely and validly excluded themselves from the Settlement) 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 Representatives for a Service Award should be approved.

6. **Settlement Administrator**. The Court appoints Simpluris, Inc. as the Settlement Administrator, with responsibility for class notice and settlement administration. The Settlement Administrator is directed to perform all tasks the Settlement Agreement requires. The Settlement Administrator's fees will be paid pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

7. **Notice**. The proposed Notice Program set forth in the Settlement Agreement and the Notices and Claim Form attached to the Settlement Agreement as **Exhibits 2-4** are hereby approved. Non-material modifications to these Exhibits may be made by the Settlement Administrator in consultation and agreement with 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 Action, 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, including Rule 16; and (e) and meet the requirements of the Due Process Clause(s) of the United States and New Hampshire Constitutions. The Court further finds that the Notice provided for in the Settlement

Agreement is written in plain language, uses simple terminology, and is designed to be readily understandable by Settlement Class Members.

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

9. **Exclusion from Class.** Any Settlement Class Member who wishes to be excluded from the Settlement Class must individually sign and timely submit a written request to the designated address established by the Settlement Administrator in the manner provided in the Notice. The written request must clearly manifest a person's intent to be excluded from the Settlement Class, as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, and must be submitted individually, *i.e.*, one request is required for every Settlement Class Member seeking exclusion. To be effective, such requests for exclusion must be postmarked no later than the Opt-Out Deadline, which is no later than thirty (30) days before the Final Approval Hearing, and as stated in the Notice.

Within fourteen (14) days after the Opt-Out Deadline, the Settlement Administrator shall furnish to Class Counsel and to Defendant's Counsel a complete list of all timely and valid requests for exclusion.

If a Final Approval Order and Judgment is entered, all Persons falling within the definition of the Settlement Class who do not timely and validly request to be excluded from the Settlement Class shall be bound by the terms of this Settlement Agreement and the Final Approval Order and Judgment. All Persons who submit valid and timely requests to be excluded from the Settlement Class shall not receive any cash benefits of and/or be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

10. **Objections and Appearances.** A Settlement Class Member (who does not submit a timely written request for exclusion) desiring to object to the Settlement Agreement may submit

a timely written objection by the Objection Deadline as stated in the Notice. The Notice shall instruct Settlement Class Members who wish to object to the Settlement Agreement to file their objections with the Court. The Notice also shall advise Settlement Class Members of the deadline for submission of any objections—the “Objection Deadline.” Any such objections to the Settlement Agreement must be written and must include all of the following: (i) the objector’s full name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address (if any); (ii) the name of the Action: *Montambeault, et al. v. Concord Orthopaedics Professional Association*, Case No. 217-2025-CV-00292, pending in the Superior Court of Hillsborough County, New Hampshire (iii) all grounds for the objection, accompanied by any legal support for the objection known to the objector or objector’s counsel; (iv) the number of times the objector has objected to a class action settlement within the five (5) 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; (v) 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 Award; (vi) 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 (5) 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; (vii) the identity of all counsel (if any) representing the objector, and whether they will appear at the Final Approval Hearing;

(viii) a list of all persons who will be called to testify at the Final Approval Hearing in support of the objection (if any); (ix) statement confirming whether the objector intends to personally appear and/or testify at the Final Approval Hearing; and (x) the objector's signature.

To be timely, written notice of an objection must be filed with the Clerk of Court by the Objection Deadline, which is no later than thirty (30) days before the Final Approval Hearing.

Any Settlement Class Member who fails to comply with the requirements for objecting shall waive and forfeit any and all rights he or she may have to appear separately and/or to object to the Settlement Agreement, shall be bound by all the terms of the Settlement Agreement and by all proceedings, orders, and judgments in the Action, and shall be precluded from seeking any review of the Settlement Agreement and/or Final Approval Order and Judgment by appeal or other means. The provisions stated in Paragraph 80 of the Settlement Agreement shall be the exclusive means for any challenge to the Settlement Agreement. Any challenge to the Settlement Agreement, the final order approving this Settlement Agreement, or the Final Approval Order and Judgment to be entered upon final approval shall be pursuant to appeal under the Rules of the Supreme Court of the State of New Hampshire and not through a collateral attack.

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

The Settlement 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 requirement and procedures specified in the Notices and the Claim Form. If the Final Order and Judgment 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 Order and Judgment, including the releases contained therein.

12. **Termination of Settlement**. This Preliminary Approval 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 before the Court entered this Preliminary Approval Order and before they entered the Settlement Agreement, if: (a) the Court does not enter this Preliminary Approval Order; (b) Settlement is not finally approved by the Court or is terminated in accordance with the Settlement Agreement; or (c) the Final Order and Judgment does not become Final because a higher court reverses final approval by the Court. In such event, (i) this Settlement Agreement and all orders entered in connection therewith shall be rendered null and void; (ii) the terms and provisions of the Settlement Agreement shall have no further force and effect with respect to the Parties and shall not be used in the Lawsuit or in any other proceeding for any purpose, and any judgment or order entered by the Court in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement shall be treated as vacated, *nunc pro tunc*; (iii) Concord shall be responsible for all Notice and Claims Administration Costs incurred prior to the termination or disapproval; (iv) all Parties shall be deemed to have reverted to their respective positions and status in the Lawsuit as of the date this Settlement Agreement was executed and shall jointly request that a new case schedule be entered by the Court; and (v) Concord shall have no payment, reimbursement, or other financial obligation of any kind as a result of this Settlement Agreement.

13. **Use of Order**. This Preliminary Approval Order shall be of no force or effect if the Final Order and Judgment 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 Defendant of any fault, wrongdoing, breach, liability, or propriety of certifying any class. Nor shall this Preliminary Approval Order be construed or used as an admission, concession, or declaration by or against the Class Representatives 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 Action or in any other lawsuit.

14. **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 Settlement 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.

15. **Stay of Litigation.** All proceedings in the Action, other than those related to approval of the Settlement Agreement, are hereby stayed. Further, any actions brought by Settlement Class Members concerning the Released Claims are hereby enjoined and stayed pending Final Approval of the Settlement Agreement.


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

Event	Deadline
Defendant to provide Class List to Settlement Administrator	10 days following Preliminary Approval
Notice Deadline (Notice commencement date)	30 days following Preliminary Approval
Motion for Final Approval inclusive of Application for Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Service Awards	45 days before the Final Approval Hearing

Event	Deadline
Objection Deadline	30 days before the Final Approval Hearing
Opt-Out Deadline	30 days before the Final Approval Hearing
Claim Form Deadline	15 days after the Final Approval Hearing
Final Approval Hearing	June 23, 2026 at 10 a.m.

IT IS SO ORDERED

_____ Dated


 _____ Judge Honorable David A. Anderson
 February 24, 2026

Clerk's Notice of Decision
 Document Sent to Parties
 on 02/25/2026