UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TAMPA DIVISION

DANIEL PRUITT, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CASE NO.:

BEST BUY CO., INC.,

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1. Named Plaintiff Daniel Pruitt ("Plaintiff"), files this Class Action Complaint alleging Best Buy, L.P. ("Best Buy") violated the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as amended by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 ("COBRA"), by failing to provide him with a COBRA notice that complies with the law.

2 Despite having access to the Department of Labor's Model COBRA form, Best Buy chose not to use the model form— presumably to save Best Buy money because COBRA coverage is inherently expensive for employers. A copy of the Model Form is attached as Exhibit A.

3. In fact, according to one Congressional research service study, "...[The] average claim costs for COBRA beneficiaries exceeded the average claim for an active employee by 53%. The average annual health insurance cost per active employee was \$7,190, and the COBRA cost was \$10,988.14. The Spencer & Associates analysts contend

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that this indicates that the COBRA population is sicker than active-covered employees and that the 2% administrative fee allowed in the law is insufficient to offset the difference in actual claims costs." *Health Insurance Continuation Coverage Under COBRA*, Congressional Research Service, Janet Kinzer, July 11, 2013.

4. The deficient COBRA notices at issue in this lawsuit both confused and misled Plaintiff. It also caused Plaintiff economic injuries in the form of lost health insurance and unpaid medical bills, as well as informational injuries.

5. Best Buy, the plan sponsor and plan administrator of the Best Buy Health and Welfare Plan ("Plan"), has repeatedly violated ERISA by failing to provide participants and beneficiaries in the Plan with adequate notice, as prescribed by COBRA, of their right to continue their health coverage upon the occurrence of a "qualifying event" as defined by the statute.

6. Simply put, Defendant's COBRA notice and process violates the law. Rather than including all information required by law in a single notice "written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant," Defendant's COBRA notification process instead offers only part of the legally required information.

7. For example, Defendant's "COBRA Enrollment Notice," dated November 15, 2019, and attached as Exhibit B, violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(v) because the notice <u>itself</u> never actually explains how to enroll in COBRA, nor does it bother including a physical election form (both of which the model Department of Labor form includes).

8. Instead, Defendant's COBRA enrollment notice merely directs plan participants to a "catch-all" general H.R. phone number to enroll in COBRA, and website,

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operated by a third-party disguised as Best Buy's HR department, rather than explaining how to actually enroll in COBRA. But the COBRA notice contains no instructions on how to actually enroll if one calls the phone number, or when one visits the website.

9. Additionally, Defendant's COBRA enrollment notice violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606–4(b)(4)(xii) because the COBRA notice itself fails to include an address indicating where COBRA payments should be mailed. It also violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(i) because the COBRA enrollment notice fails to identify the plan administrator. And, Defendant's COBRA enrollment notice violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606–4(b)(4)(xii) because it fails to include information on how COBRA coverage can be lost prematurely, including, for example, because of late payments. Furthermore, the COBRA enrollment notice violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(vi) because it fails to provide all required explanatory information.

10. Because Defendant's COBRA enrollment notice omits the above critical pieces of information, it collectively violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606–4(b)(4), which requires the plan administrator of a group-health plan to provide a COBRA notice "written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant." Without information on *how* to elect COBRA, or *where* to send payments, or *who* is the Plan Administrator, or *what* happens if timely payments are not made, Defendant's COBRA enrollment notice simply is not written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant.

11. As a result of these violations, which threaten Class Members' ability to maintain their health coverage, Plaintiffs seek statutory penalties, injunctive relief,

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attorneys' fees, costs and expenses, and other appropriate relief as set forth herein and provided by law.

JURISDICTION, VENUE, AND PARTIES

12. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1132(e) and (f), and also pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1355.

13. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1132(e)(2). Additionally, ERISA § 502(e)(2) provides that venue is proper "where the plan is administered, where the breach took place, or where a defendant resides or may be found." 29 U.S.C. § 1132(e)(2). Because the breach at issue took place in this District, venue is also proper.

14. Plaintiff is a Florida resident. Daniel Pruitt is a former employee of Defendant for more than 20 years. Daniel Pruitt was covered based on his health plan through Defendant. Plaintiff was thus a participant/beneficiary in the Plan before his termination on November 6, 2019 which constituted a qualifying event within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 1163(2), rendering him a qualified beneficiary of the Plan pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1167(3). Importantly, Daniel Pruitt was not terminated for gross misconduct.

15. Defendant is a corporation with its headquarters in Richfield, Minnesota but is registered to do business in the State of Florida. Defendant employed more than 20 employees who were members of the Plan in each year from 2013 to 2019. Defendant is the Plan sponsor within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §1002(16)(B), and the administrator of the Plan within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 1002(16)(A). The Plan provides medical benefits to employees and their beneficiaries, and is an employee welfare benefit plan within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 1002(1) and a group health plan within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 1167(1).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

COBRA Notice Requirements

16. The COBRA amendments to ERISA included certain provisions relating to continuation of health coverage upon termination of employment or another "qualifying event" as defined by the statute.

17. Among other things, COBRA requires the plan sponsor of each group health plan normally employing more than 20 employees on a typical business day during the preceding year to provide "<u>each</u> qualified beneficiary who would lose coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event ... to elect, within the election period, continuation coverage under the plan." 29 U.S.C. § 1161. (Emphasis added).

18. Notice is of enormous importance. The COBRA notification requirement exists because employees are not expected to know instinctively of their right to continue their healthcare coverage.

19. Moreover, existing case law makes it ostensibly clear that notice is not only required to be delivered to covered employees but to qualifying beneficiaries, as well.

20. COBRA further requires the administrator of such a group health plan to provide notice to any qualified beneficiary of their continuation of coverage rights under COBRA upon the occurrence of a qualifying event. 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a)(4). This notice must be "[i]n accordance with the regulations prescribed by the Secretary" of Labor. 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a).

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21. The relevant regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor concerning

notice of continuation of coverage rights are set forth in 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4 as follows:

(4) The notice required by this paragraph (b) shall be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant and shall contain the following information:

(i) The name of the plan under which continuation coverage is available; and the name, address and telephone number of the party responsible under the plan for the administration of continuation coverage benefits;

(ii) Identification of the qualifying event;

(iii) Identification, by status or name, of the qualified beneficiaries who are recognized by the plan as being entitled to elect continuation coverage with respect to the qualifying event, and the date on which coverage under the plan will terminate (or has terminated) unless continuation coverage is elected;

(iv) A statement that each individual who is a qualified beneficiary with respect to the qualifying event has an independent right to elect continuation coverage, that a covered employee or a qualified beneficiary who is the spouse of the covered employee (or was the spouse of the covered employee on the day before the qualifying event occurred) may elect continuation coverage on behalf of all other qualified beneficiaries with respect to the qualifying event, and that a parent or legal guardian may elect continuation coverage on behalf of a minor child;

(v) An explanation of the plan's procedures for electing continuation coverage, including an explanation of the time period during which the election must be made, and the date by which the election must be made;

(vi) An explanation of the consequences of failing to elect or waiving continuation coverage, including an explanation that a qualified beneficiary's decision whether to elect continuation coverage will affect the future rights of qualified beneficiaries to portability of group health coverage, guaranteed access to individual health coverage, and special enrollment under part 7 of title I of the Act, with a reference to where a qualified beneficiary may obtain additional information about such rights; and a description of the plan's procedures for revoking a waiver of the right to continuation coverage before the date by which the election must be made;

(vii) A description of the continuation coverage that will be made available under the plan, if elected, including the date on which such coverage will commence, either by providing a description of the coverage or by reference to the plan's summary plan description;

(viii) An explanation of the maximum period for which continuation coverage will be available under the plan, if elected; an explanation of the continuation coverage termination date; and an explanation of any events that might cause continuation coverage to be terminated earlier than the end of the maximum period;

(ix) A description of the circumstances (if any) under which the maximum period of continuation coverage may be extended due either to the occurrence of a second qualifying event or a determination by the Social Security Administration, under title II or XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq. or 1381 et seq.) (SSA), that the qualified beneficiary is disabled, and the length of any such extension;

(x) In the case of a notice that offers continuation coverage with a maximum duration of less than 36 months, a description of the plan's requirements regarding the responsibility of qualified beneficiaries to provide notice of a second qualifying event and notice of a disability determination under the SSA, along with a description of the plan's procedures for providing such notices, including the times within which such notices must be provided and the consequences of failing to provide such notices. The notice shall also explain the responsibility of qualified beneficiaries to provide notice that a disabled qualified beneficiary has subsequently been determined to no longer be disabled;

(xi) A description of the amount, if any, that each qualified

beneficiary will be required to pay for continuation coverage;

(xii) A description of the due dates for payments, the qualified beneficiaries' right to pay on a monthly basis, the grace periods for payment, the address to which payments should be sent, and the consequences of delayed payment and non-payment;

(xiii) An explanation of the importance of keeping the administrator informed of the current addresses of all participants or beneficiaries under the plan who are or may become qualified beneficiaries; and

(xiv) A statement that the notice does not fully describe continuation coverage or other rights under the plan, and that more complete information regarding such rights is available in the plan's summary plan description or from the plan administrator.

22. To facilitate compliance with these notice obligations, the United States

Department of Labor ("DOL") has issued a Model COBRA Continuation Coverage Election Notice ("Model Notice"), which is included in the Appendix to 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4. It is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The DOL website states that the DOL "will consider use of the model election notice, appropriately completed, good faith compliance with the election notice content requirements of COBRA."

23. In the event that a plan administrator declines to use the Model Notice and fails to meet the notice requirements of 29 U.S.C. § 1166 and 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4, the administrator is subject to statutory penalties of up to \$110 per participant or beneficiary per day from the date of such failure. 29 U.S.C. § 1132(c)(1). In addition, the Court may order such other relief as it deems proper, including but not limited to injunctive relief pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1132(a)(3) and payment of attorneys' fees and expenses pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1132(g)(1). Such is the case here. Defendant failed to use the Model Notice and failed to meet the notice requirements of 29 U.S.C. § 1166 and 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4, as set forth below.

Defendant's Notice Is Inadequate and Fails to Comply with COBRA

24. Defendant partially adhered to the Model Notice provided by the Secretary

of Labor, but only to the extent that served Defendant's best interests, as critical parts are

omitted or altered in violation of 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4. Defendant authored and

disseminated a notice deviating from the model form in violation of COBRA's

requirements which failed to provide Plaintiff notice of all required coverage information,

as explained further below. A copy of Defendant's first notice is attached hereto as

Exhibit B. Among other things:

- a. Defendant's COBRA enrollment notice, attached as Exhibit B, violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(v) because the notice itself never actually explains how to enroll in COBRA, nor does it bother including a physical election form (both of which the model Department of Labor form includes);
- b. Exhibit B violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(xii) because it fails to provide the address to which payments should be sent;
- c. Exhibit B violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(i) because it fails to provide the name, address and telephone number of the party responsible under the plan for administration of continuation coverage benefits, including as to both the Plan Administrator and COBRA Administrator;
- d. Exhibit B violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(vi) because it fails to provide all required explanatory information. There is no explanation that a qualified beneficiary's decision whether to elect continuation coverage will affect the future rights of qualified beneficiaries to portability of group health coverage, guaranteed access to individual health coverage, and special enrollment under part 7 of title I of the Act; and, finally,

e. Exhibit B violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4) because Defendant has failed to provide a notice written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant.

25. Defendant's COBRA notice confused Plaintiff and resulted in his inability to make an informed decision as to electing COBRA continuation coverage. In fact, Plaintiff Daniel Pruitt was unable to elect COBRA because of the confusing and incomplete Best Buy COBRA notice. For example, the COBRA's notice omission of a payment address left him without information on where to mail payment if elected.

26. As a result, Plaintiff could not make an informed decision about his health insurance and lost health coverage.

Plaintiff's First Concrete Injury: Informational Injury

27. Furthermore, Defendant's deficient COBRA notice caused Plaintiff an informational injury when Defendant failed to provide him with information to which he was entitled to by statute, namely a compliant COBRA election notice containing all information required by 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4) and 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a). Through ERISA and then COBRA, Congress created a right—the right to receive the required COBRA election notice—and an injury—not receiving a proper election notice with information required by 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4) and 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a). Defendant injured Plaintiff and the class members he seeks to represent by failing to provide all information in its notice required by COBRA.

Plaintiff's Second Concrete Injury: Loss of Insurance Coverage

28. Besides the informational injury suffered, Plaintiff also suffered a tangible injury in the form of economic loss, specifically the loss of insurance coverage

and incurred medical bills, due to Defendant's deficient COBRA election notice. Besides a paycheck, insurance is one of the most valuable things employees get in exchange for working for an employer like Defendant. Insurance coverage has a monetary value, the loss of which is a tangible and an economic injury.

Plaintiff Daniel Pruitt

29. Plaintiff Daniel Pruitt is former employee of Defendant and was a participant in Defendant's health plan.

30. Plaintiff Daniel Pruitt's employment was terminated on November 6,2019. Importantly, he was not terminated for gross misconduct.

31. Following this qualifying event, Defendant mailed Plaintiff the deficient COBRA enrollment notice on November 15, 2019. Compounding the confusion created by Exhibit B's omissions, also on November 15, 2019, Defendant mailed to Plaintiff a "Conversion/Portability Notice," attached as Exhibit C, containing information on COBRA.

32. More confusing still, Best Buy mailed a third COBRA notice to Plaintiff on November 15, 2019, labeled as "Important Information About Your COBRA Continuation Coverage," attached as Exhibit D. And while Exhibit C contains some of the information missing from Exhibit B, it does not contain all of it.

33. Moreover, Defendant cannot cure its first form's deficiencies with a "follow up" form. Contrary to Defendant's multi-form system, the applicable regulation mandates use of a single "notice" rather than the dual "notices" Defendant uses. *See* 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(1) ("The administrator shall furnish to each

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qualified beneficiary, not later than 14 days after receipt of the notice of qualifying event, a notice meeting the requirements of paragraph (b)(4) of this section.) (Emphasis added).

34. The deficient COBRA notice that Plaintiff received was violative of COBRA's mandates for the reasons set forth above.

35. Defendant has in place no administrative remedies Plaintiff were required to exhaust prior to bringing suit.

36. Additionally, because no such administrative remedies exist, any attempt to exhaust the same would have been futile.

Violation of 29 C.F.R. 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(v) Failure to explain how to enroll in COBRA

37. The governing statute clearly requires that "[t]he notice ... shall be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant and shall contain the following information:...(v) [a]n explanation of the plan's procedures for electing continuation coverage, including an explanation of the time period during which the election must be made, and the date by which the election must be made." 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(v).

40. As a threshold matter, Defendant's COBRA enrollment notices fail to adequately explain the procedures for electing coverage.

41. Instead, Defendant's COBRA enrollment notice merely directs plan participants to a general phone number, and website, rather than explaining how to actually enroll in COBRA. To further compound the confusion, the Best Buy COBRA enrollment notice contains no instructions on how to actually enroll if one calls the phone number or

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visits the website. The telephone number provided by Best Buy in its COBRA enrollment notice is a "catch-all" number individuals can call with questions about anything benefitrelated, including retirement funds, etc., as is the website.

42. A "catch-all" number provided by Defendant and then routed to a thirdparty call center designed to answer anything HR-related simply cannot meet the strict informational statutory requirements of 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(v) required of all COBRA notices as to enrollment. The same is true as to the generic website link provided. Merely directing individuals to a website link and assuming he/she will be able to figure out how to enroll in COBRA once the website is visited simply is very different than actually explaining how to enroll in COBRA.

43. Unlike the Best Buy COBRA notice, the Model DOL notice provides a near fool-proof way to elect COBRA coverage by providing a physical election form to mail in, the date it is due, the name and address to where election forms should be sent, spaces for the names, social security numbers, and type of coverage elected by each plan participant or beneficiary.

44. Best Buy's COBRA enrollment notice simply does not contain "an explanation of the plan's procedures for electing continuation coverage, including an explanation of the time period during which the election must be made, and the date by which the election must be made" as required by 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(v). Merely telling Plaintiff and the putative class members to call a generic 1-800 number operated by a third-party and hope they are able to figure out how to enroll after they call is not what is legally required in a COBRA notice. Instead, the notice itself must contain information on

how to enroll. Best Buy's simply does not.

Violation of 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(xii) – Failure to provide the address to which payments should be sent

45. Defendant is specifically required to include in its notice the address to which

payments should be sent. 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(xii).

46. The COBRA enrollment notice provided to Plaintiff states "Once enrolled, you'll receive your first bill for the cost of continuing coverage from the date your coverage ended through the end of the month in which you make your COBRA/continuation coverage election. You must submit your first payment within 45 days of when you elected COBRA/continuation coverage." Remarkably, however, the notice fails to actually state where payments are to be sent. This is a per se violation of 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(xii), which on its face requires all COBRA notices include "the address to which payments should be sent."

47. Defendant's attempt to cure this deficiency by providing a mailing address for payment in Exhibit D only demonstrates that Defendant knows this information must be disclosed. But this piecemeal strategy for separating COBRA information does not comport with the law. Rather, as demonstrated by the Model DOL COBRA notice, which is a single cohesive document, 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(xii) contemplates providing the statutorily required information in "a" COBRA notice (singular) rather than in multiple documents which must be read in conjunction with one another for plan participants/beneficiaries to glean the necessary information from.

48. Without this information Plaintiff was left ready and willing, but unable, to properly enroll and maintain continuation coverage.

49. A misrepresentation is material if there is a substantial likelihood that it would mislead a reasonable employee in making an adequately informed decision. Without knowing where to send payment, Plaintiff was misled as to how to enroll in COBRA.

50. Because of the foregoing deficiencies, Defendant's COBRA notice is insufficient. Defendant has misled Plaintiff about the material parameters and procedures surrounding his right to elect Cobra coverage, failing to comply with the requirements made clear by the Code of Federal Regulations.

Violation of 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(vi) – Failure to Include Explanatory Information

51. Defendant's COBRA enrollment notice violates 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(vi) because it fails to provide all required explanatory information. For example, there is simply no explanation that a qualified beneficiary's decision whether to elect continuation coverage will affect the future rights of qualified beneficiaries to portability of group health coverage, guaranteed access to individual health coverage, and special enrollment under part 7 of title I of the Act.

Violation of 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(i) – Failure to Identify Plan Administrator

52. Plaintiff was unable -- based on the Notice -- to ascertain the name, address and telephone number of the party responsible under the plan for the

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administration of continuation coverage benefits.

53. Defendant was required to provide "in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant ... the name, address and telephone number of the party responsible under the plan for administration of continuation coverage benefits." 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606- 4(b)(4)(i). Defendant's Notice fails to comply with this straightforward requirement.

54. Identifying <u>who</u> acted is the Plan Administrator is absolutely critical to know because "the plan administrator bears the burden of proving that adequate COBRA notification was given to the employee." *Griffin v. Neptune Tech. Group*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 48000, 2015 WL 1635939, *9 (M.D. Ala. Apr. 13, 2015); (*citing to Hoffman v. R.F. Group*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 88598, *12, 2015 WL 4139084 (M.D. Fla. May 20, 2015). Best Buy's notice omits this critical and legally required information.

Violation of 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4) – Failure to Provide COBRA Notice Written in a Manner Calculated "To Be Understood By the Average Plan Participant"

55. By failing to adequately explain the procedures for electing coverage, as required by 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(v), coupled with the complete omission of how to actually enroll in COBRA, where to send payment, the consequences for untimely payments, failure to include all required explanatory information, and even who the Plan Administrator is/was, Defendant cumulatively violated 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606- 4(b)(4). This particular section mandates that employers, like Defendant, must provide a notice of continuation coverage written in a manner calculated "to be understood by the average plan participant." Without the aforementioned critical pieces of, Defendant's COBRA notice

cannot be said to be written in a manner calculated "to be understood by the average plan participant." Thus, Defendant violated 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4(b)(4)(v).

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

56. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to the Federal

Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of the following persons:

All participants and beneficiaries in the Defendant's Health Plan who were sent a COBRA notice by Defendant during the applicable statute of limitations period as a result of a qualifying event, as determined by Defendant's records, and did not elect continuation coverage.

57. No administrative remedies exist as a prerequisite to Plaintiff's claims on behalf of the Putative Class. As such, any efforts related to exhausting such non-existent remedies would be futile.

58. <u>Numerosity</u>: The Class is so numerous that joinder of all Class members is

impracticable. On information and belief thousands of individuals satisfy the definition of the Class.

59. <u>Typicality:</u> Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class. The COBRA notice that

Defendant sent to Plaintiff was a form notice that was uniformly provided to all Class members. As such, the COBRA notice that Plaintiff received were typical of the COBRA notices that other Class Members received and suffered from the same deficiencies.

60. <u>Adequacy:</u> Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class members, he has no interests antagonistic to the class, and has retained

counsel experienced in complex class action litigation.

61. <u>Commonality:</u> Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Class, including but not limited to:

- a. Whether the Plan is a group health plan within the meaning of 29U.S.C. § 1167(1).
- b. Whether Defendant's COBRA notice complied with the requirements of 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a) and 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4;
- c. Whether statutory penalties should be imposed against Defendant under 29 U.S.C. § 1132(c)(1) for failing to comply with COBRA notice requirements, and if so, in what amount;
- d. The appropriateness and proper form of any injunctive relief or other equitable relief pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1132(a)(3); and
- e. Whether (and the extent to which) other relief should be granted based on Defendant's failure to comply with COBRA notice requirements.

62. Class Members do not have an interest in pursuing separate individual actions against Defendant, as the amount of each Class Member's individual claims is relatively small compared to the expense and burden of individual prosecution. Class certification also will obviate the need for unduly duplicative litigation that might result in inconsistent judgments concerning Defendant's practices and the adequacy of its COBRA notice. Moreover, management of this action as a class action will not present

any likely difficulties. In the interests of justice and judicial efficiency, it would be desirable to concentrate the litigation of all Class Members' claims in a single action.

63. Plaintiff intends to send notice to all Class Members to the extent required the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The names and addresses of the Class Members are available from Defendant's records.

<u>CLASS CLAIM I FOR RELIEF</u> Violation of 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a) and 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4

64. The Plan is a group health plan within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 1167(1).

65. Defendant is the plan sponsor and plan administrator of the Plan and was subject to the continuation of coverage and notice requirements of COBRA.

66. Plaintiff and the other members of the Class experienced a "qualifying event" as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 1163, and Defendant was aware that they had experienced such a qualifying event.

67. On account of such qualifying event, Defendant sent Plaintiff and the Class Members a COBRA notice.

68. The COBRA notice that Defendant sent to Plaintiff and other Class Members violated 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a) and 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4 for the reasons set forth above (among other reasons).

69. These violations were material and willful.

70. Defendant knew that its notice was inconsistent with the Secretary of Labor's Model Notice and failed to comply with 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a) and 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4, but chose to use a non-compliant notice in deliberate or reckless disregard of the rights of Plaintiff and other Class Members.

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PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, pray for relief as follows:

a. Designating Plaintiff's counsel as counsel for the Class;

b. Issuing proper notice to the Class at Defendant's expense;

c. Declaring that the COBRA notice sent by Defendant to Plaintiff and other Class Members violated 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a) and 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4;

d. Awarding appropriate equitable relief pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1132(a)(3), including but not limited to an order enjoining Defendant from continuing to use its defective COBRA notice and requiring Defendant to send corrective notices;

e. Awarding statutory penalties to the Class pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1132(c)(1) and 29 C.F.R. § 2575.502c-1 in the amount of \$110 per day for each Class Member who was sent a defective COBRA notice by Defendant;

f. Awarding attorneys' fees, costs and expenses to Plaintiff's counsel as provided by 29 U.S.C. § 1132(g)(1) and other applicable law; and

g. Granting such other and further relief, in law or equity, as this Court deems appropriate.

h. Designating Plaintiff's counsel as counsel for the Class;

i. Issuing proper notice to the Class at Defendant's expense;

j. Declaring that the COBRA notice sent by Defendant to Plaintiff and other Class Members violated 29 U.S.C. § 1166(a) and 29 C.F.R. § 2590.606-4;

k. Awarding appropriate equitable relief pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §

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1132(a)(3), including but not limited to an order enjoining Defendant from continuing to use its defective COBRA notice and requiring Defendant to send corrective notices;

 Awarding statutory penalties to the Class pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1132(c)(1) and 29 C.F.R. § 2575.502c-1 in the amount of \$110 per day for each Class Member who was sent a defective COBRA notice by Defendant;

m. Awarding attorneys' fees, costs and expenses to Plaintiff's counsel as provided by 29 U.S.C. § 1132(g)(1) and other applicable law; and

n. Granting such other and further relief, in law or equity, as this Court deems appropriate.

Dated this 15th day of January, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Brandon J. Hill LUIS A. CABASSA Florida Bar Number: 053643 Direct No.: 813-379-2565 **BRANDON J. HILL** Florida Bar Number: 37061 Direct No.: 813-337-7992 WENZEL FENTON CABASSA, P.A. 1110 North Florida Ave., Suite 300 Tampa, Florida 33602 Main No.: 813-224-0431 Facsimile: 813-229-8712 Email: lcabassa@wfclaw.com Email: bhill@wfclaw.com Email: jcornell@wfclaw.com Email: rcooke@wfclaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff

And

/s/Chad A. Justice CHAD A. JUSTICE Florida Bar Number: 121559 Justice for Justice LLC 1205 N Franklin Street, Suite 326 Tampa, Florida 33602 Direct No. 813-566-0550 Facsimile: 813-566-0770 E-mail: chad@getjusticeforjustice.com Attorney for Plaintiff Case 8:20-cv-00110 Document 1-1 Filed 01/15/20 Page 1 of 9 PageID 23

EXHIBIT A

Model COBRA Continuation Coverage Election Notice Instructions

The Department of Labor has developed a model Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA) continuation coverage election notice that the Plan may use to provide the election notice. To use this model election notice properly, the Plan Administrator must fill in the blanks with the appropriate plan information. The Department considers use of the model election notice to be good faith compliance with the election notice content requirements of COBRA. The use of the model notices isn't required. The model notices are provided to help facilitate compliance with the applicable notice requirements.

NOTE: Plans do *not* need to include this instruction page with the model election notice.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately four minutes per respondent. Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Policy and Research, Attention: PRA Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210 or email ebsa.opr@dol.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0123.

OMB Control Number 1210-0123 (expires 12/31/2019)]

Model COBRA Continuation Coverage Election Notice (For use by single-employer group health plans)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: COBRA Continuation Coverage and other Health Coverage Alternatives

[Enter date of notice]

Dear: [*Identify the qualified beneficiary(ies), by name or status*]

This notice has important information about your right to continue your health care coverage in the [enter name of group health plan] (the Plan), as well as other health coverage options that may be available to you, including coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace at <u>www.HealthCare.gov</u> or call_1-800-318-2596. You may be able to get coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace that costs less than COBRA continuation coverage. Please read the information in this notice very carefully before you make your decision. If you choose to elect COBRA continuation coverage, you should use the election form provided later in this notice.

Why am I getting this notice?

You're getting this notice because your coverage under the Plan will end on [*enter date*] due to [*check appropriate box*]:

- End of employment
 Death of employee
 Entitlement to Medicare
- \Box Reduction in hours of employment

□ Divorce or legal separation

 \Box Loss of dependent child status

Federal law requires that most group health plans (including this Plan) give employees and their families the opportunity to continue their health care coverage through COBRA continuation coverage when there's a "qualifying event" that would result in a loss of coverage under an employer's plan.

What's COBRA continuation coverage?

COBRA continuation coverage is the same coverage that the Plan gives to other participants or beneficiaries who aren't getting continuation coverage. Each "qualified beneficiary" (described below) who elects COBRA continuation coverage will have the same rights under the Plan as other participants or beneficiaries covered under the Plan.

Who are the qualified beneficiaries?

Each person ("qualified beneficiary") in the category(ies) checked below can elect COBRA continuation coverage:

 \Box Employee or former employee

- \Box Spouse or former spouse
- □ Dependent child(ren) covered under the Plan on the day before the event that caused the loss of coverage
- □ Child who is losing coverage under the Plan because he or she is no longer a dependent under the Plan

Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?

Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other more affordable coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicaid, or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enrollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage.

You should compare your other coverage options with COBRA continuation coverage and choose the coverage that is best for you. For example, if you move to other coverage you may pay more out of pocket than you would under COBRA because the new coverage may impose a new deductible.

When you lose job-based health coverage, it's important that you choose carefully between COBRA continuation coverage and other coverage options, because once you've made your choice, it can be difficult or impossible to switch to another coverage option.

If I elect COBRA continuation coverage, when will my coverage begin and how long will the coverage last?

If elected, COBRA continuation coverage will begin on [*enter date*] and can last until [*enter date*].

[*Add, if appropriate:* You may elect any of the following options for COBRA continuation coverage: [*list available coverage options*].

Continuation coverage may end before the date noted above in certain circumstances, like failure to pay premiums, fraud, or the individual becomes covered under another group health plan.

Can I extend the length of COBRA continuation coverage?

If you elect continuation coverage, you may be able to extend the length of continuation coverage if a qualified beneficiary is disabled, or if a second qualifying event occurs. You must notify [*enter name of party responsible for COBRA administration*] of a disability or a second qualifying event within a certain time period to extend the period of continuation coverage. If you don't provide notice of a disability or second qualifying event within the required time period, it will affect your right to extend the period of continuation coverage.

For more information about extending the length of COBRA continuation coverage visit <u>http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/publications/cobraemployee.html</u>.

How much does COBRA continuation coverage cost?

COBRA continuation coverage will cost: [enter amount each qualified beneficiary will be required to pay for each option per month of coverage and any other permitted coverage periods.]

Other coverage options may cost less. If you choose to elect continuation coverage, you don't have to send any payment with the Election Form. Additional information about payment will be provided to you after the election form is received by the Plan. Important information about paying your premium can be found at the end of this notice.

You may be able to get coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace that costs less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about the Marketplace below.

What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. In the Marketplace, you could be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premiums and cost-sharing reductions (amounts that lower your out-of-pocket costs for deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments) right away, and you can see what your premium, deductibles, and out-of-pocket costs will be before you make a decision to enroll. Through the Marketplace you'll also learn if you qualify for free or low-cost coverage from <u>Medicaid</u> or the <u>Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)</u>. You can access the Marketplace for your state at <u>www.HealthCare.gov</u>.

Coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. Being offered COBRA continuation coverage won't limit your eligibility for coverage or for a tax credit through the Marketplace.

When can I enroll in Marketplace coverage?

You always have 60 days from the time you lose your job-based coverage to enroll in the Marketplace. That is because losing your job-based health coverage is a "special enrollment" event. After 60 days your special enrollment period will end and you may not be able to enroll, so you should take action right away. In addition, during what is called an "open enrollment" period, anyone can enroll in Marketplace coverage.

To find out more about enrolling in the Marketplace, such as when the next open enrollment period will be and what you need to know about qualifying events and special enrollment periods, visit <u>www.HealthCare.gov</u>.

If I sign up for COBRA continuation coverage, can I switch to coverage in the Marketplace? What about if I choose Marketplace coverage and want to switch back to COBRA continuation coverage? If you sign up for COBRA continuation coverage, you can switch to a Marketplace plan during a Marketplace open enrollment period. You can also end your COBRA continuation coverage early and switch to a Marketplace plan if you have another qualifying event such as marriage or birth of a child through something called a "special enrollment period." But be careful though - if you terminate your COBRA continuation coverage early without another qualifying event, you'll have to wait to enroll in Marketplace coverage until the next open enrollment period, and could end up without any health coverage in the interim.

Once you've exhausted your COBRA continuation coverage and the coverage expires, you'll be eligible to enroll in Marketplace coverage through a special enrollment period, even if Marketplace open enrollment has ended.

If you sign up for Marketplace coverage instead of COBRA continuation coverage, you cannot switch to COBRA continuation coverage under any circumstances.

Can I enroll in another group health plan?

You may be eligible to enroll in coverage under another group health plan (like a spouse's plan), if you request enrollment within 30 days of the loss of coverage.

If you or your dependent chooses to elect COBRA continuation coverage instead of enrolling in another group health plan for which you're eligible, you'll have another opportunity to enroll in the other group health plan within 30 days of losing your COBRA continuation coverage.

What factors should I consider when choosing coverage options?

When considering your options for health coverage, you may want to think about:

- <u>Premiums</u>: Your previous plan can charge up to 102% of total plan premiums for COBRA coverage. Other options, like coverage on a spouse's plan or through the Marketplace, may be less expensive.
- <u>Provider Networks</u>: If you're currently getting care or treatment for a condition, a change in your health coverage may affect your access to a particular health care provider. You may want to check to see if your current health care providers participate in a network as you consider options for health coverage.
- <u>Drug Formularies</u>: If you're currently taking medication, a change in your health coverage may affect your costs for medication and in some cases, your medication may not be covered by another plan. You may want to check to see if your current medications are listed in drug formularies for other health coverage.
- <u>Severance payments</u>: If you lost your job and got a severance package from your former employer, your former employer may have offered to pay some or all of your COBRA payments for a period of time. In this scenario, you may want to contact the Department of Labor at 1-866-444-3272 to discuss your options.
- <u>Service Areas</u>: Some plans limit their benefits to specific service or coverage areas so if you move to another area of the country, you may not be able to use your benefits. You may want to see if your plan has a service or coverage area, or other similar limitations.

• <u>Other Cost-Sharing</u>: In addition to premiums or contributions for health coverage, you probably pay copayments, deductibles, coinsurance, or other amounts as you use your benefits. You may want to check to see what the cost-sharing requirements are for other health coverage options. For example, one option may have much lower monthly premiums, but a much higher deductible and higher copayments.

For more information

This notice doesn't fully describe continuation coverage or other rights under the Plan. More information about continuation coverage and your rights under the Plan is available in your summary plan description or from the Plan Administrator.

If you have questions about the information in this notice, your rights to coverage, or if you want a copy of your summary plan description, contact [*enter name of party responsible for COBRA administration for the Plan, with telephone number and address*].

For more information about your rights under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), including COBRA, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other laws affecting group health plans, visit the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) website at <u>http://www.dol.gov/ebsa</u> or call their toll-free number at 1-866-444-3272. For more information about health insurance options available through the Health Insurance Marketplace, and to locate an assister in your area who you can talk to about the different options, visit <u>www.HealthCare.gov</u>.

Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes

To protect your and your family's rights, keep the Plan Administrator informed of any changes in your address and the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

COBRA Continuation Coverage Election Form

Instructions: To elect COBRA continuation coverage, complete this Election Form and return it to us. Under federal law, you have 60 days after the date of this notice to decide whether you want to elect COBRA continuation coverage under the Plan.

Send completed Election Form to: [Enter Name and Address]

This Election Form must be completed and returned by mail [or describe other means of submission and due date]. If mailed, it must be post-marked no later than [enter date].

If you don't submit a completed Election Form by the due date shown above, you'll lose your right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. If you reject COBRA continuation coverage before the due date, you may change your mind as long as you submit a completed Election Form before the due date. However, if you change your mind after first rejecting COBRA continuation coverage, your COBRA continuation coverage will begin on the date you submit the completed Election Form.

Read the important information about your rights included in the pages after the Election Form. I (We) elect COBRA continuation coverage in the [*enter name of plan*] (the Plan) listed below:

Name	Date of Birth	Relationship to Employee	SSN (or other identifier)
a			
		age option elected:	
[Add	if appropriate: Cover	age option elected:]
		rage option elected:	
Signature		Date	
Print Name		Relationship t	o individual(s) listed above
Print Addres	S	Telephone nu	mber

Important Information About Payment

First payment for continuation coverage

You must make your first payment for continuation coverage no later than 45 days after the date of your election (this is the date the Election Notice is postmarked). If you don't make your first payment in full no later than 45 days after the date of your election, you'll lose all continuation coverage rights under the Plan. You're responsible for making sure that the amount of your first payment is correct. You may contact [*enter appropriate contact information, e.g., the Plan Administrator or other party responsible for COBRA administration under the Plan*] to confirm the correct amount of your first payment.

Periodic payments for continuation coverage

After you make your first payment for continuation coverage, you'll have to make periodic payments for each coverage period that follows. The amount due for each coverage period for each qualified beneficiary is shown in this notice. The periodic payments can be made on a monthly basis. Under the Plan, each of these periodic payments for continuation coverage is due [enter due day for each monthly payment] for that coverage period. [If Plan offers other payment schedules, enter with appropriate dates: You may instead make payments for continuation coverage for the following coverage periods, due on the following dates:]. If you make a periodic payment on or before the first day of the coverage period to which it applies, your coverage under the Plan will continue for that coverage period without any break. The Plan [select one: will or will not] send periodic notices of payments due for these coverage periods.

Grace periods for periodic payments

Although periodic payments are due on the dates shown above, you'll be given a grace period of 30 days after the first day of the coverage period [or enter longer period permitted by Plan] to make each periodic payment. You'll get continuation coverage for each coverage period as long as payment for that coverage period is made before the end of the grace period. [If Plan suspends coverage during grace period for nonpayment, enter and modify as necessary: If you pay a periodic payment later than the first day of the coverage period to which it applies, but before the end of the grace period for the coverage period, your coverage will be suspended as of the first day of the coverage period and then retroactively reinstated (going back to the first day of the coverage period) when the periodic payment is received. This means that any claim you submit for benefits while your coverage is suspended may be denied and may have to be resubmitted once your coverage is reinstated.]

If you don't make a periodic payment before the end of the grace period for that coverage period, you'll lose all rights to continuation coverage under the Plan.

Your first payment and all periodic payments for continuation coverage should be sent to:

[enter appropriate payment address]

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EXHIBIT B

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Statement Date: November 15, 2019



V000027



Online Search 'Manage my Benefits' on MY HR or go to www.mybbyrewards.com

COBRA Enrollment Notice

This notice contains important information about your right to continue your Best Buy Co., Inc. health coverage, as well as other health coverage alternatives that may be available to you through the Health Insurance Marketplace at <u>www.HealthCare.gov</u> or by calling 1-800-318-2596. You may be able to get coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace that costs less than COBRA continuation coverage. Please read the information contained in this notice very carefully and keep it for your records.

As a result of your termination on **November 6, 2019,** your current group health plan coverage ends as listed in the following table. You may choose to remain covered under your current group health plan for up to **60** months. This coverage is provided through the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act and is often referred to as "COBRA" coverage.

This notice also includes information about extended continuation coverage (not required by COBRA) that may be available to you for the Medical, Dental and Vision group health plans, effective for COBRA qualifying events occurring on or after February 1, 2012, beyond your maximum COBRA coverage period, if you timely elect and exhaust COBRA coverage. This extended continuation coverage is not available for the Health Care Spending Account, Hawaii Health Program, Global Assignee Health Program, and the Puerto Rico Health Programs. Combined with the coverage under COBRA, the extended continuation coverage may last for up to 60 months from the date you lose coverage. Please see the section of this notice titled "Special Extended Continuation Coverage" for more information

For example, the employee's spouse may elect COBRA coverage even if the employee doesn't. COBRA coverage may be elected for only one, several, or for all dependent children who are qualified beneficiaries. A parent may elect COBRA coverage on behalf of any dependent children. The employee or the employee's spouse can elect COBRA coverage on behalf of all of the qualified beneficiaries.



COBRA Enrollment Notice

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In considering whether to elect COBRA coverage, you should take into account that a failure to continue your group health coverage will affect your future rights under federal law. First, you can lose the right to avoid having pre-existing condition exclusions applied to you by other group health plans if you have more than a 63 day gap in health coverage, and election of COBRA coverage may help you not have such a gap. Second, you'll lose the guaranteed right to purchase individual health insurance policies that don't impose such pre-existing condition exclusions if you don't get COBRA coverage for the maximum time available to you. Finally, you should take into account that you've special enrollment rights under federal law. You have the right to request special enrollment in another group health plan for which you're otherwise eligible (such as a plan sponsored by your spouse's employer) within 30 days after your group health coverage ends because of the qualifying event listed above. You'll also have the same special enrollment right at the end of COBRA coverage if you get COBRA coverage for the maximum time available to you.

COBRA continuation coverage will begin as listed below.

Group Health Plan	Coverage End Date	COBRA Coverage Begin Date
Medical	11-30-2019	12-01-2019
Dental	11-30-2019	12-01-2019
Vision	11-30-2019	12-01-2019
Basic Life Insurance	11-30-2019	12-01-2019
Optional Life Insurance	11-30-2019	12-01-2019
Spouse/DP Life:	11-30-2019	12-01-2019
Child Life	11-30-2019	12-01-2019

The cost of COBRA continuation coverage depends on the coverage you select and whom you cover. Detailed cost information is provided in the Group Health Coverage section of this notice.

Enrollment

To enroll in COBRA coverage, access the My BBY Rewards website at <u>www.mybbyrewards.com</u> or call the Best Buy Benefits Center at **1-866-475-6733** no later than **January 30, 2020**. You can enroll yourself and your covered family members. If you don't enroll within that time frame, you forfeit your rights to COBRA coverage.

Each qualified beneficiary has a separate right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. The Family Information page lists each of your covered family members and indicates which individuals are qualified beneficiaries.

Please Note: If you or your dependent(s) are Medicare-eligible, COBRA coverage generally is the secondary source of coverage for you and Medicare will be the primary plan (regardless of whether you or the Company is paying for the COBRA coverage). To the extent permitted by applicable law, while you're on COBRA coverage under this Plan, this Plan will pay Benefits second to Medicare when you become eligible for Medicare, even if you don't elect Medicare. If you or your dependent(s) are Medicare-eligible or will become Medicare-eligible while on COBRA, be sure to research your Medicare options thoroughly.

COBRA Enrollment Notice

Group Health Coverage

Below are the coverage options available to you and the monthly cost of each option for the remainder of the current plan year. The Family Information section of this notice lists your dependents currently on file. Only those dependents who were covered prior to the qualifying event may continue coverage under a particular group health plan.

Medí	cal		Contraction of the second s	verage Catego		
Option		1 You Only	2 You + Spouse/ DP	3 You + Child(ren)	4 You + Family	
0	No Coverage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	nin sur 'ne kinist
7	UHC Health Plan 4 - PPO	\$436.80	\$1,048.34	\$851.78	\$1,659.88	n

Dental

2

			Co	verage Categor	y
Option		1 You Only	2 You + Spouse/ DP	3 You + Child(ren)	4 You + Family
0	No Coverage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2	Comprehensive Dental Plan	\$26.57	\$58.46	\$55.80	\$98.32

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	. 19 Millionan Con Con Maddalan ay 19 July 19 Million and ann an 19 March ann an ann an Anna Anna Anna Anna An	Coverage Category			
Option	ους του μετά το του του του του του του του του του	1 You Only	2 You + Spouse/ DP	3 You + Child(ren)	4 You + Family
0	No Coverage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3	Comprehensive Vision Plan	\$8.77	\$12.50	\$15.35	\$24.53



COBRA Enrollment Notice

 Basic 	c Life Insurance	an a	
Option		Coverage Amount	Price
0	No Coverage	\$0.00	\$0.00
1	1 x Eligible Annual Earnings	\$171,000.00	\$9.25

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 Optional Life Insurance 	an a	
Option	Coverage Amount	Price
0 No Coverage	\$0.00	\$0.00
3 3 x Eligible Annual Earnings	\$513,000.00	\$50.23

Spouse/DP Life	n na sense na sense sense sense sense na sense sen Internet sense sense Internet sense s	
Option	Coverage Amount	Price
0 No Coverage	na na seu de la constante de la \$0.00 1	\$0.00
4 \$100,000	\$100,000.00	\$7.14

Child Life	n en	and the second
Option	Coverage Amount	Price
0 No Coverage	\$0.00	\$0.00
4 \$30,000	\$30,000.00	\$2.57

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Events That May Change Continued Coverage

Once your COBRA coverage begins, you may be able to change your COBRA coverage elections based on plan rules if you experience a qualified change in status. You must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center by calling **1-866-475-6733** within 30 days of the qualified change in status to change your COBRA coverage. See your Summary Plan Description for detailed information on allowable changes in status. Adding family members to COBRA coverage may result in a higher premium for this additional coverage.

You may also change COBRA coverage if a child is born to the covered employee or placed for adoption with the covered employee during the COBRA continuation period. In such case, you must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center by calling **1-866-475-6733** within 60 days of the birth or placement to cover the new dependent as a qualified beneficiary under COBRA. There may be a higher premium for this additional coverage.

When Coverage Ends

COBRA coverage will end automatically as detailed below:

Group Health Plan	COBRA Coverage End Date
Medical	11-30-2024
ne ne zavist u stani s na za se na na se sete men e kun magi gun un ele men por polenzano que en un exer Dental	11-30-2024
Vision	11-30-2024
Basic Life Insurance	05-31-2021
Optional Life Insurance	1. ************************************
Spouse/DP Life	от продотниция и продотники и прод D5-31-2021
Child Life	05-31-2021

In addition, COBRA coverage will end automatically if any of the following situations occur:

- Best Buy Co., Inc. stops providing group health benefits
- Premiums are not paid within 30 days of the due date (with the exception of the initial premium, which is due within 45 days of your election date)
- A person eligible for continued benefits becomes covered under any other group health plan or becomes entitled to Medicare

Billing Information

Once enrolled, you'll receive your first bill for the cost of continuing your coverage from the date your coverage ended through the end of the month in which you make your COBRA election. You must submit your first payment within 45 days of when you elected COBRA coverage.



Following your first payment, you'll be billed each month. Monthly payments are due on the first day of each month. If you fail to submit monthly payments within 30 days of the due date, your coverage will end retroactive to the last day of the last month for which you paid for coverage. Coverage can't be reinstated. All valid payments received will be deposited. Any payments deposited after the coverage was dropped will be refunded and won't extend your coverage.

Special Extended Continuation Coverage

Effective for COBRA qualifying events occurring on or after February 1, 2012, Best Buy has voluntarily amended its plan to provide extended continuation coverage after the maximum COBRA coverage period required by federal law for the Medical, Dental and Vision group health plans. (Note that the extended continuation coverage doesn't apply to the Health Care Spending Account, Hawaii Health Program, Global Assignee Health Program, and the Puerto Rico Health Programs.) Combined, your COBRA coverage and the extended continuation coverage period may last for up to 60 months after your regular coverage ends. This extension beyond the maximum COBRA coverage period is not COBRA coverage, but is Best Buy's voluntary extension of coverage. The extended continuation coverage beyond the end of the COBRA maximum period is only available if you timely elect and exhaust COBRA coverage. Because this combined 60-month period is longer than the maximum COBRA coverage period, you'll not have to notify Best Buy of events that would otherwise cause an extension of COBRA coverage beyond 18 months (such as a divorce following a termination of employment). Your eligibility for the extended continuation coverage is subject to all terms, conditions and limitations of the Best Buy Health and Welfare Wrap Plan. Best Buy reserves the right to amend or terminate the extended continuation coverage at any time, for any reason, and in its sole discretion. If Best Buy, in its discretion, were to eliminate the extended continuation coverage, then the group health plans will be administered in accordance with COBRA and all COBRA qualified beneficiaries will be eligible for continuation coverage for the maximum COBRA coverage period required by law.

A separate election is not necessary for the extended continuation coverage beyond the required maximum COBRA coverage period. If you elect COBRA and maintain COBRA coverage for the maximum period available under COBRA, then you'll automatically be eligible for the extended continuation coverage. If you don't elect COBRA coverage or if you drop COBRA coverage before the end of your maximum COBRA coverage period, then you're not eligible for the extended continued payment of the premium confirms your desire to participate in the extended continuation coverage. You may cease paying the premium at any time; however, this will cause you to lose the extended continuation coverage. Additionally, if you drop coverage during the extended continuation coverage period, you can't return to the extended continuation coverage.

This notice doesn't fully describe COBRA coverage or other rights under Best Buy's health coverage. More information about continuation coverage and your rights under Best Buy's health coverage is available in your summary plan description or from the Best Buy Benefits Center.

Additional Information

COBRA provides an extension of the maximum period of COBRA coverage that may be available if a qualified beneficiary is disabled or a second qualifying event occurs. The situations allowing such an extension of COBRA coverage are described below. Note, however, that because of the extended continuation coverage for the Medical, Dental and Vision plans (combined with COBRA coverage, coverage can last for up to 60 months after your regular coverage ends), you don't have to notify Best Buy of the occurrence of any of the events described below with respect to those plans. If you're receiving COBRA coverage for a group health plan which is not eligible for the extended coverage (such as the Hawaii Health Program or Global Assignee Health Program), you must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center of the events below in order to receive COBRA coverage for more than 18 months.

Disability

An 11-month extension of coverage may be available if any of the qualified beneficiaries is determined by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to be disabled. The disability has to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of COBRA coverage. For group health plans which are not eligible for the extended continuation coverage (such as the Hawaii Health Program or Global Assignee Health Program), you must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center of the disability determination with 60 days of the disabled individual's receipt of a Social Security Disability award. Also, for group health plans which are not eligible for the extended continuation coverage, if the disability determination occurred before COBRA coverage started, you must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center of the must plans which are not eligible for the extended continuation coverage, if the disability determination occurred before COBRA coverage started, you must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center within the first 60 days of COBRA coverage. Each qualified beneficiary who has elected COBRA coverage will be entitled to the 11-month disability extension if one of them qualifies. If you were required to notify Best Buy of the disability determination and if the qualified beneficiary is determined by SSA to no longer be disabled, you would be required to notify the Best Buy Benefits Center of that fact within 30 days after SSA's determination. Due to the extended continuation coverage for the Medical, Dental and Vision plans, you don't need to notify Best Buy of the disability determination is plans. You only need to continue to pay the premiums for continuation coverage to receive coverage for the period described above and the remainder of the extended continuation coverage period.

Second Qualifying Event

An 18-month extension of COBRA coverage will be available to spouses and dependent children who elect COBRA coverage if a second qualifying event occurs during the first 18 months of COBRA coverage. The maximum amount of COBRA coverage available when a second qualifying event occurs is 36 months. Such second qualifying event may include the death of a covered employee, divorce or separation from the covered employee, the covered employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), or a dependent child's ceasing to be eligible for coverage as a dependent under the Plan. These events can be a second qualifying event only if they would have caused the qualified beneficiary to lose coverage under the group health plan if the first qualifying event had not occurred. For group health plans which are not eligible for the extended continuation coverage (such as the Hawaii Health Program or Global Assignee Health Program), you must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center within 60 days after a second qualifying event occurs if you want to extend your COBRA coverage. Due to the extended continuation coverage for the Medical, Dental and Vision plans, you don't need to notify Best Buy of a second qualifying event for those plans. You only need to continue to pay the premiums for continuation coverage to receive coverage for the period described above and the remainder of the extended continuation coverage for the period described above and the remainder of the extended continuation coverage for the period described above and the remainder of the extended continuation coverage for the period described above and the remainder of the extended continuation coverage period.

Address Information

Be sure to keep your current address information up to date with the Best Buy Benefits Center by calling **1-866-475-6733**. Doing so is the only way to ensure that important benefit information will reach you.

Other Coverage Options

There may be other coverage options for you and your family. When key parts of the health care law take effect, you'll be able to buy coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. In the Marketplace, you could be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premiums right away, and you can see what your premium, deductibles, and out-of-pocket costs will be before you make a decision to enroll. Being eligible for COBRA doesn't limit your eligibility for coverage for a tax credit through the Marketplace. Additionally, you may qualify for a special enrollment opportunity for another group health plan for which you're eligible (such as a spouse's plan), even if the plan generally doesn't accept late enrollees, if you request enrollment within 30 days.

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For More Information



Online

Search 'Manage my Benefits' on MY HR or go to www.mybbyrewards.com

Phone

Best Buy Benefits Center between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Central time, Monday through Friday toll-free at 1-866-475-6733



Fax 847-554-1094 Cover letter not necessary



Mail Best Buy Benefits Center 4 Overlook Point PO Box 7228 Rantoul, IL 61866-7228

Family Information

Below is the information on file for you and your dependents. To protect your privacy, Social Security numbers aren't shown. The Qualified Beneficiary row indicates dependents who are considered qualified beneficiaries. Qualified beneficiaries have independent COBRA election rights and can elect to continue group health plan coverage for themselves if you decline coverage.

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Person Information

	You	Dependent No. 1	Dependent No. 2
Name	DANIEL L. PRUITT	Stephanie R. PRUITT	Avery L. PRUITT
Birth Date	05-11-1974 •	06-25-1978	02-12-2010
Gender	Male:	Female	Female
Relationship	் தில் சுதல், மதுத்ததுக்குதிலாள்கள் கூல அல்சா ல் சிரும் சில இரு க்கு விசியில் கிலை தில	Spouse	Child
Disabled Dependent	n mellen andre de andre en an Andre en andre en and		handhalan ay af an tao ga an taon an
Qualified Beneficiary	andiness states and states and states and a states and a states and a state and a state and a state and a state An and a state a	Yes	Yes

Coverage Information		ar an ann an	
	You	Dependent N	
Medical	e met wordt op montholmetere wordt ein bebeide konstruktionen omgenoegingengengen wetere er op op soeren. Yeers	Yes	Allera de propiese - se la constructiva de la managera y subservador de Yes
n - Alfrein eine statten der statten der Aussellungen aussellte som Aussellungen som som som som som som som s Dental	Yes	Yes	s seminar anna an Seanna an Sea Martina
Vision	vere vere vere gerne gerne gerne ver gevener er som er men vere er vere vere vere vere vere vere	version point the set of the set o	na deservative transmer en en jungsagen and Yés



 Person Information 	
n Ministra kalendari dari kalender jan dalar in kalender yangi.	Dependent No. 3
Name	AUSTIN L. PRUITT
Birth Date	11-04-2013
Gender	Male
Relationship	Child
Disabled Dependent	n an tha an
Qualified Beneficiary	Yes

	ge Information	
		Dependent No. 3
Medical	· · · · ·	Yes
Dental		Yes
Vision	t san a marazet	Yes
	and the second sec	[10] M. K.

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EXHIBIT C



Statement Date: November 15, 2019

V000027



Online Search 'Manage my Benefits' on MY HR or go to www.mybbyrewards.com

DANIEL L. PRUITT

Conversion/Portability Notice

This notice provides the necessary plan information you'll need if you want to convert your benefit coverage to a personal policy directly with the insurance company. Generally, you must apply for conversion within 31 days of when your coverage was reduced or terminated. Contact the insurance company directly for more information on your conversion option and corresponding cost.

To request specific rates and enrollment information, please mail or fax a copy of this notice to: The Hartford, Portability and Conversion Unit, P.O. Box 248108, Cleveland, OH, 44124-8108 Fax: 1-440-646-9339.

Please note: Currently you have the option to pay for life insurance through COBRA. These rates are less expensive than you would pay for a traditional life insurance policy under conversion or portability. When you are no longer eligible to purchase life insurance under COBRA, you have the opportunity to convert to a traditional life insurance policy from Best Buy's life insurance provider. Please keep this information in a secure place so you can easily contact The Hartford if you choose to purchase life insurance after your COBRA benefits have been exhausted.

Information for the Insurance Company

Employee Information Name: DANIEL L. PRUITT Birth Date: 05-11-1974

Employer Information

Best Buy Co., Inc. 4 Overlook Point PO Box 7228 Rantoul, IL 61866-7228 1-866-475-6733



Conversion/Portability Notice

Basic Life Insurance	
Insurance Company	HARTFORD
Telephone Number	1-877-320-0484
Active Coverage	\$171,000
Earliest Coverage Begin Date	04-01-2012
Coverage End Date	11-30-2019

For More Information

If you have questions about this information, your eligibility, or the status of any request you have submitted, please call a representative at the phone number above.

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EXHIBIT D



Statement Date: November 15, 2019



V000027

DANIEL L. PRUITT



Online Search 'Manage my Benefits' on MY HR or go to www.mybbyrewards.com

Important Information About Your COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights

The information in this notice will help you understand and use your benefits under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). This notice has important information about your right to continue your health care coverage in Best Buy Co., Inc. plan, as well as other health coverage options that may be available to you, including coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace at <u>www.HealthCare.gov or by calling</u> 1-800-318-2596. You may be able to get coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace that costs less than COBRA continuation coverage. Please read the information in this notice very carefully before you make your decision.

What Is COBRA Continuation Coverage?

Federal law requires that most group health plans (including Best Buy Co., Inc. plan) give employees and their families the opportunity to continue their health care coverage when there is a "qualifying event" that would result in a loss of coverage under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan.

Depending on the type of qualifying event, "qualified beneficiaries" can include employees, retirees, their spouses, and their dependent children covered by Best Buy Co., Inc. plan.

COBRA continuation coverage is the same coverage that Best Buy Co., Inc. plan gives to other plan participants who are not receiving continuation coverage. Each qualified beneficiary who elects continuation coverage will have the same rights under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan as other plan participants, including open enrollment and special enrollment rights.



low Long will commutate	on Coverage Last?		
Length of COBRA Coverage	Up to 18 months	Up to 29 months	Up to 36 months
Eligibility	Employee	Employee	 Covered spouse
	Retiree	 Covered spouse Other covered dependents 	 Other covered dependents
	Covered spouse		
	 Other covered dependents 		
Length of COBRA Coverage	Up to 18 months	Up to 29 months	Up to 36 months
Qualifying Event(s)	Loss of coverage due to:	 Individual(s) must be enrolled in COBRA and deemed disabled 	Loss of coverage due to:
	 End of employment 		 Divorce or legal separation
	 Reduction in hours of employment 	by the Social Security Administration prior to the initial qualifying event, or at any time during the first 60 days of	 The loss of a dependent child's eligibility for health care coverage under the employer's plan
		COBRA continuation coverage.	 The employee's
	\$	00101090	Medicare entitlement

When the qualifying event is the end of the employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, and the employee became entitled to Medicare benefits less than 18 months before the qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage for qualified beneficiaries, other than the employee, lasts until 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement. This notice shows the maximum period of continuation coverage available to the qualified beneficiaries.

Continuation coverage will be terminated before the end of the maximum period if:

- Any required premium is not paid in full on time;
- A qualified beneficiary becomes covered, after electing continuation coverage, under another group health plan;
- A qualified beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both) after electing continuation coverage; or
- The employer ceases to provide any group health plan for its employees.

Continuation coverage may also be terminated for any reason Best Buy Co., Inc. plan would terminate coverage of a participant or beneficiary not receiving continuation coverage (such as fraud).

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How Can You Extend the Length of COBRA Continuation Coverage?

If you elect continuation coverage, an extension of the maximum period of coverage may be available if a qualified beneficiary is disabled or a second qualifying event occurs. You must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center of a disability or a second qualifying event in order to extend the period of continuation coverage. Failure to provide notice of a disability or second qualifying event may affect the right to extend the period of continuation coverage.

Disability

COBRA coverage may be available for your family for up to 29 months at a higher premium if all these events occur:

- You, your covered spouse, or your covered dependents (including newborn and newly adopted children) are determined to be disabled, as defined by the Social Security Act, prior to the qualifying event or during the first 60 days of COBRA coverage.
- The Social Security Administration's (SSA) disability determination is received within the disabled individual's 18 months of COBRA coverage.
- The disability lasts at least until the end of the 18-month period of continuation coverage and the Best Buy Benefits Center is notified of the SSA's disability determination within 60 days of the disabled qualified beneficiary's Social Security Disability award being received. If the disability determination occurred before COBRA coverage started, you're required to notify the Best Buy Benefits Center within the first 60 days of COBRA coverage.

Each covered family member who has elected continuation coverage will be entitled to the 11-month disability extension if one covered family member qualifies. To receive the coverage extension, you, your covered spouse, or your covered dependents must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center at **1-866-475-6733**.

If the disabled individual is determined by the SSA to no longer be disabled, you, your covered spouse, or your covered dependents must notify the Best Buy Benefits Center within 30 days after SSA's determination by calling 1-866-475-6733.

Second Qualifying Event

An 18-month extension of coverage will be available to spouses and dependent children who elect continuation coverage if a second qualifying event occurs during their first 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage. The maximum amount of continuation coverage available when a second qualifying event occurs is 36 months. These second qualifying events include:

- The employee's death;
- The employee's divorce or legal separation; and
- A dependent's loss of coverage under Best Buy Co., Inc.-provided health plan.

These events can be a second qualifying event only if they would have caused the qualified beneficiary to lose coverage under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan if the first qualifying event had not occurred. You must notify the Plan within 60 days after a second qualifying event occurs if you want to extend your continuation coverage.



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Best Buy Co Inc. Amended Coverage Continuation Time

Effective for COBRA qualifying events occurring on or after February 1, 2012, Best Buy has voluntarily amended its plan to provide continuation coverage for an extended period that is longer than the maximum COBRA period required by federal law (described above). You may continue your coverage under COBRA and the extended coverage period for up to 60 months (5 years) after coverage ends. This extension beyond the maximum COBRA coverage period is not COBRA coverage, but is Best Buy's voluntary extension of coverage beyond the maximum COBRA coverage period. The extended coverage beyond the end of the COBRA maximum period is only available if you timely elect and exhaust COBRA coverage. Because this 60 month period is longer than all maximum COBRA coverage period described above, you will not have to notify Best Buy of events that would otherwise cause an extension of COBRA coverage. Best Buy reserves the right to amend or terminate this special extension of continuation coverage at any time, for any reason and in its sole discretion, including the right to extend the special extension of continuation coverage if requested by a Participant in the sole discretion of Best Buy. If Best Buy, in its discretion, were to eliminate the voluntary extension of coverage, then the Plan will be administered in accordance with COBRA (if applicable) and all COBRA qualified beneficiaries will be eligible for continuation coverage for the maximum COBRA coverage period by law.

How Can You Elect COBRA Continuation Coverage?

COBRA enrollment elections must be made within **60 days** of the date that coverage is lost or within **60 days** of the statement date on the COBRA Enrollment Notice you receive, whichever is later. If you don't act within this time frame, you and your eligible dependent(s) will lose the opportunity for COBRA coverage.

To elect continuation coverage, you must call the Best Buy Benefits Center at 1-866-475-6733 by the enrollment deadline provided on the COBRA Enrollment Notice.

Each qualified beneficiary has a separate right to elect continuation coverage. For example, a spouse may elect continuation coverage even if the employee does not. Continuation coverage may be elected for only one, several, or all dependent children who are qualified beneficiaries. A parent may elect to continue coverage on behalf of any dependent children. The employee or the employee's spouse can elect continuation coverage on behalf of all the qualified beneficiaries.

Issues to Consider

In considering whether to elect continuation coverage, you should take into account that a failure to continue your group health coverage will affect your future rights under federal law.

You have the right to request special enrollment in another group health plan for which you are otherwise eligible (such as a plan sponsored by your spouse's employer) within 30 days after your group health coverage ends because of the qualifying event listed on the COBRA Enrollment Notice. You will also have the same special enrollment right at the end of continuation coverage if you get continuation coverage for the maximum time available to you.

How Much Does COBRA Continuation Coverage Cost?

Generally, each qualified beneficiary may be required to pay the entire cost of continuation coverage. The amount a qualified beneficiary may be required to pay may not exceed 102% (or, in the case of an extension of continuation coverage due to a disability, 150%) of the cost to the group health plan (including both employer and employee contributions) for coverage of a similarly situated plan participant or beneficiary who is not receiving continuation coverage. The required payment for each continuation coverage period for each option is described in the COBRA Enrollment Notice.

When and How Must Payment for COBRA Continuation Coverage Be Made?

First Payment for Continuation Coverage

If you elect continuation coverage, you do not have to send any payment at the time you enroll. However, you must make your first payment for continuation coverage not later than 45 days after the date of your election.

If you do not make your first payment for continuation coverage, in full, not later than 45 days after the date of your election, you will lose all continuation coverage rights under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan. You are responsible for making sure that the amount of your first payment is correct. You will receive a Billing Notice confirming the amount of the payment. Contact the Best Buy Benefits Center at **1-866-475-6733** if you have questions about your first payment.

Payments should be sent to:

BEST BUY CO., INC. P.O. BOX 0843 CAROL STREAM IL 60132-0843

Periodic Payments for Continuation Coverage

After you make your first payment for continuation coverage, you will be required to make periodic payments for each subsequent coverage period. The amount due for each coverage period for each qualified beneficiary is shown on the COBRA Enrollment Notice.

The periodic payments can be made on a monthly basis. Under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan, each of these periodic payments for continuation coverage is due as described on the COBRA Enrollment Notice. If you make a periodic payment on or before the first day of the coverage period to which it applies, your coverage under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan will continue for that coverage period without a break. You will receive a Billing Notice each period that lists the amount due for the coverage period.

Grace Periods for Monthly Payments

Although monthly payments are due on the due date, you'll be given a grace period after the first day of the coverage period to make each monthly payment. The due date and the length of the grace period are listed on the COBRA Enrollment Notice.

Your continuation coverage will be provided for each coverage period as long as payment for that period is made before the end of the grace period for that payment. However, if you make a monthly payment later than the first day of the coverage period to which it applies, but before the end of the grace period for the coverage period, your coverage under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan will be suspended as of the first day of the coverage period and then retroactively reinstated going back to the first day of the coverage period when the monthly payment is received. This means that any claim you submit for benefits while your coverage is suspended may be denied and may have to be resubmitted once your coverage is reinstated.

If you fail to make a monthly payment before the end of the grace period for that coverage period, you will lose all rights to continuation coverage under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan.

When is COBRA Coverage Effective?

Once you enroll in COBRA coverage and make your first payment, coverage is effective retroactive to the date your group health coverage ended.



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Other Coverage Options

There may be other, more affordable coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicaid, or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse's plan), through what is called a "special enrollment period." By enrolling in coverage through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower costs on your monthly premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs. Additionally, you may qualify for a 30-day special enrollment period for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan), even if that plan generally doesn't accept late enrollees. Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at <u>www.HealthCare.gov</u>.

You should compare your other coverage options with COBRA continuation coverage and choose the coverage that is best for you. For example, if you move to other coverage, you may pay more out of pocket than you would under COBRA, because the new coverage may impose a new deductible.

When you lose job-based health coverage, it's important that you choose carefully between COBRA continuation coverage and other coverage options, because once you've made your choice, it can be difficult or impossible to switch to another coverage option.

What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. Through the Marketplace, you'll also learn if you qualify for free or low-cost coverage from <u>Medicaid</u> or the <u>Children's Health Insurance</u> <u>Program (CHIP)</u>. You can access the Marketplace for your state at <u>www.HealthCare.gov</u>.

When can I enroll in Marketplace coverage?

You always have 60 days from the time you lose your job-based coverage to enroll in the Marketplace. That is because losing your job-based health coverage is a "special enrollment" event. After 60 days, your special enrollment period will end and you may not be able to enroll, so you should take action right away. In addition, during what is called an "open enrollment" period, anyone can enroll in Marketplace coverage.

To find out more about enrolling in the Marketplace, such as when the next open enrollment period will be and what you need to know about qualifying events and special enrollment periods, visit <u>www.HealthCare.gov</u>.

If I sign up for COBRA continuation coverage, can I switch to coverage in the Marketplace? What about if I choose Marketplace coverage and want to switch back to COBRA continuation coverage?

If you sign up for COBRA continuation coverage, you can switch to a Marketplace plan during a Marketplace open enrollment period. You can also end your COBRA continuation coverage early and switch to a Marketplace plan if you have another qualifying event, such as marriage or birth of a child through something called a "special enrollment period." But be careful - if you terminate your COBRA continuation coverage early without another qualifying event, you'll have to wait to enroll in Marketplace coverage until the next open enrollment period, and could end up without any health coverage in the interim.

Once you've exhausted your COBRA continuation coverage and the coverage expires, you'll be eligible to enroll in Marketplace coverage through a special enrollment period, even if Marketplace open enrollment has ended.

If you sign up for Marketplace coverage instead of COBRA continuation coverage, you cannot switch to COBRA continuation coverage under any circumstances.

Can I enroll in another group health plan?

You may be eligible to enroll in coverage under another group health plan (like a spouse's plan), if you request enrollment within 30 days of the loss of coverage.

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If you or your dependent elect COBRA continuation coverage instead of enrolling in another group health plan for which you're eligible, you'll have another opportunity to enroll in the other group health plan within 30 days of losing your COBRA continuation coverage.

What factors should I consider when choosing coverage options?

When considering your options for health coverage, you may want to think about:

- Premiums: Your previous plan can charge up to 102% of total plan premiums for COBRA coverage. Other options, like coverage on a spouse's plan or through the Marketplace, may be less expensive.
- Provider Networks: If you're currently getting care or treatment for a condition, a change in your health coverage may affect your access to a particular health care provider. You may want to check to see if your current health care providers participate in a network, as you consider options for health coverage.
- Drug Formularies: If you're currently taking medication, a change in your health coverage may affect your costs for medication and in some cases, your medication may not be covered by another plan. You may want to check to see if your current medications are listed in drug formularies for other health coverage.
- Severance Payments: If you lost your job and got a severance package from your former employer, your former employer may have offered to pay some or all of your COBRA payments for a period of time. In this scenario, you may want to contact the Department of Labor at 1-866-444-3272 to discuss your options.
- Service Areas: Some plans limit their benefits to specific service or coverage areas so if you move to
 another area of the country, you may not be able to use your benefits. You may want to see if your plan has a
 service or coverage area, or other similar limitations.
- Other Cost Sharing: In addition to premiums or contributions for health coverage, you probably pay copayments, deductibles, coinsurance, or other amounts as you use your benefits. You may want to check to see what the cost-sharing requirements are for other health coverage options. For example, one option may have much lower monthly premiums, but a much higher deductible and higher copayments.

More information on health insurance options through the Marketplace can be found at www.HealthCare.gov.

Questions?

This notice does not fully describe continuation coverage or other rights under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan. More information about continuation coverage and your rights under Best Buy Co., Inc. plan is available in your Summary Plan Description or from the Best Buy Benefits Center.

If you have any questions concerning the information in this notice or your rights to coverage, you should contact the Best Buy Benefits Center at 1-866-475-6733. If you want a copy of your summary plan description, contact Best Buy Co., Inc..

For more information about your rights under ERISA, including COBRA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and other laws affecting group health plans, visit the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) website at <u>www.dol.gov/ebsa</u> or call their toll-free number at 1-866-444-3272. For more information about health insurance options available through a Health Insurance Marketplace, visit <u>www.HealthCare.gov.</u>



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Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes

In order to protect your and your family's rights, you should keep the Best Buy Benefits Center informed of any changes in your address and the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to or receive from the Best Buy Benefits Center.

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For More Information



Online

Search 'Manage my Benefits' on MY HR or go to www.mybbyrewards.com



Phone

Best Buy Benefits Center between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Central time, Monday through Friday toll-free at 1-866-475-6733

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Class Action Claims Best Buy Sent Out 'Confusing,' 'Misleading' COBRA Notices</u>