Terry et al v. Wasatch Advantage Group, LLC et al

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Plaintiffs Denika Terry, Roy Huskey III, and Tamara Livingston ("Plaintiffs") and Defendants Wasatch Advantage Group, LLC, Wasatch Property Management, Inc., Wasatch Pool Holdings, LLC, Chesapeake Commons Holdings, LLC, Logan Park Apartments, LLC, and Logan Park Apartments, LLP ("Defendants") (collectively, the "Parties"), by and through their respective counsel, hereby stipulate, pursuant to Local Rule 143, to appoint the law firm, Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho ("GBDH") as class counsel in this matter and jointly request that the Court approve this stipulation:

WHEREAS, on July 30, 2018, this Court granted Plaintiffs' motion for class certification as to the Rule 23(b)(3) class and granted Plaintiffs' motion for class certification as to the Rule 23(b)(2) class.

WHEREAS, this Court previously appointed Centro Legal de la Raza and the Law Offices of Andrew Wolff, PC as class counsel on July 30, 2018.

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs wish to have the law firm of Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho ("GBDH") appointed as class counsel in order to bring additional resources and expertise to the litigation of their class action.

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Laura L. Ho, filed herewith, sets forth her experience and expertise in class action litigation, as well as GBDH's history of prosecuting class actions.

WHEREAS, Defendants consent to the appointment of GBDH as class counsel.

WHEREAS, under Rule 23(c)(1)(B) and Rule 23(g), a court appoints class counsel based on a variety of factors, including the work counsel has done in identifying or investigating potential claims in the action; counsel's experience in handling class actions, other complex litigation, and the types of claims asserted in the action; counsel's knowledge of the applicable law; and the resources that counsel will commit to representing the class. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(g)(1)(A). The Declaration of Laura L. Ho filed in support of this stipulation provides further evidence demonstrating that Plaintiffs' new counsel have considerable experience in class actions, are qualified to represent the proposed class, and can be expected to perform their responsibilities adequately in light of that experience, the record to date in this case, and related considerations.

WHEREAS, since being retained, GBDH has been working closely with Centro Legal de la
Raza and the Law Offices of Andrew Wolff, PC to litigate this case in an effective manner. See Ho
Decl. ¶ 5.

WHEREAS, proposed class counsel are experienced in handling class actions and other complex litigation, including with regard to housing. *See* Ho Decl. ¶¶ 2-4.

WHEREAS, proposed class are knowledgeable of the applicable law. The declaration submitted in support of this stipulation demonstrates that Plaintiffs' counsel have expertise in class actions, housing, and consumer law, and are capable of adequately representing Plaintiffs in the prosecution of this class action. *See* Ho Decl. ¶¶ 2-4.

WHEREAS, GBDH will commit sufficient resources to represent the class. GBDH, along with co-counsel, are advancing costs for this class action. Such a mechanism for funding litigation is appropriate in a case such as this. *See, e.g., Irwin v. Mascott*, 96 F. Supp. 2d 968 (N.D. Cal. 1999). *See* Ho Decl. ¶ 6.

WHEREAS, GBDH meets the standard for adequacy because plaintiffs and their new counsel have no interest which is antagonistic to the interests of the class, but rather share a common interest in challenging Defendants' unlawful actions. *See* Ho Decl. ¶ 7.

WHEREAS, GBDH has been found adequate to represent classes of individuals in numerous cases. *See* Ho Decl. ¶¶ 3, 6 & Ex. A.

WHEREAS, the appointment of additional class counsel is appropriate given the magnitude and scope of the litigation. The appointment of GBDH is reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectively represent the class. The use of multiple law firms in large scale class action is routine. *See Ellis v. Costco Wholesale Corp.*, -- F. Supp. 2d --, 2012 WL 4371817, *55 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 25, 2012) (appointing five law firms as class counsel in gender discrimination case).

THEREFORE, the Parties stipulate that the Court enter the following order:

The law firm of Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho is adequate to serve as class counsel and are hereby appointed as Class Counsel for the Classes previously certified by this Court on July 30, 2018.

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2	Dated: May 15, 2019	Respectfully submitted,
3		GOLDSTEIN, BORGEN, DARDARIAN & HO
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5		<u>/s/Laura L. Ho</u> Laura L. Ho
6		Attorneys for Plaintiff and Relators
7	Dated: May 15, 2019	Respectfully submitted,
8		LAW OFFICES OF ANDREW WOLFF, PC
9		
10		/s/Andrew Wolff (as authorized on May 15, 2019) Andrew Wolff
11		Attorneys for Plaintiff and Relators
12	Dated: May 15, 2019	Respectfully submitted,
13		CENTRO LEGAL DE LA RAZA
14		
15		/s/Jesse Newmark (as authorized on May 15, 2019) Jesse Newmark
16		Attorneys for Plaintiff and Relators
17	Dated: May, 2019	Respectfully submitted,
18		LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP
19		
20		Joseph A. Salazar Jr.
21		Attorneys for Defendants
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23	IT IS SO ORDERED.	
24		10 A M. 10
25	DATED: May 21, 2019.	UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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