

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

MIAMI DIVISION

CASE NO. 07-21221 CIV ALTONAGA/Turnoff

RENEE BLASZKOWSKI, *et al.*,  
individually and on behalf of  
others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs/Class Representatives,

vs.

MARS INC., *et al.*,

Defendants.

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**DECLARATION OF RENEE BLASZKOWSKI**

I, Renee Blaszkowski, declare and state that the following is true and correct under penalty of perjury:

1. My name is Renee Blaszkowski. I am over eighteen years of age and have personal knowledge of the facts contained herein.

2. I am a named class representative in this case, and have been actively involved both prior to the time that it was filed and after. I have attended the hearing on the Motion to Dismiss and another status conference on July 6, 2007.

3. In September 2007, my company transferred me from Michigan to Connecticut for business reasons. I had resided in Michigan since 1996, 11 years and had purchased a home there. Due to the extreme economic circumstances in Michigan, I have not been able to sell my home nor do I expect to be able to do so anytime soon. At the same time, I am responsible for the expenses of a second household in Connecticut, which has placed me in an increasingly difficult financial position. As a result, I am not

able to afford attending the class certification hearing, the mediation, and the trial, which I would want to attend as a Plaintiff / Class Representative.

4. Despite the financial hardship, I flew down to Miami on August 28th, 2008 in order to have my deposition taken. I found this process to be very intimidating and nerve-racking, which caused me to be emotionally upset for several days thereafter. I have been somewhat emotionally sensitive because my father recently passed away. I was very close to him, and his death has been extremely upsetting and has had a tremendous emotional impact on me.

5. As a result of my father's death, I have also needed to spend quite a bit of my personal time assisting my mother with my father's estate, as well as tending to other matters to assist her after his passing.

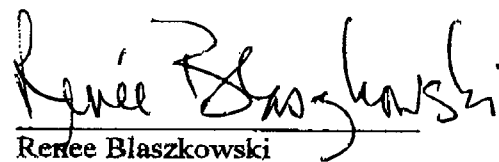
6. In addition to incurring costs due to circumstances that did not exist when I first agreed to become a plaintiff in this case, such as my transfer, the current national financial crisis has impacted my income. I am employed in retail and a hefty portion of my income is directly related to performance based sales, which has been extremely difficult. In fact, as a result of the recession / depression, this holiday season is predicted to be one of the worst since marketers have been keeping track of holiday sales. As a result, not only has my income been impacted, but my business has been drastically effected such that it will take considerably more time and effort to try to generate sales activities in the stores for which I am responsible. While, for the time being, my job seems secure, I am very concerned at the massive amount of retail store closings in Connecticut and across the nation and feel uncertain about the future.

7. Participation in this litigation requires more money, time, involvement, and emotional effort than I am presently capable of offering, and my continued participation in this case will undoubtedly increase the stress in my life.

8. Regrettably, I am not able participate in this case any longer for all of these reasons.

I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on October 7, 2008

  
Renee Blaszkowski