

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

FUND LIQUIDATION HOLDINGS LLC, as assignee and
successor-in-interest to FrontPoint Asian Event Driven Fund
L.P., MOON CAPITAL PARTNERS MASTER FUND
LTD., and MOON CAPITAL MASTER FUND LTD., on
behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CITIBANK, N.A., BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A., THE ROYAL BANK
OF SCOTLAND PLC, UBS AG, BNP PARIBAS, S.A.,
OVERSEA-CHINESE BANKING CORPORATION LTD.,
BARCLAYS BANK PLC, DEUTSCHE BANK AG,
CREDIT AGRICOLE CORPORATE AND INVESTMENT
BANK, CREDIT SUISSE AG, STANDARD CHARTERED
BANK, DBS BANK LTD., ING BANK, N.V., UNITED
OVERSEAS BANK LIMITED, AUSTRALIA AND NEW
ZEALAND BANKING GROUP, LTD., THE BANK OF
TOKYO-MITSUBISHI UFJ, LTD., THE HONGKONG
AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED,
COMMERZBANK AG, AND JOHN DOES NOS. 1-50,

Defendants.

Docket No. 16-cv-05263 (AKH)

~~PROPOSED~~

FINAL APPROVAL ORDER OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT
WITH HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED

This matter came for a duly-noticed hearing on November 29, 2022 (the “Fairness Hearing”), upon the Representative Plaintiffs’¹ Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (“HSBC”) in the action captioned *Fund Liquidation Holdings LLC, et al. v. Citibank, N.A. et al.*, No. 16-cv-05263 (AKH) (S.D.N.Y.) (the “Action”), which was consented to by HSBC (together with Representative Plaintiffs, the “Parties”). Due and adequate notice of the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement, dated May 3, 2022 (the “Settlement Agreement”) having been given to the Settlement Class Members, the Fairness Hearing having been held and the Court having considered all papers filed and proceedings had in the Action, and otherwise being fully informed in the premises and good cause appearing therefor,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED THAT:

1. This Final Approval Order hereby incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement and all terms used herein, except as otherwise expressly defined herein, shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

2. For purposes only of the settlement of the Released Claims² set forth in the Settlement Agreement (the “Settlement”), the Court hereby finally certifies the Settlement Class:

¹ “Representative Plaintiffs” are Fund Liquidation Holdings LLC (as assignee and successor-in-interest to FrontPoint Asian Event Driven Fund L.P.), Moon Capital Partners Master Fund Ltd., and Moon Capital Master Fund Ltd.

² “Released Claims” means any and all manner of claims, including unknown claims, causes of action, cross-claims, counter-claims, charges, liabilities, demands, judgments, suits, obligations, debts, setoffs, rights of recovery, or liabilities for any obligations of any kind whatsoever (however denominated), whether class, derivative, or individual, in law or equity or arising under constitution, statute, regulation, ordinance, contract, or otherwise in nature, for fees, costs, penalties, fines, debts, expenses, attorneys’ fees, and damages, whenever incurred, and liabilities of any nature whatsoever (including joint and several), known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, asserted or unasserted, which Settling Class Members or any of them ever had, now has, or hereafter can, shall or may have, representatively, derivatively or in any other capacity, against the Released Parties arising from or relating in any way to conduct alleged in the Action, or which could have been alleged in the Action against the Released Parties concerning any SIBOR- and/or SOR-Based Derivatives or any similar financial instruments priced, benchmarked, or settled to SIBOR or SOR purchased, sold, held, traded, and/or transacted by the Representative Plaintiffs, Class Members, and/or Settling Class Members (to the extent such similar financial instruments were entered into by a U.S.

All Persons (including both natural persons and entities) who purchased, sold, held, traded, or otherwise had any interest in SIBOR- and/or SOR-Based Derivatives³ during the period of January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2011 (the “Class Period”). Excluded from the Settlement Class are the Defendants and any parent, subsidiary, affiliate or agent of any Defendant or any co-conspirator whether or not named as a Defendant, and the United States Government.

3. Based on the record, the Court reconfirms that the applicable provisions of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure have been satisfied for purposes only of the Settlement.

4. In so holding, the Court finds that, solely for purposes of settlement, the Settlement Class meets all of the applicable requirements of FED. R. CIV. P. 23(a) and (b)(3). The Court hereby finds, in the specific context of this Settlement, that: (i) the Settlement Class is so numerous that joinder of all Settlement Class Members is impracticable, FED. R. CIV. P. 23(a)(1); (ii) common questions of law and fact exist with regard to HSBC’s alleged manipulation of SIBOR- and/or SOR-based Derivatives, FED. R. CIV. P. 23(a)(2); (iii) the Representative Plaintiffs’ claims in this litigation are typical of those of the Settlement Class Members, FED. R. CIV. P. 23(a)(3);

Person, or by a Person from or through a location within the U.S.), or in which any of the foregoing otherwise had any interest, including, but not limited to, any alleged manipulation of SIBOR and/or SOR under any statute, regulation, or common law, or any purported conspiracy, collusion, racketeering activity, or other improper conduct relating to SIBOR and/or SOR (including, but not limited to, all claims under Section 1 of the Sherman Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1 et seq., the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961-1968, and any other federal or state statute, regulation, or common law). The following claims shall not be released by this Settlement: (i) any claims against former HSBC employees arising solely from those former employees’ conduct that occurred while not employed by HSBC; (ii) any claims against the named Defendants in this Action other than HSBC; or (iii) any claims against any Defendant not affiliated with HSBC who may be subsequently added in this Action. For the avoidance of doubt, Released Claims does not include claims arising under foreign law based solely on transactions executed entirely outside the United States by Settling Class Members domiciled outside the United States. *See* Settlement Agreement § 12.

³ “SIBOR- and/or SOR-Based Derivatives” means (i) a SIBOR- and/or SOR-based interest rate swap entered into by a U.S. Person, or by a Person from or through a location within the U.S.; (ii) an option on a SIBOR- and/or a SOR-based interest rate swap (“swaption”) entered into by a U.S. Person, or by a Person from or through a location within the U.S.; (iii) a Singapore Dollar currency forward agreement entered into by a U.S. Person, or by a Person from or through a location within the U.S.; (iv) a SIBOR- and/or SOR-based forward rate agreement entered into by a U.S. Person, or by a Person from or through a location within the U.S.; and/or (v) a SIBOR- and/or SOR-based foreign exchange swap entered into by a U.S. Person, or by a Person from or through a location within the U.S. *See* Settlement Agreement § 1(OO).

and (iv) the Representative Plaintiffs' interests do not conflict with, and are co-extensive with, those of absent Settlement Class Members; and (v) Lowey Dannenberg, P.C. ("Class Counsel") has adequately represented the interests of the Settlement Class, FED. R. CIV. P. 23(a)(4). The Court also finds that common issues of fact and law predominate over any questions affecting only individual members and that a class action is superior to other available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating this controversy. FED. R. CIV. P. 23(b)(3).

5. Representative Plaintiffs are hereby approved to serve as representatives of such Settlement Class for purposes of the Settlement.

6. Lowey Dannenberg, P.C. is appointed Class Counsel to the Settlement Class for the purposes of the Settlement.

7. In the Action only and solely for purposes of the Settlement, this Court: (i) has personal jurisdiction over Representative Plaintiffs, HSBC, and all Settlement Class Members, and (ii) subject matter jurisdiction over the Action to consider the Settlement Agreement and all exhibits attached thereto.

8. The Court finds that the mailed notice, publication notice, website, and Class Notice plan implemented pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and approved by the Court in the Order dated June 9, 2022 (ECF No. 514); (a) constituted the best practicable notice; (b) constituted notice that was reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Settlement Class Members of the pendency of the Action, of their right to exclude themselves from or object to the proposed Settlement, of their right to appear at the Fairness Hearing, of the Distribution Plan, and of Class Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees, Incentive Award(s), and for reimbursement of expenses associated with the Action; (c) provided a full and fair opportunity to all Settlement Class Members to be heard with respect to the foregoing matters; and (d) met all applicable

requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, Due Process, and any other applicable rules or law. Based upon HSBC's submission to the Court dated May 23, 2022, the Court further finds that HSBC has complied with the obligations imposed on it under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, 28 U.S.C. § 1715.

9. The Court finds that one Settlement Class Member has validly requested to be excluded from the Settlement Class as it relates to the Settlement. The excluded member of the Settlement Class is identified at ECF No. 535-1 and in Exhibit 1 hereto. The excluded member of the Settlement Class as to the Settlement with HSBC identified in Exhibit 1 hereto shall have no rights with respect to the Settlement Agreement, shall receive no payment from the sums provided for in the Settlement Agreement and shall be deemed to have excluded itself from the Action as against HSBC, including but not limited to any and all future prosecution of the Action against HSBC.

10. The Court finds that no objections to the proposed Settlement have been submitted. Notwithstanding the lack of objections, the Court has independently reviewed and considered all relevant factors and has conducted an independent examination into the propriety of the proposed Settlement.

11. It is hereby determined that all Settling Class Members are bound by the Settlement Agreement and this Final Approval Order regardless of whether such Settling Class Members execute and deliver a Proof of Claim and Release.

12. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, this Court hereby finally approves the Settlement, as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, and finds that the Settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class, including the Representative Plaintiffs. In reaching this conclusion, the Court

considered the factors set forth in *City of Detroit v. Grinnell Corp.*, 495 F.2d 448, 463 (2d Cir. 1974), *abrogated on other grounds by Goldberger v. Integrated Res., Inc.*, 209 F.3d 43 (2d Cir. 2000). This Court further finds that the Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement is the result of arm's-length negotiations between experienced counsel representing the interests of the Parties, and that Class Counsel and the Representative Plaintiffs adequately represented the Settlement Class for the purpose of entering into and implementing the Settlement Agreement. The Court finds that the relief provided by the Settlement is adequate and Settlement Class Members are treated equitably. Accordingly, the Settlement embodied in the Settlement Agreement is hereby approved in all respects. The Parties are hereby directed to carry out the Settlement Agreement in accordance with all of its terms and provisions, including the termination provisions.

13. Notwithstanding the entry of this Final Approval Order, if the Settlement Agreement is validly terminated by Representative Plaintiffs or HSBC, is disapproved in whole or in part by the Court, any appellate court, or any other court of review, or does not become Final in accordance with its terms, then the provisions of this Final Approval Order shall be null and void with respect to the Settlement; Representative Plaintiffs' and Settling Class Members' claims shall be reinstated; HSBC's defenses shall be reinstated; the certification of the Settlement Class and final approval of the proposed Settlement, and all actions associated with it, including but not limited to any requests for exclusion from the Settlement previously submitted and deemed to be valid, shall be vacated and be of no force and effect; the Settlement Agreement, including its exhibits, and any and all negotiations, documents, and discussions associated with it and the releases set forth in the Settlement Agreement, shall be without prejudice to the rights of any Party, and of no force or effect; and the Parties shall be returned to their respective positions before the

Settlement Agreement was signed. Notwithstanding the language in this section, any provision(s) in the Settlement Agreement that the Parties have agreed shall survive their termination shall continue to have the same force and effect intended by the Parties.

14. The Settlement Fund defined in the Settlement Agreement has been established as a trust and as a fiduciary account (the “Settlement Fiduciary Account”). The Court approves the establishment of the Settlement Fiduciary Account under the Settlement Agreement as qualified settlement funds pursuant to Section 468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.

15. Without affecting the finality of the Final Approval Order for purposes of appeal, the Court reserves exclusive jurisdiction over the implementation and enforcement of the Settlement Agreement and the Settlement contemplated thereby and over the enforcement of this Final Approval Order. The Court also retains exclusive jurisdiction to resolve any disputes that arise out of or relate to the Settlement Agreement, the Settlement, or the Settlement Fund (except for such disputes and controversies as are subject to Section 37 of the Settlement Agreement, which disputes and controversies shall be governed by the respective terms of such section), to consider or approve administration costs and fees, including but not limited to fees and expenses incurred to administer the Settlement after the entry of the Final Approval Order, and to consider or approve the amounts of distributions to Settlement Class Members. In addition, without affecting the finality of this Final Approval Order, the Representative Plaintiffs, HSBC, and the Settlement Class hereby irrevocably submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York for any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Final Approval Order or the Settlement Agreement. Except as otherwise provided in the Settlement Agreement, any disputes involving the Representative Plaintiffs, HSBC, or

Settling Class Members concerning the implementation of the Settlement Agreement shall be submitted to the Court.

16. Each Settling Class Member must execute a release and covenant not to sue, in conformity with the Settlement Agreement, as incorporated into the Proof of Claim and Release form, in order to receive the Settling Class Member's share, if any, of the Net Settlement Fund defined in the Settlement Agreement. The Court hereby confirms the appointment of A.B. Data, Ltd. as Settlement Administrator and directs that the Settlement Administrator shall ensure that each Proof of Claim and Release form provided to Settling Class Members contains a copy of such release and covenant not to sue. However, Settling Class Members' claims shall be released pursuant to Section 12 of the Settlement Agreement regardless of whether the Settling Class Member executes a release and covenant not to sue.

17. The Court declares that the Settlement Agreement and the Final Approval Order shall be binding on, and shall have *res judicata* and preclusive effect in, all pending and future lawsuits or other proceedings against the Released Parties⁴ involving the Released Claims that are maintained by or on behalf of any Releasing Party regardless of whether the Releasing Party previously initiated or subsequently initiates individual litigation or other proceedings involving the Released Claims, and even if such Releasing Party never received actual notice of the Action or the proposed Settlement.

⁴ "Released Parties" means HSBC, and its predecessors, successors and assigns, its past, present, and future direct and indirect parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and joint ventures, and each of its respective current and former officers, directors, employees, managers, members, partners, agents (in their capacity as agents of HSBC), shareholders (in their capacity as shareholders of HSBC), attorneys, insurers, or legal representatives, and the predecessors, successors, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns of each of the foregoing. Without limiting the foregoing, "Released Parties" specifically includes HSBC Bank USA, N.A., HSBC Holdings plc, HSBC North America Holdings Inc., and HSBC USA Inc. As used in this provision, "affiliates" means entities controlling, controlled by, or under common control with a Released Party. For the avoidance of doubt, "Released Parties" shall not include any named Defendants other than HSBC. See Settlement Agreement § 1(FF).

18. The Court hereby approves the release and covenant not to sue set forth in Section 12 of the Settlement and directs dismissal of the Action as against HSBC and any Released Parties (but not any other Defendant) fully, finally and with prejudice, pursuant to the terms of the Settlement and the Final Judgment to be entered concurrently herewith.

19. The Court permanently bars and enjoins the Releasing Parties⁵ and all Settling Class Members from: (a) filing, commencing, prosecuting, intervening in, or participating (as class members or otherwise) in any other lawsuit or administrative, regulatory, arbitration, or other proceeding in any jurisdiction against HSBC or any Released Parties based on the Released Claims; (b) filing, commencing, or prosecuting a lawsuit or administrative, regulatory, arbitration, or other proceeding as a class action on behalf of any Settlement Class Members (including by seeking to amend a pending complaint to include class allegations or seeking class certification in a pending action), against HSBC or any Released Parties based on the Released Claims; (c) organizing members of the Settlement Class into a separate group, class, or subclass for purposes of pursuing as a purported class action any lawsuit or administrative, regulatory, arbitration, or other proceeding (including by seeking to amend a pending complaint to include class allegations, or seeking class certification in a pending action) against HSBC or any Released Parties based on

⁵ “Releasing Parties” means each and every Representative Plaintiff, FrontPoint Asian Event Driven Fund, L.P., and Sonterra Capital Master Fund, Ltd., and each and every Settling Class Member on their own behalf and on behalf of their respective predecessors, successors and assigns, direct and indirect parents, subsidiaries and affiliates, and on behalf of their current and former officers, directors, employees, agents, principals, members, trustees, participants, representatives, fiduciaries, beneficiaries or legal representatives in their capacity as such, and the predecessors, successors, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns of each of the foregoing in their capacity as such, whether or not they object to the Settlement or make a claim for payment under the Net Settlement Fund. Notwithstanding that the U.S. Government is excluded from the Settlement Class, with respect to any Settling Class Member that is a government entity, Releasing Parties include any Settling Class Member as to which the government entity has the legal right to release such claims. As used in this provision, “affiliates” means entities controlling, controlled by, or under common control with a Releasing Party. For the avoidance of doubt, the “Releasing Parties” include all Persons entitled to bring or release claims on behalf of Settling Class Members, relating to their transactions in SIBOR- and/or SOR-Based Derivatives or any similar financial instruments priced, benchmarked, or settled to SIBOR and/or SOR held by Representative Plaintiffs, FrontPoint Asian Event Driven Fund, L.P., and Sonterra Capital Master Fund, Ltd., or Settling Class Members (to the extent such similar financial instruments were entered into by a U.S. Person, or by a Person from or through a location within the U.S.). *See* Settlement Agreement § 1(GG).

the Released Claims; or (d) assisting any third party in the prosecution of any Released Claims against HSBC or any Released Parties.

20. The Court permanently bars and enjoins claims by any Person against HSBC or any Released Parties for all or a portion of any amounts paid or awarded in the Action by way of settlement, judgment or otherwise. To the extent permitted by law, the Court permanently bars and enjoins claims against HSBC and any Released Parties for contribution or indemnification (however denominated) for all or a portion of any amounts paid or awarded in the Action by way of settlement, judgment, or otherwise by (a) any of the other Defendants currently named in the Action; (b) any other Person formerly named as a party in the Action; or (c) any other Person subsequently added or joined as a party in the Action. Should any court determine that any Defendant is or was legally entitled to any kind of set-off, apportionment, contribution, or indemnification from HSBC or any Released Parties arising out of or related to Released Claims, the Releasing Parties agree that any money judgment subsequently obtained by the Releasing Parties against any Defendant shall be reduced to an amount such that, upon paying the entire amount, the Defendant would have no claim for set-off, apportionment, contribution, indemnification, or similar claims against HSBC or any Released Parties.

21. The Court permanently bars and enjoins claims by HSBC or any Released Parties against any other Defendants for all or a portion of any amounts paid or awarded in the Action by way of settlement, judgment or otherwise. To the extent permitted by law, the Court permanently bars and enjoins claims by HSBC and any Released Parties for contribution or indemnification (however denominated) from other Defendants for all or a portion of any amounts paid or awarded in the Action by way of settlement, judgment, or otherwise against any of the other Defendants currently named in the Action and absolves the other Defendants against any claims for

contribution, indemnification, or similar claims from the Released Parties arising out of or related in any way to the Released Claims, in the manner and to the fullest extent permitted under the law of New York or any other jurisdiction that might be construed or deemed to apply for claims of contribution, indemnification, or similar claims against any of the other Defendants. For the avoidance of doubt, this paragraph shall not bar any claims, including claims for contribution or indemnification (however denominated) by HSBC and/or any Released Parties against any third parties other than other Defendants in this Action.

22. Neither the Settlement Agreement (nor its respective exhibits), whether or not it shall become Final, nor any negotiations, documents exchanged among counsel for the Representative Plaintiffs and HSBC in connection with settlement discussions, and discussions associated with them, nor the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment are or shall be deemed or construed to be an admission, adjudication, or evidence of: (a) any violation of any statute or law or of the validity of any claims, alleged wrongdoing, or liability of HSBC or any Released Party; (b) the truth of any of the claims, defenses or allegations alleged in the Action; (c) the incurrence of any damage, loss, or injury by any Person; (d) the existence or amount of any artificiality of any interest benchmark or other interest rate; (e) any fault or omission of HSBC or any Released Party in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal; or (f) the propriety of certification of a class other than solely for purposes of the Settlement. Further, neither the Settlement Agreement (nor its exhibits), whether or not it shall become Final, nor any negotiations, documents exchanged among counsel for the Representative Plaintiffs and HSBC in connection with settlement discussions, and discussions associated with them, nor the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment, may be discoverable, offered or received in evidence, or used directly or indirectly, in any way, whether in the Action or in any other action

or proceeding of any nature, by any Person, except if warranted by existing law in connection with a dispute under the Settlement Agreement or an action (including this Action) in which the Settlement Agreement is asserted as a defense. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the foregoing provisions do not apply to discovery or cooperation materials provided by HSBC to the Representative Plaintiffs or by the Representative Plaintiffs to the HSBC in connection with the Settlement or the Action. The Parties, without the need for approval from the Court, may adopt such amendments, modifications, and expansions of the Settlement Agreement and all exhibits thereto as (i) shall be consistent in all material respects with the Final Approval Order; and (ii) do not limit the rights of Settling Class Members.

23. The Court finds that, during the course of the Action, the Parties and their respective counsel at all times complied with the requirements of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as to each other.

24. Any data or other information provided by Settlement Class Members in connection with the submission of claims shall be held in strict confidence, available only to the Settlement Administrator, Class Counsel, and experts or consultants acting on behalf of the Settlement Class. In no event shall a Settlement Class Member's data or personal information be made publicly available, except as provided for herein or upon Court Order for good cause shown.

25. The Distribution Plan and the Proof of Claim and Release Form are each approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate.

26. The word "days," as used herein, means calendar days. In the event that any date or deadline set forth herein falls on a weekend or federal or state legal holiday, such date or deadline shall be deemed moved to the first business day thereafter.

27. The Court's certification of the Settlement Class and appointment of the Representative Plaintiffs as class representatives, as provided herein, is without prejudice to, or waiver of, the rights of any Defendant to contest any other request by the Representative Plaintiffs to certify a class. The Court's findings in this Final Approval Order shall have no effect on the Court's ruling on any motion to certify any class or to appoint class representatives in this litigation or any challenge to the Representative Plaintiffs' capacity to litigate or to represent a putative class, and no party may cite or refer to the Court's approval of the Settlement Class as binding or persuasive authority with respect to any such motion or challenge.

28. Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses (and Incentive Awards for the Representative Plaintiffs) shall be the subject of a separate order by the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed this 29 day of November 2022.


Hon. Alvin K. Hellerstein
United States District Judge

EXHIBIT 1

FUND LIQUIDATION HOLDINGS LLC, et al., v CITIBANK, N.A., et al., Case No.: 1:16-cv-5263 (AKH) (S.D.N.Y.)

Exclusion Report

Name	Exclusion ID #	Postmark	Timely?	Contact Information?	Name of Action?	Class Member Statement?	Transaction(s) Statement?	Exclusion Statement?	Signed?
1. QBE Equator Reinsurances Limited	196702493	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2.									
3.									
4.									
5.									
6.									
7.									
8.									