

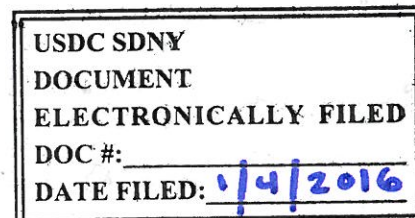
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January 4, 2016

By ECF

The Honorable Denny Chin
United States Circuit Judge
United States Courthouse
40 Foley Square
New York, NY 10007-1502

*Re: Sykes, et al. v. Mel S. Harris and Associates LLC, et al.,
09 Civ. 8486 (DC)*

Dear Judge Chin:

This firm, along with co-counsel MFY Legal Services and the New Economy Project, represents Plaintiffs and the Class in the above-referenced action. We write to seek a short extension of the deadlines for mailing the Individual Notices, as well as the exclusion, objection and briefing deadlines, as set out in the Court's November 16, 2015 Order (docket 236). We also write to alert the Court as to an issue with a small subset of the Class which may require additional time to send the Individual Notice to this group. All parties consent to these requests.

Specifically, we request that the deadline for the Administrator to mail the Individual Notices and Claim Forms, which is currently set for January 7, 2016, be extended one week until January 15, 2016. We ask for a concomitant extension from April 7, 2016 to April 14, 2016 of the deadline for class members to object to or exclude themselves from the Settlement or decline the nominal restitution. In addition, we ask that the schedule for briefing the motion for final approval be similarly adjusted. The scheduled May 11, 2016 fairness hearing will not need to be moved to accommodate this request. Under our proposed schedule, class members would continue to have 90 days to exclude themselves from, decline restitution from, or object to, the Settlement. We respectfully ask the Court to "so order" the following schedule:

Individual Notices: Jan. 15, 2016

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Claim form deadline: April 7
Exclusion/declination/objection deadline: April 14 (90 days from Jan. 15)
Filing of final approval motion: April 18
Response to final approval motion: April 28
Reply for final approval motion: May 6
Fairness hearing: May 11¹

We seek this extension to accommodate unexpected delays in preparing the notices. As the Court knows, the parties are providing personalized notices to class members, to apprise each class member how the settlement will affect him or her. Such personalized notice requires extensive analysis of the class member data that the Mel Harris Law Firm maintained. Unfortunately, the (former) Mel Harris employee who was most familiar with that data recently passed away, delaying the analysis.

We also write to alert the Court as to a data issue that has arisen with respect to a very small subset of the class (a few thousand people in the 350,000+ person class), which may require additional time to send those class members notice. For this small group, a second person is listed for each account. The Mel Harris Defendants have indicated that these secondary people may be responsible payors against whom judgments were issued. We are currently investigating whether these secondary people are also class members entitled to Individual Notice and, if so, their address. The parties and the Administrator are hopeful to resolve these issues and send the Individual Notice to this small group no later than January 25, and likely earlier. Under the proposed schedule, these individuals would still have 73 days to submit a claim form and 80 days to lodge any objection or exclusion, which is far more than is provided for in many settlements. We therefore respectfully request until January 25, 2015 to send Individualized Notice to those class members with a secondary payor listed on their account.

We are available to answer any questions the Court may have.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Debra Greenberger

Approved.

SO ORDERED.



USCJ

1-4-2016

¹ The current schedule is as follows:

Individual Notice: January 7, 2016
Claim form deadline: April 7
Exclusion/declination/objection deadline: April 7
Filing of final approval motion: April 12
Response to final approval motion: April 22
Reply for final approval motion: May 4
Fairness hearing: May 11