## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

# IN RE WELLS FARGO & COMPANY SECURITIES LITIGATION

Case No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN

## NOTICE OF LEAD PLAINTIFFS' UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AND APPROVAL OF NOTICE TO THE SETTLEMENT CLASS

TO: All Counsel of Record

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that based on the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated May 8, 2023 (the "Stipulation"), attached hereto as Exhibit 1; the accompanying memorandum of law; and all other papers and proceedings herein, Lead Plaintiffs Handelsbanken Fonder AB ("Handelsbanken"); Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi ("Mississippi"); State of Rhode Island, Office of the General Treasurer ("Rhode Island"); and Louisiana Sheriffs' Pension & Relief Fund ("Louisiana Sheriffs") (collectively "Lead Plaintiffs") hereby move this Court, under Rule 23(e)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, for entry of an order: (i) preliminarily approving the proposed Settlement; (ii) approving the form and manner of giving notice of the proposed Settlement class Members; and (iii) scheduling a hearing to consider final approval of the Settlement and approval of the Plan of Allocation and Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and expenses.<sup>1</sup> The Parties' agreed-upon [Proposed] Order Preliminarily Approving Settlement and Authorizing Dissemination of Notice of Settlement is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All capitalized terms used herein that are not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Stipulation.

submitted with this motion. Defendants do not oppose the Motion, in accordance with the terms

of the Stipulation.

Dated: May 15, 2023

## /s/ Laura H. Posner

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## /s/ John C. Browne

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Additional Counsel for Louisiana Sheriffs

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

## IN RE WELLS FARGO & COMPANY SECURITIES LITIGATION

Case No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN

## **STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT OF SETTLEMENT**

This Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement, dated as of May 8, 2023 (the "Stipulation") is entered into between (a) Lead Plaintiffs Handelsbanken Fonder AB ("Handelsbanken"); Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi ("Mississippi"); State of Rhode Island, Office of the General Treasurer ("Rhode Island"); and Louisiana Sheriffs' Pension & Relief Fund ("Louisiana Sheriffs") on behalf of themselves and the other members of the Settlement Class (as defined in paragraph 1(pp) below); and (b) defendants Wells Fargo & Company ("Wells Fargo" or the "Company"), Timothy J. Sloan, John R. Shrewsberry, C. Allen Parker, and Elizabeth "Betsy" Duke (collectively, the "Individual Defendants" and, with Wells Fargo, "Defendants"), by and through their respective undersigned counsel, and embodies the terms and conditions of the settlement of the above-captioned action (the "Action"). Subject to the approval of the Court and the terms and conditions expressly provided herein, this Stipulation is intended to fully, finally and forever compromise, settle, release, resolve, and dismiss with prejudice all claims that were or could have been asserted in the Action against Defendants.

WHEREAS:

A. By Order dated August 29, 2020, the Honorable Gregory H. Woods appointed Handelsbanken, Mississippi, Rhode Island, and Louisiana Sheriffs as Lead Plaintiffs for the Action; and approved Lead Plaintiffs' selection of Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP as Lead Counsel.

B. On November 9, 2020, Lead Plaintiffs filed and served their Consolidated Amended Class Action Complaint (the "Complaint") asserting claims against all Defendants under Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder, and against the Individual Defendants and Charles W. Scharf under Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. Among other things, the Complaint alleged that Defendants made materially false and misleading statements about Wells Fargo's compliance with consent orders it had entered into with its regulators in 2018 (the "2018 Consent Orders") to rectify certain improper banking practices and deficiencies in corporate oversight. The Complaint further alleged that the price of Wells Fargo's common stock was artificially inflated as a result of Defendants' allegedly false and misleading statements, and declined when the truth was revealed.

C. On January 22, 2021, Defendants served their motion to dismiss the Complaint. On March 8, 2021, Lead Plaintiffs served their memorandum of law in opposition to this motion and, on April 2, 2021, Defendants served their reply papers. Defendants submitted supplemental authority in support of their motion on September 9, 2021, and Lead Plaintiffs responded on September 13, 2021. On September 30, 2021, the Court issued its Memorandum Opinion and Order granting in part and denying in part Defendants' motion to dismiss the Complaint.

D. On November 15, 2021, Defendants filed and served their Answers to the Complaint, after which extensive discovery occurred.

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E. This Stipulation (together with the exhibits hereto) has been duly executed by the undersigned signatories on behalf of their respective clients and reflects the final and binding agreement between the Parties.

F. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have concluded that the terms and conditions of this Stipulation are fair, reasonable, and adequate to Lead Plaintiffs and the other members of the Settlement Class, and in their best interests. Based on Lead Plaintiffs' direct oversight of the prosecution of this matter and with the advice of their counsel, each of the Lead Plaintiffs has agreed to settle and release the Released Plaintiffs' Claims (as defined below) pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Stipulation, after considering, among other things: (a) the financial benefit that Lead Plaintiffs and the other members of the Settlement Class will receive under the proposed Settlement; and (b) the significant risks of continued litigation and trial.

G. The Parties agree that certification of a class, for settlement purposes only, is appropriate in the Action. For purposes of this Settlement only, the Settlement Class is defined in ¶ 1(pp) below. The Parties intend that the provisions herein concerning certification of the Settlement Class shall have no effect whatsoever in the event the Settlement does not become Final.

H. This Stipulation constitutes a compromise of all matters that are in dispute between the Parties. Defendants are entering into this Stipulation solely to avoid the cost, disruption, and uncertainty of further litigation. Each of the Defendants denies any wrongdoing, and this Stipulation shall in no event be construed or deemed to be evidence of or an admission or concession on the part of any of the Defendants with respect to any claim or allegation of any fault or liability or wrongdoing or damage whatsoever, or any infirmity in the defenses that Defendants have, or could have, asserted. Defendants expressly deny that Lead Plaintiffs have asserted any valid claims, and expressly deny any and all allegations of fault, liability, wrongdoing, or damages.

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Similarly, this Stipulation shall in no event be construed or deemed to be evidence of or an admission or concession on the part of Lead Plaintiffs of any infirmity in any of the claims asserted in the Action, or an admission or concession that any of the Defendants' defenses to liability had any merit. Each of the Parties recognizes and acknowledges that the Action has been initiated, filed, and prosecuted by Lead Plaintiffs in good faith and defended by Defendants in good faith, and that the Action is being voluntarily settled with the advice of counsel.

NOW THEREFORE, without any admission or concession on the part of Lead Plaintiffs of any lack of merit to the Action whatsoever, and without any admission or concession on the part of Defendants of any liability or wrongdoing or any lack of merit to the defenses whatsoever, it is hereby STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and among Lead Plaintiffs (together and on behalf of all other members of the Settlement Class) and Defendants, by and through their respective undersigned attorneys and subject to the approval of the Court pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, that, in consideration of the benefits flowing to the Parties from the Settlement, all Released Plaintiffs' Claims as against the Defendants' Releasees and all Released Defendants' Claims as against the Plaintiffs' Releasees shall be fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, discharged and dismissed with prejudice, upon and subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

1. As used in this Stipulation and any exhibits attached hereto and made a

part hereof, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Action" means the consolidated securities class action in the matterstyled In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN, and includes all actions consolidated therein.

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(b) "Authorized Claimant" means a Settlement Class Member who submits a Claim to the Claims Administrator for payment from the Net Settlement Fund that is approved by the Court.

(c) "Claim" means a paper claim submitted on a Proof of Claim Form or an electronic claim that is submitted to the Claims Administrator.

(d) "Claim Form" or "Proof of Claim Form" means the form, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A-2, that a Claimant must complete and submit should that Claimant seek to share in a distribution of the Net Settlement Fund.

(e) "Claimant" means a person or entity who submits a Claim to the Claims Administrator seeking to be eligible to share in the proceeds of the Net Settlement Fund.

(f) "Claims Administrator" means the firm retained by Lead Counsel, subject to approval of the Court, to provide all notices approved by the Court to potential Settlement Class Members and to administer the Settlement.

(g) "Class Distribution Order" means an order entered by the Court authorizing and directing that the Net Settlement Fund be distributed, in whole or in part, to Authorized Claimants.

(h) "Class Period" means the period from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive.

(i) "Complaint" means the Consolidated Amended Class Action Complaint filed on November 9, 2020.

(j) "Court" means the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

(k) "Defendants" means Wells Fargo and the Individual Defendants.

(1) "Defendants' Counsel" means Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, Clarence Dyer &
 Cohen LLP, Swanson & McNamara LLP, Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, and Shearman &
 Sterling LLP.

(m) "Defendants' Releasees" means Defendants and Charles W. Scharf, including each of their current and former parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, agents, successors, predecessors, assigns, assignees, heirs, executors, estates, administrators, joint ventures, entities in which they have a controlling interest, partnerships, partners, trustees, trusts, employees, Immediate Family Members, insurers, reinsurers, accountants, auditors, and attorneys, in their capacities as such.

(n) "Effective Date" with respect to the Settlement means the first date by which all of the events and conditions specified in ¶ 32 of this Stipulation have been met and have occurred or have been waived.

(o) "Escrow Account" means an account maintained at Citibank, N.A. wherein the Settlement Amount shall be deposited and held in escrow under the control of Lead Counsel.

(p) "Escrow Agent" means Citibank, N.A.

(q) "Escrow Agreement" means the agreement between Lead Counsel and the Escrow Agent setting forth the terms under which the Escrow Agent shall maintain the Escrow Account.

(r) "Final," with respect to the Judgment or any other court order, means the later of: (i) if no appeal is filed, the expiration date of the time provided for filing or noticing any appeal under the applicable Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Appellate Procedure, *i.e.*, thirty (30) days after entry of the judgment or order; or (ii) if there is an appeal from the judgment or order, (a) the date of final dismissal of all such appeals, or the final dismissal of any proceeding

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on *certiorari* or otherwise, or (b) the date the judgment or order is finally affirmed on an appeal, the expiration of the time to file a petition for a writ of *certiorari* or other form of review, or the denial of a writ of *certiorari* or other form of review, and, if *certiorari* or other form of review is granted, the date of final affirmance following review pursuant to that grant. However, any appeal or proceeding seeking subsequent judicial review pertaining solely to an order issued with respect to (i) attorneys' fees, costs or expenses, or (ii) the plan of allocation of Settlement proceeds (as submitted or subsequently modified), shall not in any way delay or preclude a judgment from becoming Final.

(s) "Immediate Family Member(s)" means children, stepchildren, parents, stepparents, spouses, siblings, mothers-in-law, fathers-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law and any persons (other than a tenant or employee) sharing the household.

(t) "Individual Defendants" means Timothy J. Sloan, John R. Shrewsberry, C.Allen Parker, and Elizabeth "Betsy" Duke.

(u) "Investment Vehicle" means any investment company or pooled investment fund, including but not limited to mutual fund families, exchange-traded funds, funds of funds, private equity funds, real estate funds, and hedge funds, as to which Wells Fargo or any affiliate of Wells Fargo acts or acted as investment advisor but of which Wells Fargo or any affiliate of Wells Fargo is not a majority owner or does not hold a majority beneficial interest.

(v) "Judgment" means a final order of judgment and dismissal, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, to be entered by the Court approving the Settlement.

(w) "Lead Counsel" means the law firms of Cohen Milstein Sellers & TollPLLC and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP.

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(x) "Lead Plaintiffs" means Handelsbanken Fonder AB; Public Employees'
 Retirement System of Mississippi; State of Rhode Island, Office of the General Treasurer; and
 Louisiana Sheriffs' Pension & Relief Fund.

(y) "Litigation Expenses" means the reasonable costs and expenses incurred in connection with commencing, prosecuting and settling the Action (which may include the costs and expenses of Lead Plaintiffs directly related to their representation of the Settlement Class), for which Lead Counsel intend to apply to the Court for payment or reimbursement from the Settlement Fund.

(z) "Net Settlement Fund" means the Settlement Fund less: (i) any Taxes;(ii) any Notice and Administration Costs; (iii) any Litigation Expenses awarded by the Court;(iv) any attorneys' fees awarded by the Court; and (v) any other costs or fees approved by the Court.

(aa) "Notice" means the Notice of (I) Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; (II) Settlement Fairness Hearing; and (III) Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A-1, which is to be mailed to Settlement Class Members.

(bb) "Notice and Administration Costs" means the costs, fees, and expenses that are incurred by the Claims Administrator and/or Lead Counsel in connection with: (i) providing notices to the Settlement Class; and (ii) administering the Settlement, including but not limited to the Claims process, as well as the costs, fees, and expenses incurred in connection with the Escrow Account.

(cc) "Parties" means Defendants and Lead Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Settlement Class.

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(dd) "Plaintiffs' Counsel" means the law firms of Lead Counsel Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP, and the law firm of Klausner, Kaufman, Jensen & Levinson, additional counsel for Lead Plaintiff Louisiana Sheriffs.

(ee) "Plaintiffs' Releasees" means Lead Plaintiffs and all other Settlement Class Members, and their respective current and former parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, agents, successors, predecessors, assigns, assignees, heirs, executors, estates, administrators, joint ventures, entities in which they have a controlling interest, partnerships, partners, trustees, trusts, employees, Immediate Family Members, insurers, reinsurers, accountants, auditors, and attorneys, in their capacities as such.

(ff) "Plan of Allocation" means the proposed plan of allocation of the Net Settlement Fund set forth in the Notice.

(gg) "Preliminary Approval Order" means the order, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, to be entered by the Court preliminarily approving the Settlement and directing that notice of the Settlement be provided to the Settlement Class.

(hh) "PSLRA" means the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, 15U.S.C. § 78u-4, as amended.

(ii) "Released Claims" means all Released Defendants' Claims and all ReleasedPlaintiffs' Claims.

(jj) "Released Defendants' Claims" means all claims and causes of action of every nature and description, whether known or Unknown Claims, whether arising under federal, state, common, or foreign law, that arise out of or relate in any way to the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the claims against Defendants. Released Defendants' Claims do not include any claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement or any claims against any person or entity who

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or which submits a request for exclusion from the Settlement Class that is accepted by the Court.

(kk) "Released Plaintiffs' Claims" means all claims and causes of action of every nature and description, whether known or Unknown Claims, whether arising under federal, state, common, or foreign law, that Lead Plaintiffs or any other member of the Settlement Class (a) asserted in the Complaint; or (b) could have asserted in any forum that arise out of or are based upon the allegations, transactions, facts, matters or occurrences, representations or omissions involved, set forth, or referred to in the Complaint and that relate to the purchase, acquisition, or ownership of Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period. This release does not include any claims that have already been asserted in a related shareholder derivative action or ERISA action, including *Timothy Himstreet and Montini Family Trust v. Charles W. Scharf, et al.*, No. CGC-22-599223 (Cal. Super. Ct. Apr. 19, 2022), or any claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement.

(ll) "Releasee(s)" means each and any of the Defendants' Releasees and each and any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees.

(mm) "Releases" means the releases set forth in ¶¶ 5-6 of this Stipulation.

(nn) "Settlement" means the resolution of the Action against Defendants in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Stipulation.

(oo) "Settlement Amount" means the total amount of \$1,000,000,000.00 in cash.

(pp) "Settlement Class" means all persons or entities who purchased or otherwise acquired the common stock of Wells Fargo during the Class Period and were damaged thereby. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) Defendants; (b) the Officers (defined as any employee serving on Wells Fargo's Operating Committee) and Directors of Wells Fargo during the Class Period; (c) Defendants' Immediate Family Members; and (d) any entity in which any

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Defendant has or had a controlling interest. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Investment Vehicle shall be excluded from the Settlement Class. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are any persons or entities who or which exclude themselves by submitting a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.

(qq) "Settlement Class Member" means each person and entity that is a member of the Settlement Class.

(rr) "Settlement Fund" means the Settlement Amount plus any and all interest earned thereon.

(ss) "Settlement Hearing" means the hearing set by the Court under Rule 23(e)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to consider final approval of the Settlement.

(tt) "Summary Notice" means the Summary Notice of (I) Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; (II) Settlement Fairness Hearing; and (III) Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A-3, to be published as set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order.

(uu) "Taxes" means: (i) all federal, state and/or local taxes of any kind (including any interest or penalties thereon) on any income earned by the Settlement Fund; and (ii) the reasonable expenses and costs incurred by Lead Counsel in connection with determining the amount of, and paying, any taxes owed by the Settlement Fund (including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and accountants).

(vv) "Unknown Claims" means any Released Plaintiffs' Claims which any Lead Plaintiff or any other Settlement Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of such claims, and any Released Defendants' Claims which any Defendant does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of

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such claims, in each case which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to this Settlement. With respect to any and all Released Claims, the Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants shall expressly waive, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed to have waived, and by operation of the Judgment shall have expressly waived, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law or foreign law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil Code § 1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants acknowledge that they may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those which he, she, or it or their counsel now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims, but, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiff and Defendants shall expressly settle and release, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, settled and released, any and all Released Claims without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts. Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants acknowledge, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed by operation of the Judgment to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and a material element of the Settlement.

(ww) "Wells Fargo" means Wells Fargo & Company.

(xx) "Wells Fargo's Counsel" means Sullivan & Cromwell LLP.

#### **CLASS CERTIFICATION**

2. Solely for purposes of the Settlement and for no other purpose, Defendants stipulate and agree to: (a) certification of the Action as a class action pursuant to Rules 23(a) and 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of the Settlement Class; (b) certification of Lead Plaintiffs as Class Representatives for the Settlement Class; and (c) appointment of Lead Counsel as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class pursuant to Rule 23(g) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

## PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT

3. Within fifteen (15) days of execution of this Stipulation, Lead Plaintiffs will move for preliminary approval of the Settlement, certification of the Settlement Class for settlement purposes only, authorization to provide notice of the Settlement to the Settlement Class, and the scheduling of a hearing for consideration of final approval of the Settlement, which motion shall be unopposed by Defendants. Concurrently with the motion for preliminary approval, Lead Plaintiffs shall apply to the Court for, and Defendants shall agree to, entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A. If the Settlement is terminated for any reason or not approved by the Court, the conditional approval of the Action as a class action shall be vacated immediately without further application or motion by any person or entity, and the Action shall proceed as if the Settlement Class had never been certified, and the appointments in  $\P$  2 had not been made.

#### RELEASE OF CLAIMS

4. The obligations incurred pursuant to this Stipulation are in consideration of:(a) the full and final disposition of the Action as against Defendants; and (b) the Releases provided for herein.

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5. Pursuant to the Judgment, without further action by anyone, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs and each of the other Settlement Class Members, on behalf of themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns, in their capacities as such, and any other person or entity legally entitled to bring Released Plaintiffs' Claims on behalf of a Settlement Class Member, in that capacity, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of the Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Plaintiffs' Claim against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees.

6. Pursuant to the Judgment, without further action by anyone, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Defendants, on behalf of themselves and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns, in their capacities as such, and any other person or entity legally entitled to bring Released Defendants' Claims on behalf of a Defendant, in that capacity, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of the Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Defendants' Claim against Lead Plaintiffs and the other Plaintiffs' Releasees, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Defendants' Claims against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees. This release shall not apply to any person or entity that submits a request for exclusion from the Settlement Class that is accepted by the Court.

7. Notwithstanding ¶¶ 5-6 above, nothing in the Judgment shall bar any action by any of the Parties to enforce or effectuate the terms of this Stipulation or the Judgment.

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#### THE SETTLEMENT CONSIDERATION

8. In consideration of the settlement of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees, Wells Fargo, on behalf of all Defendants, shall cause the Settlement Amount to be deposited into the Escrow Account by the later of: (a) fifteen (15) business days after the date of entry by the Court of an order preliminarily approving the Settlement; or (b) ten (10) business days after Defendants' Counsel's receipt from Lead Counsel of the information necessary to effectuate a transfer of funds to the Escrow Account, including wiring instructions to include the bank name and ABA routing number, account name and number, and a signed W-9 reflecting a valid taxpayer identification number for the qualified settlement fund in which the Settlement Amount is to be deposited. Defendants' sole monetary obligation under the Settlement shall be for Wells Fargo to pay or cause to be paid the Settlement Amount and Defendants shall not be liable for any other amounts.

#### **USE OF SETTLEMENT FUND**

9. The Settlement Fund shall be used to pay: (a) any Taxes; (b) any Notice and Administration Costs; (c) any Litigation Expenses awarded by the Court; (d) any attorneys' fees awarded by the Court; and (e) any other costs and fees approved by the Court. The balance remaining in the Settlement Fund, that is, the Net Settlement Fund, shall be distributed to Authorized Claimants as provided in ¶¶ 18-30 below. The Settlement Fund shall be the sole source for covering any settlement costs, and Lead Plaintiffs, Lead Counsel and Settlement Class Members shall have no recourse against Defendants for any settlement costs.

10. Except as provided herein or pursuant to orders of the Court, the Net Settlement Fund shall remain in the Escrow Account prior to the Effective Date. All funds held by the Escrow Agent shall be deemed to be in the custody of the Court and shall remain subject to the

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jurisdiction of the Court until such time as the funds shall be distributed or returned pursuant to the terms of this Stipulation and/or further order of the Court. The Escrow Agent shall invest any funds in the Escrow Account exclusively in United States Treasury Bills (or a mutual fund invested solely in such instruments) and shall collect and reinvest all interest accrued thereon, except that any residual cash balances up to the amount that is insured by the FDIC may be deposited in any account that is fully insured by the FDIC. In the event that the yield on United States Treasury Bills is negative, in lieu of purchasing such Treasury Bills, all or any portion of the funds held by the Escrow Agent may be deposited in any account that is fully insured by the FDIC or backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Additionally, if short-term placement of the funds is necessary, all or any portion of the funds held by the Escrow Agent may be deposited in any account that is fully insured by the FDIC or backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. All risks related to the investment of the Settlement Fund shall be borne by the Settlement Fund.

11. The Parties agree that the Settlement Fund is intended to be a Qualified Settlement Fund within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1 and that Lead Counsel, as administrators of the Settlement Fund within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(k)(3), shall be solely responsible for filing or causing to be filed all informational and other tax returns as may be necessary or appropriate (including, without limitation, the returns described in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(k)) for the Settlement Fund. Lead Counsel shall also be responsible for causing payment to be made from the Settlement Fund of any Taxes owed with respect to the Settlement Fund. The Defendants' Releasees shall not have any liability or responsibility for any such Taxes. Upon written request, Wells Fargo will provide to Lead Counsel the statement described in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-3(e). Lead Counsel, as administrators of the Settlement Fund within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(k)(3), shall timely

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make such elections as are necessary or advisable to carry out this paragraph, including, as necessary, making a "relation back election," as described in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1(j), to cause the Qualified Settlement Fund to come into existence at the earliest allowable date, and shall take or cause to be taken all actions as may be necessary or appropriate in connection therewith.

12. All Taxes shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund, and shall be timely paid, or caused to be paid, by Lead Counsel and without further order of the Court. Any tax returns prepared for the Settlement Fund (as well as the election set forth therein) shall be consistent with the previous paragraph and in all events shall reflect that all Taxes on the income earned by the Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund as provided herein. Defendants' Releasees shall have no responsibility or liability for the acts or omissions of Lead Counsel or its agents with respect to the payment of Taxes, as described herein. The Settlement Fund shall indemnify and hold harmless all Releasees for any Taxes (including, without limitation, taxes payable by reason of any such indemnification). Defendants shall notify Lead Counsel if they receive any notice of any claim for Taxes.

13. The Settlement is not a claims-made settlement. Upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, no Defendant, Defendants' Releasee, or any other person or entity that paid any portion of the Settlement Amount shall have any right to the return of the Settlement Fund or any portion thereof for any reason whatsoever, including without limitation, the number of Claims submitted, the collective amount of Recognized Claims of Authorized Claimants (as defined in the Plan of Allocation set forth in the Notice attached hereto as Exhibit 1 to Exhibit A), the percentage of recovery of losses, or the amounts to be paid to Authorized Claimants from the Net Settlement Fund.

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14. Following entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, Lead Counsel may pay from the Settlement Fund, without further approval from Defendants or further order of the Court, all Notice and Administration Costs actually incurred and paid or payable. Such costs and expenses shall include, without limitation, the actual costs of printing and mailing the Notice, publishing the Summary Notice, reimbursements to nominee owners for forwarding the Notice to their beneficial owners, the administrative expenses actually incurred and fees reasonably charged by the Claims Administrator in connection with providing notice and administering the Settlement (including processing the submitted Claims), and the fees, if any, of the Escrow Agent. In the event that the Settlement is terminated pursuant to the terms of this Stipulation, all Notice and Administration Costs paid or incurred, including any related fees, shall not be returned or repaid to Defendants, any of the other Defendants' Releasees, or any other person or entity that paid any portion of the Settlement Amount, subject to the maximum amount specified in ¶ 34(d).

#### **ATTORNEYS' FEES AND LITIGATION EXPENSES**

15. Lead Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees to Plaintiffs' Counsel to be paid solely from (and out of) the Settlement Fund. Lead Counsel will also apply to the Court for payment or reimbursement of Litigation Expenses, which may include a request for reimbursement of Lead Plaintiffs' costs and expenses directly related to their representation of the Settlement Class, to be paid solely from (and out of) the Settlement Fund. Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses is not the subject of any agreement between Defendants and Lead Plaintiffs other than what is set forth in this Stipulation.

16. Any attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses that are awarded by the Court shall be paid to Lead Counsel immediately upon award, notwithstanding the existence of any

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timely filed objections thereto, or potential for appeal therefrom, or collateral attack on the Settlement or any part thereof, subject to Plaintiffs' Counsel's obligation to make appropriate refunds or repayments to the Settlement Fund, plus accrued interest at the same net rate as is earned by the Settlement Fund, if the Settlement is terminated pursuant to the terms of this Stipulation or if, as a result of any appeal or further proceedings on remand, or successful collateral attack, the award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses is reduced or reversed and such order reducing or reversing the award has become Final. Plaintiffs' Counsel shall make the appropriate refund or repayment in full no later than thirty (30) days after: (a) receiving from Defendants' Counsel notice of the termination of the Settlement; or (b) any order reducing or reversing the award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses has become Final. An award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses has become Final. An award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses is not a necessary term of this Stipulation and is not a condition of the Settlement based on this Court's or any appellate court's ruling with respect to attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses.

17. Lead Counsel shall allocate the attorneys' fees among Plaintiffs' Counsel in a manner which Lead Counsel, in good faith, believe reflects the contributions of such counsel to the institution, prosecution, and settlement of the Action. Defendants' Releasees shall have no responsibility for or liability whatsoever with respect to the award of attorneys' fees or Litigation Expenses. The attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses that are awarded to Plaintiffs' Counsel shall be payable solely from the Escrow Account.

## **NOTICE AND SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION**

18. As part of the Preliminary Approval Order, Lead Counsel shall seek appointment of a Claims Administrator. The Claims Administrator shall administer the Settlement,

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including but not limited to the process of receiving, reviewing, and approving or denying Claims, under Lead Counsel's supervision and subject to the jurisdiction of the Court. None of the Defendants, nor any other Defendants' Releasees, shall have any involvement in or any responsibility, authority, or liability whatsoever for the selection of the Claims Administrator, the Plan of Allocation, the administration of the Settlement, the Claims process, or disbursement of the Net Settlement Fund, and shall have no liability whatsoever to any person or entity, including, but not limited to, Lead Plaintiffs, any other Settlement Class Members, or Lead Counsel in connection with the foregoing. Defendants' Counsel shall cooperate in the administration of the Settlement to the extent reasonably necessary to effectuate its terms.

19. In accordance with the terms of the Preliminary Approval Order to be entered by the Court, Lead Counsel shall cause the Claims Administrator to mail the Notice and Claim Form to those members of the Settlement Class as may be identified through reasonable effort. Lead Counsel shall also cause the Claims Administrator to have the Summary Notice published in accordance with the terms of the Preliminary Approval Order to be entered by the Court.

20. No later than ten (10) calendar days following the filing of this Stipulation with the Court, Defendants shall serve proper notice as required under Section 1715(b) of the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1715, *et seq.* ("CAFA"). Wells Fargo shall be solely responsible for the costs of those CAFA notices. At least seven (7) calendar days before the Settlement Hearing, or as otherwise ordered by the Court, Defendants shall cause to be served on Lead Counsel and filed with the Court proof, by affidavit or declaration, regarding compliance with CAFA § 1715(b).

21. The Claims Administrator shall receive Claims and determine first, whether

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the Claim is a valid Claim, in whole or part, and second, each Authorized Claimant's *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Fund based upon each Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim compared to the total Recognized Claims of all Authorized Claimants (as set forth in the Plan of Allocation set forth in the Notice attached hereto as Exhibit A-1, or in such other plan of allocation as the Court approves).

22. The Plan of Allocation proposed in the Notice is not a necessary term of the Settlement or of this Stipulation and it is not a condition of the Settlement or of this Stipulation that any particular plan of allocation be approved by the Court. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel may not cancel or terminate the Settlement (or this Stipulation) based on the Court's or any appellate court's ruling with respect to the Plan of Allocation or any other plan of allocation in this Action. Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees shall not object in any way to the Plan of Allocation or any other plan of allocation in this Action. No Defendant, nor any other Defendants' Releasees, shall have any involvement with or liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever for the application of the Court-approved plan of allocation.

23. Any Settlement Class Member who does not submit a valid Claim will not be entitled to receive any distribution from the Net Settlement Fund, but will otherwise be bound by all of the terms of this Stipulation and the Settlement, including the terms of the Judgment, to be entered in the Action and the Releases provided for herein and therein, and will be permanently barred and enjoined from bringing any action, claim, or other proceeding of any kind against the Defendants' Releases with respect to the Released Plaintiffs' Claims in the event that the Effective Date occurs with respect to the Settlement.

24. Lead Counsel shall be responsible for supervising the administration of the Settlement and the disbursement of the Net Settlement Fund subject to Court approval. No

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Defendant, or any other Defendants' Releasees, shall be permitted to review, contest, or object to any Claim, or any decision of the Claims Administrator or Lead Counsel with respect to accepting or rejecting any Claim for payment. Lead Counsel shall have the right, but not the obligation, to waive what it deems to be formal or technical defects in any Claims submitted in the interests of achieving substantial justice.

25. For purposes of determining the extent, if any, to which a Class Member shall be entitled to be treated as an Authorized Claimant, the following conditions shall apply:

(a) Each Claimant shall be required to submit a Claim in paper form, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A-2, or in electronic form, in accordance with the instructions for the submission of such Claims, and supported by such documents as are designated therein, including proof of the Claimant's loss, or such other documents or proof as the Claims Administrator or Lead Counsel, in their discretion, may deem acceptable;

(b) All Claims must be submitted by the date set by the Court in the Preliminary Approval Order and specified in the Notice. Any Settlement Class Member who fails to submit a Claim by such date shall be forever barred from receiving any distribution from the Net Settlement Fund or payment pursuant to this Stipulation (unless by order of the Court such Settlement Class Member's Claim is accepted), but shall in all other respects be bound by all of the terms of this Stipulation and the Settlement, including the terms of the Judgment, and the Releases provided for herein and therein, and will be permanently barred and enjoined from bringing any action, claim or other proceeding of any kind against any Defendants' Releasees with respect to any Released Plaintiffs' Claim. Provided that it is mailed by the claim-submission deadline, a Claim Form shall be deemed to be submitted when postmarked, if received with a postmark indicated on the envelope and if mailed by first-class mail and addressed in accordance with the instructions

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thereon. In all other cases, the Claim Form shall be deemed to have been submitted on the date when actually received by the Claims Administrator;

(c) Each Claim shall be submitted to and reviewed by the Claims Administrator who shall determine in accordance with this Stipulation and the plan of allocation the extent, if any, to which each Claim shall be allowed, subject to review by the Court pursuant to subparagraph
(e) below as necessary;

(d) Claims that do not meet the submission requirements may be rejected. Prior to rejecting a Claim in whole or in part, the Claims Administrator shall communicate with the Claimant in writing, to give the Claimant the chance to remedy any curable deficiencies in the Claim submitted. The Claims Administrator shall notify, in a timely fashion and in writing, all Claimants whose Claim the Claims Administrator proposes to reject in whole or in part, setting forth the reasons therefor, and shall indicate in such notice that the Claimant whose Claim is to be rejected has the right to a review by the Court if the Claimant so desires and complies with the requirements of subparagraph (e) below; and

(e) If any Claimant whose Claim has been rejected in whole or in part desires to contest such rejection, the Claimant must, within twenty (20) days after the date of mailing of the notice required in subparagraph (d) above or a lesser time period if the Claim was untimely, serve upon the Claims Administrator a notice and statement of reasons indicating the Claimant's grounds for contesting the rejection along with any supporting documentation, and requesting a review thereof by the Court. If a dispute concerning a Claim cannot be otherwise resolved, Lead Counsel shall thereafter present the request for review to the Court.

26. Each Claimant shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the Claimant's Claim, including, but not limited to, the releases provided in

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the Judgment, and the Claim will be subject to investigation and discovery under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, provided, however, that such investigation and discovery shall be limited to that Claimant's status as a Settlement Class Member and the validity and amount of the Claimant's Claim. No discovery shall be allowed on the merits of this Action or of the Settlement in connection with the processing of Claims.

27. Lead Counsel will apply to the Court, on notice to Defendants' Counsel, for a Class Distribution Order: (a) approving the Claims Administrator's administrative determinations concerning the acceptance and rejection of the Claims submitted; (b) approving payment of any administration fees and expenses associated with the administration of the Settlement from the Escrow Account; and (c) if the Effective Date has occurred, directing payment of the Net Settlement Fund to Authorized Claimants from the Escrow Account.

28. Payment pursuant to the Class Distribution Order shall be final and conclusive against all Claimants. All Settlement Class Members whose Claims are not approved by the Court for payment shall be barred from participating in distributions from the Net Settlement Fund, but otherwise shall be bound by all of the terms of this Stipulation and the Settlement, including the terms of the Judgment to be entered in this Action and the Releases provided for herein and therein, and will be permanently barred and enjoined from bringing any action against any and all Defendants' Releases with respect to any and all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims.

29. No person or entity shall have any claim against Lead Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs' Counsel, the Claims Administrator, or any other agent designated by Lead Counsel, or Defendants' Releasees and/or their respective counsel, arising from distributions made substantially in accordance with the Stipulation, the plan of allocation approved by the Court, or any order of the Court. Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants, and their respective counsel, and Lead Plaintiffs' damages

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expert and all other Releasees shall have no liability whatsoever for the investment or distribution of the Settlement Fund or the Net Settlement Fund, the plan of allocation, or the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of any claim or nonperformance of the Claims Administrator, the payment or withholding of taxes (including interest and penalties) owed by the Settlement Fund, or any losses incurred in connection therewith.

30. All proceedings with respect to the administration, processing and determination of Claims and the determination of all controversies relating thereto, including disputed questions of law and fact with respect to the validity of Claims, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Court. All Settlement Class Members, other Claimants, and parties to this Settlement expressly waive trial by jury (to the extent any such right may exist) and any right of appeal or review with respect to such determinations.

## TERMS OF THE JUDGMENT

31. If the Settlement contemplated by this Stipulation is approved by the Court, Lead Counsel and Defendants' Counsel shall request that the Court enter a Judgment, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.

## <u>CONDITIONS OF SETTLEMENT AND EFFECT OF DISAPPROVAL,</u> <u>CANCELLATION OR TERMINATION</u>

32. The Effective Date of the Settlement shall be deemed to occur on the occurrence or waiver of all of the following events:

(a) the Court has entered the Preliminary Approval Order, substantially in the

form set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto;

- (b) the Settlement Amount has been deposited into the Escrow Account in accordance with the provisions of  $\P$  8 above;
  - (c) Wells Fargo has not exercised its option to terminate the Settlement

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pursuant to the provisions of this Stipulation (including the Supplemental Agreement described in ¶ 37 below);

(d) Lead Plaintiffs have not exercised their option to terminate the Settlement pursuant to the provisions of this Stipulation; and

(e) the Court has approved the Settlement as described herein, following notice to the Settlement Class and a hearing, as prescribed by Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and entered the Judgment and the Judgment has become Final.

33. Upon the occurrence or waiver of all of the events referenced in  $\P$  32 above, any and all remaining interest or right of Defendants in or to the Settlement Fund, if any, shall be absolutely and forever extinguished and the Releases herein shall be effective.

34. If (i) Wells Fargo exercises its right to terminate the Settlement as provided in this Stipulation; (ii) Lead Plaintiffs exercise their right to terminate the Settlement as provided in this Stipulation; (iii) the Court disapproves the Settlement; or (iv) the Effective Date as to the Settlement otherwise fails to occur, then:

(a) The Settlement and the relevant portions of this Stipulation shall be canceled and terminated without prejudice and this Stipulation shall be null and void and shall have no further force or effect.

(b) Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants shall revert to their respective positions in the Action immediately prior to execution of this Stipulation.

(c) The terms and provisions of this Stipulation and the fact of this Settlement, with the exception of this  $\P$  34 and  $\P\P$  14, 16, 38, and 57 herein, shall have no further force and effect with respect to the Parties and shall not be enforceable, or used in the Action or in any other proceeding for any purpose, and any Judgment or order entered by the Court in accordance with

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the terms of this Stipulation shall be treated as vacated, nunc pro tunc.

(d) Within five (5) business days after joint written notification of termination is sent by Wells Fargo's Counsel and Lead Counsel to the Escrow Agent, the Settlement Fund (including accrued interest thereon, and change in value as a result of the investment of the Settlement Fund, and any funds received by Lead Counsel consistent with ¶ 16 above), less any Notice and Administration Costs actually incurred, paid or payable, provided that they do not exceed a maximum of \$1,000,000.00 and less any Taxes paid, due or owing shall be refunded by the Escrow Agent to Wells Fargo (or such other persons or entities as Wells Fargo may direct) pursuant to written instructions from Wells Fargo's Counsel. In the event that the funds received by Lead Counsel consistent with ¶ 16 above have not been refunded to the Settlement Fund within the five (5) business days specified in this paragraph, those funds shall be refunded by the Escrow Agent to Wells Fargo (or such other persons or entities as Wells Fargo may direct) pursuant to written instructions from Wells Fargo's Counsel. In the event that the funds received by Lead Counsel consistent with ¶ 16 above have not been refunded to the Settlement Fund within the five (5) business days specified in this paragraph, those funds shall be refunded by the Escrow Agent to Wells Fargo (or such other persons or entities as Wells Fargo may direct) pursuant to written instructions from Wells Fargo's Counsel immediately upon its deposit into the Escrow Agent to Wells Fargo is counsel immediately upon its deposit into the Escrow Account consistent with ¶ 16 above.

35. It is further stipulated and agreed that Wells Fargo and Lead Plaintiffs shall each have the right to terminate the Settlement and this Stipulation, by providing written notice of their election to do so ("Termination Notice") to the other Parties to this Stipulation within thirty (30) days of: (a) the Court's final refusal to enter the Preliminary Approval Order in any material respect; (b) the Court's final refusal to approve the Settlement or any material part thereof; (c) the Court's final refusal to enter the Judgment in any material respect as to the Settlement; or (d) the date upon which the Judgment is modified or reversed in any material respect by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit or the United States Supreme Court. However, any decision or proceeding, whether in this Court or any appellate court, with respect to an application

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for attorneys' fees or Litigation Expenses or with respect to any plan of allocation, shall not be considered material to the Settlement, shall not affect the finality of any Judgment, and shall not be grounds for termination of the Settlement.

36. In addition to the grounds set forth in  $\P$  35 above, Lead Plaintiffs shall also have the right to terminate the Settlement in the event that (i) the Settlement Amount has not been paid as provided for in  $\P$  8 above; (ii) Lead Plaintiffs thereafter provide written notice of the election to terminate to Defendants' Counsel; and (iii) there is a failure to pay the Settlement Amount within fourteen (14) calendar days of such written notice.

37. In addition to the grounds set forth in ¶ 35 above, Wells Fargo shall have the unilateral right to terminate the Settlement in the event that collective requests for exclusion from the Settlement Class by Settlement Class Members meet the conditions set forth in Defendants' confidential supplemental agreement with Lead Plaintiffs (the "Supplemental Agreement"), in accordance with the terms of that agreement. The Supplemental Agreement, which is being executed concurrently herewith, shall not be filed with the Court and its terms shall not be disclosed in any other manner (other than the statements herein and in the Notice, to the extent necessary, or as otherwise provided in the Supplemental Agreement) unless and until the Court otherwise directs or a dispute arises between Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants concerning its interpretation or application. If submission of the Supplemental Agreement is required for resolution of a dispute or is otherwise ordered by the Court, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants will undertake to have the Supplemental Agreement submitted to the Court *in camera*.

#### NO ADMISSION OF WRONGDOING

38. Neither this Stipulation (whether or not consummated), including the exhibits hereto and the Plan of Allocation contained therein (or any other plan of allocation that

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may be approved by the Court), the negotiations leading to the execution of this Stipulation, nor any proceedings taken pursuant to or in connection with this Stipulation, and/or approval of the Settlement (including any arguments proffered in connection therewith):

(a) shall be offered against any of the Defendants' Releasees as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Defendants' Releasees with respect to the truth of any fact alleged by Lead Plaintiffs or the validity of any claim that was or could have been asserted or the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in this Action or in any other litigation, or of any liability, negligence, fault, or other wrongdoing of any kind of any of the Defendants' Releasees or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Defendants' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Stipulation;

(b) shall be offered against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees, as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees that any of their claims are without merit, that any of the Defendants' Releasees had meritorious defenses, or that damages recoverable under the Complaint would not have exceeded the Settlement Amount or with respect to any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind, or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Stipulation; or

(c) shall be construed against any of the Releasees as an admission, concession, or presumption that the consideration to be given hereunder represents the amount which could be

or would have been recovered after trial;

*provided, however*, that if this Stipulation is approved by the Court, the Parties and the Releasees and their respective counsel may refer to it to effectuate the protections from liability granted hereunder or otherwise to enforce the terms of the Settlement.

## **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

39. All of the exhibits attached hereto are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that there exists a conflict or inconsistency between the terms of this Stipulation and the terms of any exhibit attached hereto, the terms of the Stipulation shall prevail.

40. Wells Fargo warrants that, as to the payments made or to be made on behalf of Defendants, at the time of entering into this Stipulation and at the time of such payment Wells Fargo, or to the best of its knowledge any persons or entities contributing to the payment of the Settlement Amount, is not insolvent, nor will the payment required to be made by or on behalf of Defendants render Wells Fargo insolvent, within the meaning of and/or for the purposes of the United States Bankruptcy Code, including §§ 101 and 547 thereof. This representation is made by Wells Fargo and not by its counsel.

41. In the event of the entry of a final order of a court of competent jurisdiction determining the transfer of money to the Settlement Fund or any portion thereof by or on behalf of Defendants to be a preference, voidable transfer, fraudulent transfer or similar transaction and any portion thereof is required to be returned, and such amount is not promptly deposited into the Settlement Fund by others, then, at the election of Lead Plaintiffs, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants shall jointly move the Court to vacate and set aside the Releases given and the Judgment entered in favor of Defendants and the other Releases pursuant to this Stipulation, in which event the

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Releases and Judgment shall be null and void, and the Parties shall be restored to their respective positions in the litigation as provided in  $\P$  34 above and any cash amounts in the Settlement Fund (less any Taxes paid, due or owing with respect to the Settlement Fund and less any Notice and Administration Costs actually incurred, paid or payable, subject to the maximum amount specified in  $\P$  34(d)) shall be returned as provided in  $\P$  34.

42. The Parties intend this Stipulation and the Settlement to be a final and complete resolution of all disputes asserted or which could be asserted by Lead Plaintiffs and any other Settlement Class Members against the Defendants' Releasees with respect to the Released Plaintiffs' Claims. No Party shall assert any claims of any violation of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure relating to the institution, prosecution, defense, or settlement of this Action. The Parties agree that the amounts paid and the other terms of the Settlement were negotiated at arm's length and in good faith by the Parties, including through a mediation process supervised and conducted by the Honorable Layn Phillips of Phillips ADR, and reflect the Settlement that was reached voluntarily after extensive negotiations and consultation with experienced legal counsel, who were fully competent to assess the strengths and weaknesses of their respective clients' claims or defenses. In all events, Lead Plaintiffs and their counsel and Defendants and their counsel shall not make any accusations of wrongful or actionable conduct by any Party concerning the prosecution, defense, and resolution of the Action, and shall not otherwise suggest that the Settlement constitutes an admission of any claim or defense alleged.

43. The terms of the Settlement, as reflected in this Stipulation, may not be modified or amended, nor may any of its provisions be waived, except by a writing signed on behalf of both Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants (or their successors-in-interest).

44. The headings herein are used for the purpose of convenience only and are not

meant to have legal effect.

45. The administration and consummation of the Settlement as embodied in this Stipulation shall be under the authority of the Court, and the Court shall retain jurisdiction for the purpose of entering orders providing for awards of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses to Plaintiffs' Counsel and enforcing the terms of this Stipulation, including the Plan of Allocation (or such other plan of allocation as may be approved by the Court) and the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund to Settlement Class Members.

46. Any condition in this Stipulation may be waived by the Party entitled to enforce the condition in a writing signed by that Party or its counsel. The waiver by one Party of any breach of this Stipulation by any other Party shall not be deemed a waiver of any other prior or subsequent breach of this Stipulation. Without further order of the Court, the Parties may agree to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any of the provisions of this Stipulation.

47. This Stipulation and its exhibits and the Supplemental Agreement constitute the entire agreement among Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants concerning the Settlement and this Stipulation and its exhibits. All Parties acknowledge that no other agreements, representations, warranties, or inducements have been made by any Party hereto concerning this Stipulation, its exhibits, or the Supplemental Agreement other than those contained and memorialized in such documents.

48. This Stipulation may be executed in one or more counterparts, including by signature transmitted via facsimile, or by a .pdf/.tif image of the signature transmitted via email. All executed counterparts and each of them shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument.

49. This Stipulation shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Parties, including any and all Releasees and any corporation,

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partnership, or other entity into or with which any Party hereto may merge, consolidate, or reorganize.

50. The construction, interpretation, operation, effect, and validity of this Stipulation, the Supplemental Agreement, and all documents necessary to effectuate them shall be governed by the internal laws of the State of New York without regard to conflicts of laws, except to the extent that federal law requires that federal law govern.

51. Any action arising under or to enforce this Stipulation or any portion thereof, shall be commenced and maintained only in the Court.

52. This Stipulation shall not be construed more strictly against one Party than another merely by virtue of the fact that it, or any part of it, may have been prepared by counsel for one of the Parties, it being recognized that it is the result of arm's-length negotiations between the Parties and all Parties have contributed substantially and materially to the preparation of this Stipulation.

53. All counsel and any other person executing this Stipulation and any of the exhibits hereto, or any related Settlement documents, warrant and represent that they have the full authority to do so and that they have the authority to take appropriate action required or permitted to be taken pursuant to the Stipulation to effectuate its terms.

54. Lead Counsel and Defendants' Counsel agree to cooperate fully with one another in seeking Court approval of the Preliminary Approval Order and the Settlement, as embodied in this Stipulation, and to use best efforts to promptly agree upon and execute all such other documentation as may be reasonably required to obtain final approval by the Court of the Settlement.

55. If any Party is required to give notice to another Party under this Stipulation,

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such notice shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given upon receipt of hand delivery or facsimile or email transmission, with confirmation of receipt. Notice shall be provided as follows:

If to Lead Plaintiffs or Lead Counsel:	Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC Attn: Laura H. Posner 88 Pine St., 14th Floor New York, NY 10005 Tel.: (212) 220-2925 Fax: (212) 838-7745 Email: lposner@cohenmilstein.com
	Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP Attn: John C. Browne 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020 Tel.: (212) 554-1400 Fax: (212) 554-1444 Email: johnb@blbglaw.com
If to Defendant Wells Fargo & Co.:	Sullivan & Cromwell LLP Attn: Christopher M. Viapiano 1700 New York Ave., N.W. Suite 700 Washington, DC 20006 Tel.: (202) 956-7500 Fax: (202) 293-6330 Email: viapianoc@sullcrom.com
If to Defendant Sloan:	Clarence Dyer & Cohen LLP Attn: Josh A. Cohen 899 Ellis St. San Francisco, CA 94109 Tel.: (415) 749-1800 Fax: (415) 749-1694 Email: jcohen@clarencedyer.com
If to Defendant Shrewsberry:	Swanson & McNamara LLP Attn: Edward Swanson 300 Montgomery St., Suite 1100 San Francisco, CA 94104 Tel.: (415) 477 3800 Email: ed@smllp.law

If to Defendant Parker:	Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP Attn: Karin A. DeMasi 825 Eighth Ave. New York, NY 10019 Tel.: (212) 474-1000 Fax: (212) 474-3700 Email: kdemasi@cravath.com
If to Defendant Duke:	Shearman & Sterling LLP

Shearman & Sterling LLP Attn: John Gueli 599 Lexington Ave. New York, NY 10022 Tel.: (212) 848-4000 Fax: (212) 848-7179 Email: jgueli@shearman.com

56. Except as otherwise provided herein, each Party shall bear its own costs.

57. Whether or not the Stipulation is approved by the Court and whether or not the Stipulation is consummated, or the Effective Date occurs, the Parties and their counsel shall use their best efforts to keep all negotiations, discussions, acts performed, agreements, drafts, documents signed, and proceedings in connection with the Stipulation confidential.

58. All agreements made and orders entered during the course of this Action relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive this Settlement.

59. No opinion or advice concerning the tax consequences of the proposed Settlement to individual Settlement Class Members is being given or will be given by the Parties or their counsel; nor is any representation or warranty in this regard made by virtue of this Stipulation. Each Settlement Class Member's tax obligations, and the determination thereof, are the sole responsibility of the Settlement Class Member, and it is understood that the tax consequences may vary depending on the particular circumstances of each individual Settlement Class Member. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Stipulation to be

executed, by their duly authorized attorneys, as of May 8, 2023.

#### **COHEN MILSTEIN SELLERS & TOLL PLLC**

By: orne AM

Laura H. Posner 88 Pine St., 14th Floor New York, NY 10005 Tel.: (212) 220-2925 Fax: (212) 838-7745 lposner@cohenmilstein.com

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Counsel for Lead Plaintiffs Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi, State of Rhode Island, Office of the General Treasurer, on behalf of the Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island, and Lead Counsel for the Class

## BERNSTEIN LITOWITZ BERGER & GROSSMANN LLP

By:

John C. Browne Jeroen van Kwawegen Michael D. Blatchley Robert Kravetz 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Stipulation to be

executed, by their duly authorized attorneys, as of May 8, 2023.

# **COHEN MILSTEIN SELLERS & TOLL PLLC**

By:

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Counsel for Defendant Elizabeth Duke

#### Exhibit A

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

## IN RE WELLS FARGO & COMPANY SECURITIES LITIGATION

Case No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN

## [PROPOSED] ORDER PRELIMINARILY APPROVING SETTLEMENT AND AUTHORIZING DISSEMINATION OF NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, a consolidated securities action is pending in this Court entitled *In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation*, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN (the "Action");

WHEREAS, (a) Lead Plaintiffs Handelsbanken Fonder AB ("Handelsbanken"); Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi ("Mississippi"); State of Rhode Island, Office of the General Treasurer ("Rhode Island"); and Louisiana Sheriffs' Pension & Relief Fund ("Louisiana Sheriffs") on behalf of themselves and the other members of the Settlement Class; and (b) defendants Wells Fargo & Company ("Wells Fargo"), Timothy J. Sloan, John R. Shrewsberry, C. Allen Parker, and Elizabeth "Betsy" Duke (collectively, the "Individual Defendants" and, with Wells Fargo, "Defendants") have determined to settle all claims asserted against Defendants in this Action with prejudice on the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated May 8, 2023 (the "Stipulation"), subject to the approval of this Court (the "Settlement");

WHEREAS, Lead Plaintiffs have made a motion, pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, for an order preliminarily approving the Settlement in accordance with the Stipulation and allowing notice to Settlement Class Members as more fully described herein;

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WHEREAS, the Court has read and considered: (a) Lead Plaintiffs' motion for preliminary approval of the Settlement and authorization to send notice of the Settlement to the Settlement Class, and the papers filed and arguments made in connection therewith; and (b) the Stipulation and the exhibits attached thereto; and

WHEREAS, unless otherwise defined in this Order, the capitalized terms herein shall have the same meanings as they have in the Stipulation;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

Proposed Class Certification for Settlement Purposes - The Parties have 1. proposed the certification of the following Settlement Class pursuant to Rules 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure solely for purposes of effectuating the proposed Settlement: all persons or entities who purchased or otherwise acquired the common stock of Wells Fargo from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive (the "Class Period") and were damaged thereby. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) Defendants; (b) the Officers (defined as any employee serving on Wells Fargo's Operating Committee) and Directors of Wells Fargo during the Class Period; (c) Defendants' Immediate Family Members; and (d) any entity in which any Defendant has or had a controlling interest. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Investment Vehicle (defined as any investment company or pooled investment fund, including but not limited to mutual fund families, exchange-traded funds, funds of funds, private equity funds, real estate funds, and hedge funds, as to which Wells Fargo or any affiliate of Wells Fargo acts or acted as investment advisor but of which Wells Fargo or any affiliate of Wells Fargo is not a majority owner or does not hold a majority beneficial interest) shall be excluded from the Settlement Class. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are any persons or entities who or which exclude themselves by submitting a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.

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2. <u>Class Findings</u> – The Court finds, pursuant to Rule 23(e)(1)(B)(ii) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, that it will likely be able to certify the Settlement Class for purposes of the proposed Settlement. Specifically, the Court finds that each element required for certification of the Settlement Class pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure has been met or will likely be met: (a) the members of the Settlement Class are so numerous that their joinder in the Action would be impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class which predominate over any individual questions; (c) the claims of Lead Plaintiffs in the Action are typical of the claims of the Settlement Class; (d) Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have and will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Settlement Class; and (e) a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the Action.

3. The Court also finds, pursuant to Rule 23(e)(1)(B)(ii) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, that it will likely be able to certify Lead Plaintiffs as Class Representatives for the Settlement Class and appoint Lead Counsel as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class pursuant to Rule 23(g) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

4. **Preliminary Approval of the Settlement** – The Court hereby preliminarily approves the Settlement, as embodied in the Stipulation, and finds, pursuant to Rule 23(e)(1)(B)(i) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, that it will likely be able to finally approve the Settlement under Rule 23(e)(2) as being fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Settlement Class, subject to further consideration at the Settlement Hearing to be conducted as described below.

5. <u>Settlement Hearing</u> – The Court will hold a settlement hearing (the "Settlement Hearing") \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023 at \_: \_\_\_.m. at Courtroom 12C of the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007-1312, for the following

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purposes: (a) to determine whether the proposed Settlement on the terms and conditions provided for in the Stipulation is fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Settlement Class, and should be finally approved by the Court; (b) to determine whether, for purposes of the Settlement only, the Action should be certified as a class action on behalf of the Settlement Class, Lead Plaintiffs should be certified as Class Representatives for the Settlement Class, and Lead Counsel should be appointed as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class; (c) to determine whether a Judgment substantially in the form attached as Exhibit B to the Stipulation should be entered dismissing the Action with prejudice against Defendants; (d) to determine whether the proposed Plan of Allocation for the proceeds of the Settlement is fair and reasonable and should be approved; (e) to determine whether Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses should be approved; and (f) to consider any other matters that may properly be brought before the Court in connection with the Settlement. Notice of the Settlement and the Settlement Hearing shall be given to Settlement Class Members as set forth in paragraph 7 of this Order.

6. The Court may adjourn the Settlement Hearing without further notice to the Settlement Class, and may approve the proposed Settlement with such modifications as the Parties may agree to, if appropriate, without further notice to the Settlement Class.

7. **Retention of Claims Administrator and Manner of Giving Notice** – Lead Counsel are hereby authorized to retain Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc. (the "Claims Administrator") to supervise and administer the notice procedure in connection with the proposed Settlement, as well as the processing of Claims as more fully set forth below. Notice of the Settlement and the Settlement Hearing shall be given by Lead Counsel as follows:

(a) within ten (10) business days of the date of entry of this Order, WellsFargo, at no cost to the Settlement Fund, Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator, shall

provide or cause to be provided to Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator, in electronic format, its shareholder lists (consisting of names, mailing addresses, and, if available, email addresses) of record purchasers of Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period;

(b) beginning not later than fifteen (15) business days after the date of entry of this Order (the "Notice Date"), the Claims Administrator shall cause a copy of the Notice and the Claim Form, substantially in the forms attached hereto as Exhibits 1 and 2, respectively (collectively, the "Notice Packet"), to be mailed by first-class mail or emailed to all potential Settlement Class Members who may be identified through reasonable effort, including those identified by Wells Fargo and through mailing the Notice Packet to the largest and most common brokers and other nominee owners, who will be instructed to forward the Notice Packet or provide names and addresses of Settlement Class Members, as discussed below in paragraph 9;

 (c) by the Notice Date, the Claims Administrator shall cause copies of the Notice and Claim Form to be posted on a website to be developed for the Settlement, from which copies of the Notice and Claim Form can be downloaded;

(d) not later than ten (10) business days after the Notice Date, the Claims Administrator shall cause the Summary Notice, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit 3, to be published once each in *The Wall Street Journal* and *Investors Business Daily* and to be transmitted once over the *PR Newswire*; and

(e) not later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing, Lead Counsel shall serve on Defendants' Counsel and file with the Court proof, by affidavit or declaration, of such mailing and publication.

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8. Approval of Form and Content of Notice – The Court (a) approves, as to form and content, the Notice, the Claim Form, and the Summary Notice, attached hereto as Exhibits 1, 2, and 3, respectively, and (b) finds that the mailing and distribution of the Notice and Claim Form and the publication of the Summary Notice in the manner and form set forth in paragraph 7 of this Order (i) is the best notice practicable under the circumstances; (ii) constitutes notice that is reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Settlement Class Members of the pendency of the Action, of the effect of the proposed Settlement (including the Releases to be provided thereunder), of Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses, of their right to object to the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses, of their right to exclude themselves from the Settlement Class, and of their right to appear at the Settlement Hearing; (iii) constitutes due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all persons and entities entitled to receive notice of the proposed Settlement; and (iv) satisfies the requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the United States Constitution (including the Due Process Clause), the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4, as amended, and all other applicable law and rules. The date and time of the Settlement Hearing shall be included in the Notice and Summary Notice before they are mailed and published, respectively.

9. <u>Nominee Procedures</u> – Brokers and other nominees who purchased or otherwise acquired Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period for the benefit of another person or entity shall: (a) within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the Notice, request from the Claims Administrator sufficient copies of the Notice Packet to forward to all such beneficial owners and, within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of those Notice Packets, forward them to all such beneficial owners; or (b) within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the Notice, send a list of the

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names, mailing addresses, and, if available, email addresses, of all such beneficial owners to the Claims Administrator in which event the Claims Administrator shall promptly mail or email the Notice Packet to such beneficial owners. Upon full compliance with this Order, such nominees may seek reimbursement of their reasonable expenses actually incurred in complying with this Order by providing the Claims Administrator with proper documentation supporting the expenses for which reimbursement is sought. Such properly documented expenses incurred by nominees in compliance with the terms of this Order shall be paid from the Settlement Fund, with any disputes as to the reasonableness or documentation of expenses incurred subject to review by the Court.

10. **CAFA Notice** – As provided in the Stipulation, Defendants shall serve the notice required under Section 1715(b) of the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1715, *et seq.* ("CAFA"), no later than ten (10) calendar days following the filing of the Stipulation with the Court. Wells Fargo shall be solely responsible for the costs of the CAFA notice and administering the CAFA notice. No later than seven (7) calendar days before the Settlement Hearing, Defendants shall cause to be served on Lead Counsel and filed with the Court proof, by affidavit or declaration, regarding compliance with 28 U.S.C. § 1715(b).

11. **Participation in the Settlement** – Settlement Class Members who wish to participate in the Settlement and to be eligible to receive a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund must complete and submit a Claim Form in accordance with the instructions contained therein. Unless the Court orders otherwise, all Claim Forms must be postmarked no later than one hundred twenty (120) calendar days after the Notice Date. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lead Counsel may, at their discretion, accept for processing late Claims provided such acceptance does not delay the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund to the Settlement Class. By submitting a

#### Case 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN Document 178-1 Filed 05/15/23 Page 50 of 100

Claim, a person or entity shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to his, her, or its Claim and the subject matter of the Settlement.

12. Each Claim Form submitted must satisfy the following conditions: (a) it must be properly completed, signed, and submitted in a timely manner in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph; (b) it must be accompanied by adequate supporting documentation for the transactions and holdings reported therein, in the form of broker confirmation slips, broker account statements, an authorized statement from the broker containing the transactional and holding information found in a broker confirmation slip or account statement, or such other documentation as is deemed adequate by Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator; (c) if the person executing the Claim Form is acting in a representative capacity, a certification of his, her, or its current authority to act on behalf of the Settlement Class Member must be included in the Claim Form to the satisfaction of Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator; and (d) the Claim Form must be complete and contain no material deletions or modifications of any of the printed matter contained therein and must be signed under penalty of perjury.

13. Any Settlement Class Member that does not timely and validly submit a Claim Form or whose Claim is not otherwise approved by the Court: (a) shall be deemed to have waived his, her, or its right to share in the Net Settlement Fund; (b) shall be forever barred from participating in any distributions therefrom; (c) shall be bound by the provisions of the Stipulation and the Settlement and all proceedings, determinations, orders, and judgments in the Action relating thereto, including, without limitation, the Judgment and the Releases provided for therein, whether favorable or unfavorable to the Settlement Class; and (d) will be barred from commencing, maintaining, or prosecuting any of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against each and all of the Defendants' Releasees, as more fully described in the Stipulation and Notice. Notwithstanding the

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foregoing, late Claim Forms may be accepted for processing as set forth in paragraph 11 above.

Exclusion from the Settlement Class – Any member of the Settlement Class who 14. wishes to exclude himself, herself, or itself from the Settlement Class must request exclusion in writing within the time and in the manner set forth in the Notice, which shall provide that: (a) any such request for exclusion from the Settlement Class must be mailed or delivered such that it is received no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing, to: Wells Fargo Securities Litigation, EXCLUSIONS, c/o Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc., P.O. Box 5430, Portland, OR 97228-5430, and (b) each request for exclusion must (i) state the name, address, and telephone number of the person or entity requesting exclusion, and in the case of entities, the name and telephone number of the appropriate contact person; (ii) state that such person or entity "requests exclusion from the Settlement Class in In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN (S.D.N.Y.)"; (iii) state the number of shares of Wells Fargo common stock that the person or entity requesting exclusion (A) owned as of the opening of trading on February 2, 2018 and (B) purchased/acquired and/or sold from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive, as well as the dates and prices of each such purchase/acquisition and/or sale and, for each, the numbers of shares purchased/acquired and/or sold; and (iv) be signed by the person or entity requesting exclusion or an authorized representative. A request for exclusion shall not be effective unless it provides all the required information and is received within the time stated above, or is otherwise accepted by the Court.

15. Any person or entity who or which timely and validly requests exclusion in compliance with the terms stated in this Order and is excluded from the Settlement Class shall not be a Settlement Class Member, shall not be bound by the terms of the Settlement or any orders or judgments in the Action, and shall not receive any payment out of the Net Settlement Fund.

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16. Any Settlement Class Member who or which does not timely and validly request exclusion from the Settlement Class in the manner stated in this Order: (a) shall be deemed to have waived his, her, or its right to be excluded from the Settlement Class; (b) shall be forever barred from requesting exclusion from the Settlement Class in this or any other proceeding; (c) shall be bound by the provisions of the Stipulation and Settlement and all proceedings, determinations, orders, and judgments in the Action, including, but not limited to, the Judgment and the Releases provided for therein, whether favorable or unfavorable to the Settlement Class; and (d) will be barred from commencing, maintaining, or prosecuting any of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees, as more fully described in the Stipulation and Notice.

17. **Appearance and Objections at Settlement Hearing** – Any Settlement Class Member who or which does not request exclusion from the Settlement Class may enter an appearance in the Action, at his, her, or its own expense, individually or through counsel of his, her, or its own choice, by filing with the Clerk of Court and delivering a notice of appearance to both Lead Counsel and Representative Defendants' Counsel, at the addresses set forth in paragraph 18 below, such that it is received no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing, or as the Court may otherwise direct. Any Settlement Class Member who does not enter an appearance will be represented by Lead Counsel.

18. Any Settlement Class Member who or which does not request exclusion from the Settlement Class may file a written objection to the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, and/or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses and appear and show cause, if he, she, or it has any cause, why the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, and/or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses should not be approved; *provided, however*, that no Settlement Class Member shall be heard or entitled to

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contest the approval of the terms and conditions of the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, and/or the motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses unless that person or entity has filed a written objection with the Court and served copies of such objection on Lead Counsel and Representative Defendants' Counsel at the addresses set forth below such that they are received no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing.

Lead Counsel:

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Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP John C. Browne 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020

Representative Defendants' Counsel:

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP Christopher M. Viapiano 1700 New York Ave., N.W. Suite 700 Washington, DC 20006

19. Any objections, filings, and other submissions by the objecting Settlement Class Member must: (a) identify the case name and docket number, *In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation*, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN (S.D.N.Y.); (b) state the name, address, and telephone number of the person or entity objecting and be signed by the objector; (c) state with specificity the grounds for the Settlement Class Member's objection, including any legal and evidentiary support the Settlement Class Member wishes to bring to the Court's attention and whether the objection applies only to the objector, to a specific subset of the Settlement Class, or to the entire Settlement Class; and (d) include documents sufficient to prove membership in the Settlement Class, including documents showing the number of shares of Wells Fargo common stock that the

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person or entity requesting exclusion (i) owned as of the opening of trading on February 2, 2018 and (ii) purchased/acquired and/or sold from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive, as well as the dates and prices of each such purchase/acquisition and/or sale and, for each, the numbers of shares purchased/acquired and/or sold. Documentation establishing membership in the Settlement Class must consist of copies of brokerage confirmation slips or monthly brokerage account statements, or an authorized statement from the objector's broker containing the transactional and holding information found in a broker confirmation slip or account statement. Objectors who enter an appearance and desire to present evidence at the Settlement Hearing in support of their objection must include in their written objection or notice of appearance the identity of any witnesses they may call to testify and any exhibits they intend to introduce into evidence at the hearing.

20. Any Settlement Class Member who or which does not make his, her, or its objection in the manner provided herein shall be deemed to have waived his, her, or its right to object to any aspect of the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, and Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses and shall be forever barred and foreclosed from objecting to the fairness, reasonableness, or adequacy of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or the requested attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses, or from otherwise being heard concerning the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or the requested attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses in this or any other proceeding.

21. <u>Stay and Temporary Injunction</u> – Until otherwise ordered by the Court, the Court stays all proceedings in the Action other than proceedings necessary to carry out or enforce the terms and conditions of the Stipulation. Pending final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, the Court bars and enjoins Lead Plaintiffs and all other members of the

#### Case 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN Document 178-1 Filed 05/15/23 Page 55 of 100

Settlement Class from commencing or prosecuting any and all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against each and all of the Defendants' Releasees.

22. <u>Settlement Administration Fees and Expenses</u> – All reasonable costs incurred in identifying Settlement Class Members and notifying them of the Settlement as well as in administering the Settlement shall be paid as set forth in the Stipulation without further order of the Court.

23. <u>Settlement Fund</u> – The contents of the Settlement Fund held by Citibank, N.A. (which the Court approves as the Escrow Agent) shall be deemed and considered to be *in custodia legis*, and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, until such time as they shall be distributed pursuant to the Stipulation and/or further order(s) of the Court.

24. <u>**Taxes**</u> – Lead Counsel are authorized and directed to prepare any tax returns and any other tax reporting form for or in respect to the Settlement Fund, to pay from the Settlement Fund any Taxes owed with respect to the Settlement Fund, and to otherwise perform all obligations with respect to Taxes and any reporting or filings in respect thereof without further order of the Court in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Stipulation.

25. <u>Termination of Settlement</u> – If the Settlement is terminated as provided in the Stipulation, the Settlement is not approved, or the Effective Date of the Settlement otherwise fails to occur, this Order shall be vacated, rendered null and void, and be of no further force and effect, except as otherwise provided by the Stipulation, and this Order shall be without prejudice to the rights of Lead Plaintiffs, the other Settlement Class Members, and Defendants, and the Parties shall revert to their respective positions in the Action immediately prior to the execution of the Stipulation on May 8, 2023, as provided in the Stipulation.

26. <u>Use of This Order</u> – Neither this Order, the Stipulation (whether or not

## Case 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN Document 178-1 Filed 05/15/23 Page 56 of 100

consummated), including the exhibits thereto and the Plan of Allocation contained therein (or any other plan of allocation that may be approved by the Court), the negotiations leading to the execution of the Stipulation, nor any proceedings taken pursuant to or in connection with the Stipulation and/or approval of the Settlement (including any arguments proffered in connection therewith): (a) shall be offered against any of the Defendants' Releasees as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Defendants' Releasees with respect to the truth of any fact alleged by Lead Plaintiffs or the validity of any claim that was or could have been asserted or the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in this Action or in any other litigation, or of any liability, negligence, fault, or other wrongdoing of any kind of any of the Defendants' Releasees or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Defendants' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Stipulation; (b) shall be offered against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees, as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees that any of their claims are without merit, that any of the Defendants' Releasees had meritorious defenses, or that damages recoverable under the Complaint would not have exceeded the Settlement Amount or with respect to any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind, or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Stipulation; or (c) shall be construed against any of the Releasees as an admission, concession, or presumption that the consideration to be given under the Settlement represents the amount which could be or would have been recovered after

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trial; *provided, however*, that if the Stipulation is approved by the Court, the Parties and the Releasees and their respective counsel may refer to it to effectuate the protections from liability granted thereunder or otherwise to enforce the terms of the Settlement.

27. **Supporting Papers** – Lead Counsel shall file and serve the opening papers in support of the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, and Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses no later than thirty-five (35) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing; and reply papers, if any, shall be filed and served no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the Settlement Hearing.

SO ORDERED this \_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

The Honorable Gregory H. Woods United States District Judge Case 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN Document 178-1 Filed 05/15/23 EREGEUS800/1000PY

Exhibit A-1

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

# IN RE WELLS FARGO & COMPANY SECURITIES LITIGATION

Case No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN

# NOTICE OF (I) PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT; (II) SETTLEMENT FAIRNESS HEARING; AND (III) MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND LITIGATION EXPENSES

## <u>A federal court authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.</u>

**NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION:** Please be advised that your rights may be affected by the above-captioned securities class action (the "Action") pending in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"), if, during the period from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive (the "Class Period"), you purchased or otherwise acquired the common stock of Wells Fargo & Company ("Wells Fargo" or the "Bank") and were damaged thereby.<sup>1</sup>

**NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT:** Please also be advised that the Court-appointed Lead Plaintiffs, Handelsbanken Fonder AB ("Handelsbanken"); Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi ("Mississippi"); State of Rhode Island, Office of the General Treasurer ("Rhode Island"); and Louisiana Sheriffs' Pension & Relief Fund ("Louisiana Sheriffs"), on behalf of themselves and the other members of the Settlement Class (as defined in ¶ 17 below), have reached a proposed settlement of the Action for \$1,000,000,000 in cash.

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. This Notice explains important rights you may have, including the possible receipt of a payment from the Settlement. If you are a member of the Settlement Class, your legal rights will be affected whether or not you act.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All capitalized terms used in this Notice that are not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated May 8, 2023 (the "Stipulation"), which is available at www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com.

If you have any questions about this Notice, the proposed Settlement, or your eligibility to participate in the Settlement, please DO NOT contact the Court, Wells Fargo, the other Defendants in the Action, or their counsel. All questions should be directed to Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator (see ¶ 59 below).

1. **Description of the Action and the Settlement Class:** This Notice relates to a proposed settlement of claims in a pending securities class action brought by investors alleging, among other things, that Wells Fargo (collectively with the Individual Defendants as defined in ¶ 12 below, "Defendants") violated the federal securities laws by making false and misleading statements about Wells Fargo's compliance with consent orders it had entered into with the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (the "Regulators") in 2018 (the "2018 Consent Orders") to rectify certain improper banking practices and deficiencies in corporate oversight. A more detailed description of the Action is set forth in ¶¶ 11-16 below. The proposed Settlement, if approved by the Court, will settle claims of the Settlement Class, as defined in ¶ 17 below.

2. <u>Statement of the Settlement Class's Recovery</u>: Subject to Court approval, Lead Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Settlement Class, have agreed to settle the Action in exchange for \$1,000,000,000 in cash (the "Settlement Amount") to be deposited into an escrow account. The Net Settlement Fund (*i.e.*, the Settlement Amount plus any and all interest earned thereon (the "Settlement Fund") less (i) any Taxes; (ii) any Notice and Administration Costs; (iii) any Litigation Expenses awarded by the Court; (iv) any attorneys' fees awarded by the Court; and (v) any other costs or fees approved by the Court. The proposed plan of allocation (the "Plan of Allocation") is set forth in Appendix A below. The Plan of Allocation will determine how the Net Settlement Fund shall be allocated among members of the Settlement Class.

3. **Estimate of Average Amount of Recovery Per Share:** Based on Lead Plaintiffs' damages expert's estimate of the number of shares of Wells Fargo common stock purchased during the Class Period that may have been affected by the conduct at issue in the Action, and assuming that all Settlement Class Members elect to participate in the Settlement, the estimated average recovery (before the deduction of any Court-approved fees, expenses, and costs as described herein) is \$0.53 per affected share. Settlement Class Members should note, however, that the foregoing average recovery is only an estimate. Some Settlement Class Members may recover more or less than this estimated amount depending on, among other factors, when and at what prices they purchased/acquired or sold their Wells Fargo shares, and the total number and value of valid Claim Forms submitted. Distributions to Settlement Class Members will be made based on the Plan of Allocation set forth herein (*see* Appendix A below) or such other plan of allocation as may be ordered by the Court.

4. <u>Average Amount of Damages Per Share</u>: The Parties do not agree on the average amount of damages per share that would be recoverable if Lead Plaintiffs were to prevail in the Action. Among other things, Defendants do not agree with the assertion that they violated the federal securities laws or that any damages were suffered by any members of the Settlement Class as a result of their conduct.

5. Attorneys' Fees and Expenses Sought: Court-appointed Lead Counsel, Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP, have been prosecuting the Action on a wholly contingent basis since their appointment as Lead Counsel in August 2020, have not received any payment of attorneys' fees for their representation of the Settlement Class, and have advanced the funds to pay expenses necessarily incurred to prosecute this Action. Lead Counsel, on behalf of Plaintiffs' Counsel,<sup>2</sup> will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees in an amount not to exceed 19% of the Settlement Fund. In addition, Lead Counsel will apply for payment of Litigation Expenses incurred in connection with the institution, prosecution, and resolution of the Action in an amount not to exceed \$2 million, which may include an application for reimbursement of the reasonable costs and expenses incurred by Lead Plaintiffs directly related to their representation of the Settlement Class, pursuant to the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("PSLRA"). Any fees and expenses awarded by the Court will be paid from the Settlement Fund. Settlement Class Members are not personally liable for any such fees or expenses. The estimated average cost for such fees and expenses, if the Court approves Lead Counsel's fee and expense application, is \$0.10 per affected share of common stock.

6. **Identification of Attorney Representatives:** Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class are represented by Laura H. Posner, Esq., of Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC, 88 Pine St., 14th Floor, New York, NY 10005, (212) 220-2925, and John C. Browne, Esq., of Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP, 1251 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, (212) 554-1400, settlements@blbglaw.com.

7. **Reasons for the Settlement:** Lead Plaintiffs' principal reason for entering into the Settlement is the substantial and certain recovery for the Settlement Class without the risk or the delays inherent in further litigation. Moreover, the substantial recovery provided under the Settlement must be considered against the significant risk that a smaller recovery—or indeed no recovery at all—might be achieved after contested motions, a trial of the Action, and the likely appeals that would follow a trial. This process could be expected to last several years. Defendants, who deny that they have committed any act or omission giving rise to liability under the federal securities laws, are entering into the Settlement solely to eliminate the uncertainty, burden, and expense of further litigation.

SUBMIT A CLAIM FORMTPOSTMARKED NO LATERthTHAN\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023.yySFHH

This is the only way to be eligible to receive a payment from the Settlement Fund. If you are a Settlement Class Member and you remain in the Settlement Class, you will be bound by the Settlement as approved by the Court and you will give up any Released Plaintiffs' Claims (defined in  $\P$  27 below) that you have against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees (defined in  $\P$  28 below), so it is in your interest to submit a Claim Form.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Plaintiffs' Counsel are the two Lead Counsel firms and Klausner, Kaufman, Jensen & Levinson ("Klausner Kaufman"), additional counsel for Lead Plaintiff Louisiana Sheriffs

EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT CLASS BY SUBMITTING A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION SO THAT IT IS <i>RECEIVED</i> NO LATER THAN, 2023.	If you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you will not be eligible to receive any payment from the Settlement Fund. This is the only option that allows you ever to be part of any other lawsuit against any of the Defendants or the other Defendants' Releasees concerning the Released Plaintiffs' Claims.
OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT BY SUBMITTING A WRITTEN OBJECTION SO THAT IT IS <i>RECEIVED</i> NO LATER THAN, 2023.	If you do not like the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, or the request for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses, you may write to the Court and explain why you do not like them. You cannot object to the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or the fee and expense request unless you are a Settlement Class Member and do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class.
GO TO A HEARING ON , 2023 AT:M., AND FILE A <i>NOTICE</i> OF INTENTION TO APPEAR SO THAT IT IS <i>RECEIVED</i> NO LATER THAN, 2023.	Filing a written objection and notice of intention to appear by, 2023 allows you to speak in Court, at the discretion of the Court, about the fairness of the proposed Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or the request for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses. If you submit a written objection, you may (but you do not have to) attend the hearing and, at the discretion of the Court, speak to the Court about your objection.
DO NOTHING.	If you are a member of the Settlement Class and you do not submit a valid Claim Form, you will not be eligible to receive any payment from the Settlement Fund. You will, however, remain a member of the Settlement Class, which means that you give up your right to sue about the claims that are resolved by the Settlement and you will be bound by any judgments or orders entered by the Court in the Action.

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# WHY DID I GET THIS NOTICE?

8. The Court directed that this Notice be mailed to you because you or someone in your family or an investment account for which you serve as a custodian may have purchased or otherwise acquired Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period. The Court has directed us to send you this Notice because, as a potential Settlement Class Member, you have a right to know about your options before the Court rules on the proposed Settlement. Additionally, you have the right to understand how this class action lawsuit may generally affect your legal rights. If the Court approves the Settlement and the Plan of Allocation (or some other plan of allocation), the Claims Administrator selected by Lead Plaintiffs and approved by the Court will make payments pursuant to the Settlement after any objections and appeals are resolved.

9. The purpose of this Notice is to inform you of the existence of this case, that it is a class action, how you might be affected, and how to exclude yourself from the Settlement Class if you wish to do so. It is also being sent to inform you of the terms of the proposed Settlement and of a hearing to be held by the Court to consider the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, and the motion by Lead Counsel for an award of attorneys' fees and payment of Litigation Expenses (the "Settlement Hearing"). See ¶¶ 49-50 below for details about the Settlement Hearing, including the date and location of the hearing.

10. The issuance of this Notice is not an expression of any opinion by the Court concerning the merits of any claim in the Action, and the Court still has to decide whether to approve the Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement and a plan of allocation, then payments to Authorized Claimants will be made after any appeals are resolved and after the completion of all claims processing. Please be patient, as this process can take some time to complete.

# WHAT IS THIS CASE ABOUT?

11. On August 29, 2020, the Court appointed Handelsbanken, Mississippi, Rhode Island, and Louisiana Sheriffs as Lead Plaintiffs for the Action; and approved Lead Plaintiffs' selection of Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP as Lead Counsel.

12. On November 9, 2020, Lead Plaintiffs filed and served a Consolidated Amended Class Action Complaint (the "Complaint") asserting claims against Wells Fargo and certain of its officers, Timothy J. Sloan, John R. Shrewsberry, C. Allen Parker, and director Elizabeth "Betsy" Duke (collectively, the "Individual Defendants") under Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder, and against the Individual Defendants and Charles W. Scharf under Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act.

13. The Complaint alleged that Defendants made materially false and misleading statements about Wells Fargo's compliance with the 2018 Consent Orders entered by the Regulators. The Complaint alleged that, during the Class Period, Wells Fargo made false and misleading statements to investors regarding its compliance with the 2018 Consent Orders, claiming that it had regulator-approved "plans" and that it was "in compliance" with the 2018 Consent Orders. Lead Plaintiffs allege that, in reality, Wells Fargo had yet to even submit an acceptable plan or schedule for compliance to the Regulators and was nowhere near meeting the Regulators' requirements that were a predicate to lifting restrictions that had been imposed on Wells Fargo, including an asset cap. Lead Plaintiffs further allege that the truth was revealed in a series of revelations, including in congressional hearings and reports. Lead Plaintiffs allege that when the truth was revealed, Wells Fargo's stock price fell.

14. On September 30, 2021, the Court issued its Memorandum Opinion and Order granting in part and denying in part Defendants' motion to dismiss the Complaint. Following the Court's Order, the Parties conducted extensive discovery which included, among other things, the production of more than 3.9 million pages of documents by Defendants, third-party witnesses, and Lead Plaintiffs.

15. On May 8, 2023, the Parties entered into the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement, which sets forth the terms and conditions of the Settlement. The Stipulation is available at www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com.

16. On \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, the Court preliminarily approved the Settlement, authorized this Notice to be disseminated to potential Settlement Class Members, and scheduled the Settlement Hearing to consider whether to grant final approval to the Settlement.

# HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM AFFECTED BY THE SETTLEMENT? WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT CLASS?

17. If you are a member of the Settlement Class, you are subject to the Settlement, unless you timely request to be excluded. The Settlement Class consists of:

all persons or entities who purchased or otherwise acquired the common stock of Wells Fargo during the Class Period (*i.e.*, from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive), and were damaged thereby.

Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) Defendants; (b) the Officers (defined as any employee serving on Wells Fargo's Operating Committee) and Directors of Wells Fargo during the Class

Period; (c) Defendants' Immediate Family Members; and (d) any entity in which any Defendant has or had a controlling interest. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Investment Vehicle<sup>3</sup> shall be excluded from the Settlement Class. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are any persons or entities who or which exclude themselves by submitting a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court. *See* "What If I Do Not Want To Be A Member Of The Settlement Class? How Do I Exclude Myself?" on page \_\_\_\_\_ below.

PLEASE NOTE: Receipt of this Notice does not mean that you are a Settlement Class Member or that you will be entitled to a payment from the Settlement.

If you are a Settlement Class Member and you wish to be eligible to receive a payment from the Settlement, you are required to submit the Claim Form that is being distributed with this Notice and the required supporting documentation as set forth therein postmarked (or submitted online) no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

# WHAT ARE LEAD PLAINTIFFS' REASONS FOR THE SETTLEMENT?

18. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe that the claims asserted against Defendants have merit. They recognize, however, the expense and length of continued proceedings necessary to pursue their claims against Defendants through summary judgment, trial, and appeals, as well as the very substantial risks they would face in establishing liability and damages. For example, those risks include challenges in establishing that Defendants' statements about Wells Fargo's compliance with the 2018 Consent Orders were false or misleading and that the Individual Defendants knew that the statements were false or were reckless in making them. Defendants have contended—and would have contended at summary judgment or trial—that their statements were neither false nor misleading and were supported by contemporaneous facts.

19. Lead Plaintiffs also faced risks relating to loss causation and damages. Defendants would have contended at summary judgment and trial, supported by their economic expert's analysis, that Lead Plaintiffs could not establish a causal connection between the alleged misrepresentations about Wells Fargo's compliance with the 2018 Consent Orders and the losses investors allegedly suffered, as required by law.

20. In light of these risks, the amount of the Settlement, and the immediacy of recovery to the Settlement Class, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe that the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe that the Settlement provides a substantial benefit to the Settlement Class, namely \$1,000,000,000 in cash (less the various deductions described in this Notice), as compared to the risk that the claims in the Action would produce a smaller recovery, or no recovery, after summary judgment, trial, and appeals, possibly years in the future.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> An "Investment Vehicle" is defined as any investment company or pooled investment fund, including but not limited to mutual fund families, exchange-traded funds, funds of funds, private equity funds, real estate funds, and hedge funds, as to which Wells Fargo or any affiliate of Wells Fargo acts or acted as investment advisor but of which Wells Fargo or any affiliate of Wells Fargo is not a majority owner or does not hold a majority beneficial interest.

21. Defendants have denied the claims asserted against them in the Action and deny that the Settlement Class was harmed or suffered any damages as a result of the conduct alleged in the Action. Defendants have agreed to the Settlement solely to eliminate the burden and expense of continued litigation. Accordingly, the Settlement may not be construed as an admission of any wrongdoing by Defendants.

# WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF THERE WERE NO SETTLEMENT?

22. If there were no Settlement and Lead Plaintiffs failed to establish any essential legal or factual element of their claims against Defendants, neither Lead Plaintiffs nor the other members of the Settlement Class would recover anything from Defendants. Also, if Defendants were successful in proving any of their defenses, either at summary judgment, at trial, or on appeal, the Settlement Class could recover substantially less than the amount provided in the Settlement, or nothing at all.

# HOW ARE SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBERS AFFECTED BY THE ACTION AND THE SETTLEMENT?

23. As a Settlement Class Member, you are represented by Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel, unless you enter an appearance through counsel of your own choice at your own expense. You are not required to retain your own counsel, but if you choose to do so, such counsel must file a notice of appearance on your behalf and must serve copies of his or her appearance on the attorneys listed in the section entitled, "When And Where Will The Court Decide Whether To Approve The Settlement?," below.

24. If you are a Settlement Class Member and do not wish to remain a Settlement Class Member, you may exclude yourself from the Settlement Class by following the instructions in the section entitled, "What If I Do Not Want To Be A Member Of The Settlement Class? How Do I Exclude Myself?," below.

25. If you are a Settlement Class Member and you wish to object to the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses, and if you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you may present your objections by following the instructions in the section entitled, "When And Where Will The Court Decide Whether To Approve The Settlement?," below.

26. If you are a Settlement Class Member and you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you will be bound by any orders issued by the Court. If the Settlement is approved, the Court will enter a judgment (the "Judgment"). The Judgment will dismiss with prejudice the claims against Defendants and will provide that, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs and each of the other Settlement Class Members, on behalf of themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns, in their capacities as such, and any other person or entity legally entitled to bring Released Plaintiffs' Claims on behalf of a Settlement Class Member, in that capacity, will have fully, finally, and forever compromised,

settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Plaintiffs' Claim (as defined in  $\P$  27 below) against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees (as defined in  $\P$  28 below), and will forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees.

27. "Released Plaintiffs' Claims" means all claims and causes of action of every nature and description, whether known or Unknown Claims (as defined in ¶ 29 below), whether arising under federal, state, common, or foreign law, that Lead Plaintiffs or any other member of the Settlement Class (a) asserted in the Complaint; or (b) could have asserted in any forum that arise out of or are based upon the allegations, transactions, facts, matters or occurrences, representations or omissions involved, set forth, or referred to in the Complaint and that relate to the purchase, acquisition, or ownership of Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period. This release does not include any claims that have already been asserted in a related shareholder derivative action or ERISA action, including *Timothy Himstreet and Montini Family Trust v. Charles W. Scharf, et al.*, No. CGC-22-599223 (Cal. Super. Ct. Apr. 19, 2022), or any claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement.

28. "Defendants' Releasees" means Defendants and Charles W. Scharf, including each of their current and former parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, agents, successors, predecessors, assigns, assignees, heirs, executors, estates, administrators, joint ventures, entities in which they have a controlling interest, partnerships, partners, trustees, trusts, employees, Immediate Family Members, insurers, reinsurers, accountants, auditors, and attorneys, in their capacities as such.

29. "Unknown Claims" means any Released Plaintiffs' Claims which any Lead Plaintiff or any other Settlement Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of such claims, and any Released Defendants' Claims which any Defendant does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of such claims, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to this Settlement. With respect to any and all Released Claims, the Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants shall expressly waive, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed to have waived, and by operation of the Judgment shall have expressly waived, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law or foreign law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil Code § 1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants acknowledge that they may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those which he, she, or it or their counsel now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims, but, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiff and Defendants shall expressly settle and release, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, settled and

released, any and all Released Claims without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts. Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants acknowledge, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed by operation of law to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and a material element of the Settlement.

30. The Judgment will also provide that, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Defendants, on behalf of themselves and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns, in their capacities as such, and any other person or entity legally entitled to bring Released Defendants' Claims on behalf of a Defendant, in that capacity, will have fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Defendants' Claim (as defined in  $\P$  31 below) against Lead Plaintiffs and the other Plaintiffs' Releasees (as defined in  $\P$  32 below), and will forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Defendants' Claims against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees.

31. "Released Defendants' Claims" means all claims and causes of action of every nature and description, whether known or Unknown Claims (as defined in  $\P$  29 above), whether arising under federal, state, common, or foreign law, that arise out of or relate in any way to the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the claims against Defendants. Released Defendants' Claims do not include any claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement or any claims against any person or entity who or which submits a request for exclusion from the Settlement Class that is accepted by the Court.

32. "Plaintiffs' Releasees" means Lead Plaintiffs, all other plaintiffs in the Action, and all other Settlement Class Members, and their respective current and former parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, agents, successors, predecessors, assigns, heirs, executors, estates, administrators, joint ventures, entities in which they have a controlling interest, assignees, partnerships, partners, trustees, trusts, employees, Immediate Family Members, insurers, reinsurers, accountants, auditors, and attorneys, in their capacities as such.

# HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT? WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

33. To be eligible for a payment from the Settlement, you must be a member of the Settlement Class and you must timely complete and return the Claim Form with adequate supporting documentation postmarked mailed) (if submitted online or at www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com no later than , 2023. A Claim Form is included with this Notice, or you may obtain one from the website maintained by the Claims Administrator for the Settlement, www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com. You may also request that a Claim Form be mailed to you by calling the Claims Administrator toll free at 888-301-4209 or by emailing the Claims Administrator at info@WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com. Please retain all records of your ownership of and transactions in Wells Fargo common stock, as they will be needed to document your Claim. The Parties and Claims Administrator do not have information about your transactions in Wells Fargo common stock.

34. If you request exclusion from the Settlement Class or do not submit a timely and valid Claim Form, you will not be eligible to share in the Net Settlement Fund.

# HOW MUCH WILL MY PAYMENT BE?

35. At this time, it is not possible to make any determination as to how much any individual Settlement Class Member may receive from the Settlement.

36. Pursuant to the Settlement, Defendants have agreed to pay or cause to be paid a total of \$1,000,000,000 in cash (the "Settlement Amount"). The Settlement Amount will be deposited into an escrow account. The Settlement Amount plus any interest earned thereon is referred to as the "Settlement Fund." If the Settlement is approved by the Court and the Effective Date occurs, the "Net Settlement Fund" (that is, the Settlement Fund less (i) any Taxes; (ii) any Notice and Administration Costs; (iii) any Litigation Expenses awarded by the Court; (iv) any attorneys' fees awarded by the Court; and (v) any other costs or fees approved by the Court) will be distributed to Settlement Class Members who submit valid Claim Forms, in accordance with the proposed Plan of Allocation or such other plan of allocation as the Court may approve.

37. The Net Settlement Fund will not be distributed unless and until the Court has approved the Settlement and a plan of allocation, and the time for any petition for rehearing, appeal, or review, whether by *certiorari* or otherwise, has expired.

38. Neither Defendants nor any other person or entity that paid any portion of the Settlement Amount on their behalf are entitled to get back any portion of the Settlement Fund once the Court's order or judgment approving the Settlement becomes Final. Defendants shall not have any liability, obligation, or responsibility for the administration of the Settlement, the disbursement of the Net Settlement Fund, or the plan of allocation.

39. Approval of the Settlement is independent from approval of a plan of allocation. Any determination with respect to a plan of allocation will not affect the Settlement, if approved.

40. Unless the Court otherwise orders, any Settlement Class Member who or which fails to submit a Claim Form postmarked (or submitted online) on or before \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023 shall be fully and forever barred from receiving payments pursuant to the Settlement but will in all other respects remain a member of the Settlement Class and be subject to the provisions of the Stipulation, including the terms of any Judgment entered and the releases given. This means that each Settlement Class Member releases the Released Plaintiffs' Claims (as defined in  $\P$  27 above) against the Defendants' Releasees (as defined in  $\P$  28 above) and will be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees whether or not such Settlement Class Member submits a Claim Form.

41. The Court has reserved jurisdiction to allow, disallow, or adjust on equitable grounds the Claim of any Settlement Class Member.

42. Each Claimant shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to his, her, or its Claim Form.

43. Only members of the Settlement Class will be eligible to share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund. Persons and entities that are excluded from the Settlement Class by definition or that exclude themselves from the Settlement Class pursuant to request will not be eligible for a payment and should not submit Claim Forms.

## WHAT PAYMENT ARE THE ATTORNEYS FOR THE SETTLEMENT CLASS SEEKING? HOW WILL THE LAWYERS BE PAID?

Lead Counsel have not received any payment for their services in pursuing claims asserted 44. in the Action on behalf of the Settlement Class, nor have Lead Counsel been paid for their litigation expenses. Before final approval of the Settlement, Lead Counsel will apply to the Court, on behalf of Plaintiffs' Counsel, for an award of attorneys' fees in an amount not to exceed 19% of the Settlement Fund. Lead Counsel Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP ("BLB&G") have a fee and work sharing agreement to divide the total attorneys' fees that the Court may award in amounts commensurate with their respective efforts and contributions in the litigation. Lead Counsel BLB&G also has a retention agreement with Lead Plaintiff Louisiana Sheriffs, which provides that Klausner Kaufman, additional fiduciary counsel for Louisiana Sheriffs, will work together with Lead Counsel on this Action, and BLB&G will compensate Klausner Kaufman for that work from its share of the attorneys' fees that the Court approves in an amount commensurate with Klausner Kaufman's efforts and contributions in the litigation. Lead Counsel also intend to apply for payment of Litigation Expenses in an amount not to exceed \$2 million, which may include an application for reimbursement of the reasonable costs and expenses incurred by Lead Plaintiffs directly related to their representation of the Settlement Class, pursuant to the PSLRA. The Court will determine the amount of any award of attorneys' fees or Litigation Expenses. Such sums as may be approved by the Court will be paid from the Settlement Fund. Settlement Class Members are not personally liable for any such fees or expenses.

# WHAT IF I DO NOT WANT TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SETTLEMENT CLASS? HOW DO I EXCLUDE MYSELF?

45. Each Settlement Class Member will be bound by all determinations and judgments in this lawsuit, whether favorable or unfavorable, unless such person or entity mails or delivers a written Request for Exclusion from the Settlement Class, addressed to *Wells Fargo Securities Litigation*, EXCLUSIONS, c/o Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc., P.O. Box 5430, Portland, OR 97228-5430. The Request for Exclusion must be *received* no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023. You will not be able to exclude yourself from the Settlement Class after that date. Each Request for Exclusion must (i) state the name, address, and telephone number of the person or entity requesting exclusion, and in the case of entities, the name and telephone number of the appropriate contact person; (ii) state that such person or entity "requests exclusion from the Settlement Class in *In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation*, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN (S.D.N.Y.)"; (iii) state the number of shares of Wells Fargo common stock that the person or entity requesting exclusion (A)

owned as of the opening of trading on February 2, 2018 and (B) purchased/acquired and/or sold from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive, as well as the dates and prices of each such purchase/acquisition and/or sale and, for each, the numbers of shares purchased/acquired and/or sold; and (iv) be signed by the person or entity requesting exclusion or an authorized representative. A Request for Exclusion shall not be valid and effective unless it provides all of the information called for in this paragraph and is received within the time stated above, or is otherwise accepted by the Court.

46. If you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class, you must follow these instructions for exclusion even if you have pending, or later file, another lawsuit, arbitration, or other proceeding relating to any Released Plaintiffs' Claim against any of the Defendants' Releasees.

47. If you ask to be excluded from the Settlement Class, you will not be eligible to receive any payment out of the Net Settlement Fund.

48. Defendants have the right to terminate the Settlement if valid requests for exclusion are received from persons and entities entitled to be members of the Settlement Class in an amount that exceeds an amount agreed to by Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants.

# WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE COURT DECIDE WHETHER TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT? DO I HAVE TO COME TO THE HEARING? MAY I SPEAK AT THE HEARING IF I DON'T LIKE THE SETTLEMENT?

49. Settlement Class Members do not need to attend the Settlement Hearing. The Court will consider any submission made in accordance with the provisions below even if a Settlement Class Member does not attend the hearing. You can participate in the Settlement without attending the Settlement Hearing. Please Note: The date and time of the Settlement Hearing may change without further written notice to the Settlement Class. You should check the Court's docket or the Settlement website, www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com, before making plans to attend the Settlement Hearing. You may also confirm the date and time of the Settlement Hearing by contacting Lead Counsel.

50. The Settlement Hearing will be held on \_\_\_\_\_\_, **2023 at : \_.m.**, before the Honorable Gregory H. Woods either in person at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, Courtroom 12C, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007-1312, or by telephone or videoconference, to determine, among other things, (i) whether the proposed Settlement on the terms and conditions provided for in the Stipulation is fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Settlement Class, and should be finally approved by the Court; (ii) whether, for purposes of the Settlement only, the Action should be certified as a class action on behalf of the Settlement Class, Lead Plaintiffs should be certified as Class Representatives for the Settlement Class, and Lead Counsel should be appointed as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class; (iii) whether the Action should be dismissed with prejudice against Defendants and the Releases specified and described in the Stipulation (and in this Notice) should be granted; (iv) whether the proposed Plan of Allocation should be approved as fair and reasonable; (v) whether Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses should be approved; and (vi) any other matters that may properly be brought before the Court in

connection with the Settlement. The Court reserves the right to certify the Settlement Class; approve the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses; and/or consider any other matter related to the Settlement at or after the Settlement Hearing without further notice to the members of the Settlement Class.

51. Any Settlement Class Member who or which does not request exclusion may object to the Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses. Objections must be in writing. You must file any written objection, together with copies of all other papers and briefs supporting the objection, with the Clerk's Office at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York at the address set forth below **on or before** \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023. You must also serve the papers on Lead Counsel and on Representative Defendants' Counsel at the addresses set forth below so that the papers are *received* **on or before** \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Clerk's Office:	U.S. District Court Southern District of New York Daniel Patrick Moynihan U.S. Courthouse 500 Pearl St. New York, NY 10007
Lead Counsel:	Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC Laura H. Posner 88 Pine St., 14th Floor New York, NY 10005
	Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP John C. Browne 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020
Representative Defendants' Counsel:	Sullivan & Cromwell LLP Christopher M. Viapiano 1700 New York Ave., N.W. Suite 700 Washington, DC 20006

52. Any objection must (a) identify the case name and docket number, *In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation*, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN (S.D.N.Y.); (b) state the name, address, and telephone number of the person or entity objecting and must be signed by the objector; (c) state with specificity the grounds for the Settlement Class Member's objection, including any legal and evidentiary support the Settlement Class Member wishes to bring to the Court's attention and whether the objection applies only to the objector, to a specific subset of the Settlement Class, or to the entire Settlement Class; and (d) include documents sufficient to prove membership in the Settlement Class, including documents showing the number of shares of Wells Fargo common stock that the person or entity objecting (i) owned as of the opening of trading on February 2, 2018 and (ii) purchased/acquired and/or sold from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive,

as well as the dates and prices of each such purchase/acquisition and/or sale and, for each, the numbers of shares purchased/acquired and/or sold. Documentation establishing membership in the Settlement Class must consist of copies of brokerage confirmation slips or monthly brokerage account statements, or an authorized statement from the objector's broker containing the transactional and holding information found in a broker confirmation slip or account statement. You may not object to the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses if you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class or if you are not a member of the Settlement Class.

53. You may file a written objection without having to appear at the Settlement Hearing. You may not, however, appear at the Settlement Hearing to present your objection unless you first file and serve a written objection in accordance with the procedures described above, unless the Court orders otherwise.

54. If you wish to be heard orally at the hearing in opposition to the approval of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses, assuming you timely file and serve a written objection as described above, you must also file a notice of appearance with the Clerk's Office and serve it on Lead Counsel and on Representative Defendants' Counsel at the addresses set forth in ¶ 51 above so that it is *received* **on or before** \_\_\_\_\_\_, **2023**. Persons who intend to object and desire to present evidence at the Settlement Hearing must include in their written objection or notice of appearance the identity of any witnesses they may call to testify and exhibits they intend to introduce into evidence at the hearing. Such persons may be heard orally at the discretion of the Court.

55. You are not required to hire an attorney to represent you in making written objections or in appearing at the Settlement Hearing. However, if you decide to hire an attorney, it will be at your own expense, and that attorney must file a notice of appearance with the Court and serve it on Lead Counsel and Representative Defendants' Counsel at the addresses set forth in  $\P$  51 above so that the notice is *received* on or before \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

56. The Settlement Hearing may be adjourned by the Court without further written notice to the Settlement Class. If you plan to attend the Settlement Hearing, you should confirm the date and time with Lead Counsel.

57. Unless the Court orders otherwise, any Settlement Class Member who does not object in the manner described above will be deemed to have waived any objection and shall be forever foreclosed from making any objection to the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses. Settlement Class Members do not need to appear at the Settlement Hearing or take any other action to indicate their approval.

## WHAT IF I BOUGHT STOCK ON SOMEONE ELSE'S BEHALF?

58. If you purchased or otherwise acquired Wells Fargo common stock during the period from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive, for the beneficial interest of persons or organizations other than yourself, you must either (i) within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of

this Notice, request from the Claims Administrator sufficient copies of the Notice and Claim Form (the "Notice Packet") to forward to all such beneficial owners and within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of those Notice Packets forward them to all such beneficial owners; or (ii) within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of this Notice, provide a list of the names, addresses, and email addresses (if available) of all such beneficial owners to Wells Fargo Securities Litigation, c/o Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc., P.O. Box 5430, Portland, OR 97228-5430. If you choose the second option, the Claims Administrator will send a copy of the Notice Packet to the beneficial owners. Upon full compliance with these directions, such nominees may seek reimbursement of their reasonable expenses actually incurred, by providing the Claims Administrator with proper documentation supporting the expenses for which reimbursement is sought. Copies of this Notice obtained from Settlement and the Claim Form may also be the website. www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com, by calling the Claims Administrator toll-free at 888-301-4209, or by emailing the Claims Administrator at info@WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com.

## CAN I SEE THE COURT FILE? WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

59. This Notice contains only a summary of the terms of the proposed Settlement. For more detailed information about the matters involved in this Action, you are referred to the papers on file in the Action, including the Stipulation, which may be inspected during regular office hours at the Office of the Clerk, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, Daniel Patrick Moynihan U.S. Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007-1312. Additionally, copies of the Stipulation and any related orders entered by the Court will be posted on the Settlement website, www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com.

All inquiries concerning this Notice and the Claim Form should be directed to:

Wells Fargo Securities Litigation c/o Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc. P.O. Box 5430 Portland, OR 97228-5430 (888) 301-4209 info@WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com

## DO NOT CALL OR WRITE THE COURT, THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE COURT, DEFENDANTS, OR THEIR COUNSEL REGARDING THIS NOTICE.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

By Order of the Court United States District Court Southern District of New York

## <u>Appendix A</u>

## **PROPOSED PLAN OF ALLOCATION**

60. The objective of the Plan of Allocation is to equitably distribute the Net Settlement Fund to those Settlement Class Members who suffered economic losses as a result of the alleged violations of the federal securities laws. The calculations made pursuant to the Plan of Allocation are not intended to be estimates of, nor indicative of, the amounts that Settlement Class Members might have been able to recover after a trial. Nor are the calculations pursuant to the Plan of Allocation intended to be estimates of the amounts that will be paid to Authorized Claimants pursuant to the Settlement. The computations under the Plan of Allocation are only a method to weigh the claims of Claimants against one another for the purposes of making *pro rata* allocations of the Net Settlement Fund.

61. In this case, Lead Plaintiffs allege that Defendants made false statements and omitted material facts during the period from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive (the "Class Period"), which had the effect of artificially inflating the price of Wells Fargo common stock. The estimated artificial inflation in Wells Fargo common stock allegedly caused by Defendants' alleged misrepresentations and omissions is reflected in Table A below. The estimated artificial inflation takes into account price changes in Wells Fargo common stock in reaction to certain public announcements allegedly revealing the truth concerning Defendants' alleged misrepresentations, and adjusts for price changes attributable to market or industry factors. In addition, the estimated artificial inflation takes into account other Company-specific inflation unrelated to Lead Plaintiffs' allegations and adjusts for the difficulty in Lead Plaintiffs' ability to successfully prove that corrective information was revealed during certain periods.

62. In order to have recoverable damages, the disclosure of the allegedly misrepresented information must be the cause of the decline in the price of Wells Fargo common stock. Lead Plaintiffs allege that corrective information was released to the market, at least partially removing the artificial inflation from the price of Wells Fargo common stock, on January 15, 2019, April 12, 2019, January 14, 2020, March 5, 2020, March 11, 2020 and March 12, 2020.

63. "Recognized Loss Amounts" are based primarily on the difference in the amount of alleged artificial inflation in the price of Wells Fargo common stock at the time of purchase or acquisition and at the time of sale or the difference between the actual purchase price and sale price. Accordingly, in order to have a Recognized Loss Amount under the Plan of Allocation, a Settlement Class Member who or which purchased or otherwise acquired share(s) of Wells Fargo common stock prior to the first corrective disclosure, which occurred on January 15, 2019, must have held his, her, or its shares through at least the close of trading on January 14, 2019. A Class Member who or which purchased or otherwise acquired Wells Fargo common stock from January 15, 2019 through March 12, 2020 must have held those shares through at least one of the later dates where new corrective information was released to the market, at least partially removing the artificial inflation from the price of Wells Fargo common stock.

## **CALCULATION OF RECOGNIZED LOSS AMOUNTS**

64. Based on the formula stated below, a Recognized Loss Amount will be calculated for each purchase or acquisition of Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period that is listed on the Claim Form and for which adequate documentation is provided. If a Recognized Loss Amount calculates to a negative number or zero under the formula below, the Recognized Loss Amount for that transaction will be zero.

65. Subject to ¶ 66 below, for each share of Wells Fargo common stock purchased or otherwise acquired from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive, and:

- (a.) Sold before January 15, 2019, the Recognized Loss Amount will be \$0.00.
- (b.) Sold from January 15, 2019 through and including March 12, 2020, the Recognized Loss Amount will be *the lesser of:* (i) the amount of artificial inflation per share on the date of purchase/acquisition as reflected in Table A *minus* the amount of artificial inflation per share on the date of sale as reflected in Table A; or (ii) the purchase/acquisition price *minus* the sale price.
- (c.) Sold from March 13, 2020 through the close of trading on June 9, 2020, the Recognized Loss Amount will be *the least of:* (i) the amount of artificial inflation per share on the date of purchase/acquisition as reflected in Table A; (ii) the purchase/acquisition price *minus* the average closing price between March 12, 2020 and the date of sale as reflected in Table B below; or (iii) the purchase/acquisition price *minus* the sale price.
- (d.) Held as of the close of trading on June 9, 2020, the Recognized Loss Amount will be *the lesser of:* (i) the amount of artificial inflation per share on the date of purchase/acquisition as reflected in Table A; or (ii) the purchase/acquisition price minus \$27.67.<sup>4</sup>

66. In its order dated September 30, 2021, the Court dismissed claims based on misstatements prior to May 30, 2018. Accordingly, to account for the Court's dismissal and unlikelihood of prevailing on appeal for the dismissed period, Recognized Loss Amounts for purchases made during the dismissed period from February 2, 2018 through May 29, 2018, inclusive, are reduced by 95% under the Plan of Allocation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Pursuant to Section 21D(e)(1) of the Exchange Act, "in any private action arising under this title in which the plaintiff seeks to establish damages by reference to the market price of a security, the award of damages to the plaintiff shall not exceed the difference between the purchase or sale price paid or received, as appropriate, by the plaintiff for the subject security and the mean trading price of that security during the 90-day period beginning on the date on which the information correcting the misstatement or omission that is the basis for the action is disseminated to the market." Consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act, Recognized Loss Amounts are reduced to an appropriate extent by taking into account the closing prices of Wells Fargo common stock during the "90-day look-back period," March 12, 2020 through and including June 9, 2020. The mean (average) closing price for Wells Fargo common stock during this 90-day look-back period was \$27.67.

## **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

67. The Net Settlement Fund will be allocated among all Authorized Claimants whose Distribution Amounts (defined in  $\P$  76 below) are \$10.00 or greater.

68. **Calculation of Claimant's "Recognized Claim":** A Claimant's "Recognized Claim" will be the sum of his, her, or its Recognized Loss Amounts as calculated above with respect to all Wells Fargo common stock purchased or otherwise acquired during the Class Period.

69. **LIFO Matching:** If a Class Member made more than one purchase/acquisition or sale of Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period, all purchases/acquisitions and sales will be matched on a last-in, first-out ("LIFO") basis. Under the LIFO method, sales of Wells Fargo common stock will be matched first against the most recent prior purchases/acquisitions in reverse chronological order, and then against any holdings at the beginning of the Class Period.

70. **"Purchase/Sale" Dates:** Purchases or acquisitions and sales of Wells Fargo common stock will be deemed to have occurred on the "contract" or "trade" date as opposed to the "settlement" or "payment" date. The receipt or grant by gift, inheritance, or operation of law of Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period shall not be deemed a purchase, acquisition or sale for the calculation of a Claimant's Recognized Loss Amount, nor shall the receipt or grant be deemed an assignment of any claim relating to the purchase/acquisition/sale of the stock unless (i) the donor or decedent purchased or otherwise acquired the Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period; (ii) the instrument of gift or assignment specifically provides that it is intended to transfer such rights; and (iii) no Claim was submitted by or on behalf of the donor, on behalf of the decedent, or by anyone else with respect to those shares.

71. **Short Sales:** The date of covering a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of purchase or acquisition of the Wells Fargo common stock. The date of a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of sale of the Wells Fargo common stock. In accordance with the Plan of Allocation, however, the Recognized Loss Amount on "short sales" and the purchases covering "short sales" is zero.

72. In the event that a Claimant has an opening short position in Wells Fargo common stock, the purchases or acquisitions during the Class Period will be matched based on LIFO matching (each covering purchase will match to the most recent short sale until all short positions are fully covered), and such purchases shall not be entitled to a recovery.

73. **Shares Purchased/Sold Through the Exercise of Options:** Option contracts are not securities eligible to participate in the Settlement. With respect to Wells Fargo common stock purchased or sold through the exercise of an option, the purchase/sale date of the shares is the exercise date of the option and the purchase/sale price is the exercise price of the option.

74. **Market Gains and Losses:** The Claims Administrator will determine whether the Claimant had a "Market Gain" or a "Market Loss" with respect to his, her, or its overall transactions in Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period. For purposes of making this calculation, the Claims Administrator will determine the difference between (i) the Claimant's

Total Purchase Amount<sup>5</sup> and (ii) the sum of the Claimant's Total Sales Proceeds<sup>6</sup> and the Claimant's Holding Value.<sup>7</sup> If the Claimant's Total Purchase Amount minus the sum of the Claimant's Total Sales Proceeds and the Holding Value is a positive number, that number will be the Claimant's Market Loss; if the number is a negative number or zero, that number will be the Claimant's Market Gain.

75. If a Claimant had a Market Gain with respect to his, her, or its overall transactions in Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period, the value of the Claimant's Recognized Claim will be zero, and the Claimant will in any event be bound by the Settlement. If a Claimant suffered an overall Market Loss with respect to his, her, or its overall transactions in Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period but that Market Loss was less than the Claimant's Recognized Claim calculated pursuant to ¶¶ 64-66 above, then the Claimant's Recognized Claim will be limited to the amount of the Market Loss.

76. **Determination of Distribution Amount:** The Net Settlement Fund will be distributed to Authorized Claimants on a *pro rata* basis based on the relative size of their Recognized Claims. Specifically, a "Distribution Amount" will be calculated for each Authorized Claimant, which shall be the Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim divided by the total Recognized Claims of all Authorized Claimants, multiplied by the total amount in the Net Settlement Fund.

77. If an Authorized Claimant's Distribution Amount calculates to less than \$10.00, it will not be included in the calculation and no distribution will be made to that Authorized Claimant.

78. After the initial distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, the Claims Administrator will make reasonable and diligent efforts to have Authorized Claimants cash their distribution checks. To the extent any monies remain in the Net Settlement Fund after the initial distribution, if Lead Counsel, in consultation with the Claims Administrator, determine that it is cost-effective to do so, the Claims Administrator, no less than six (6) months after the initial distribution, will conduct a re-distribution of the funds remaining after payment of any unpaid fees and expenses incurred in administering the Settlement, including for such re-distribution, to Authorized Claimants who have cashed their initial distributions to Authorized Claimants who have cashed their prior checks and who

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The "Total Purchase Amount" is the total amount the Claimant paid (excluding any fees, commissions, and taxes) for all shares of Wells Fargo common stock purchased/acquired during the Class Period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Claims Administrator shall match any sales of Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period using LIFO share matching. The proceeds of any sales matched against the Claimant's opening position in Wells Fargo common stock will not be considered for purposes of calculating market gains or losses. The total amount received (not deducting any fees, commissions, and taxes) for sales of the remaining shares of Wells Fargo common stock sold during the Class Period is the "Total Sales Proceeds."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Claims Administrator will ascribe a "Holding Value" of \$27.20 to each share of Wells Fargo common stock purchased/acquired during the Class Period that was still held as of the close of trading on March 12, 2020.

would receive at least \$10.00 on such additional re-distributions may occur thereafter if Lead Counsel, in consultation with the Claims Administrator, determine that additional re-distributions, after the deduction of any additional fees and expenses incurred in administering the Settlement, including for such re-distributions, would be cost-effective. At such time as it is determined that the re-distribution of funds remaining in the Net Settlement Fund is not cost-effective, the remaining balance will be contributed to non-sectarian, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization(s), to be recommended by Lead Counsel and approved by the Court.

79. Payment pursuant to the Plan of Allocation, or such other plan of allocation as may be approved by the Court, will be conclusive against all Claimants. No person shall have any claim against Lead Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs' Counsel, Lead Plaintiffs' damages expert, Defendants, Defendants' Counsel, or any of the other Releasees, or the Claims Administrator or other agent designated by Lead Counsel, arising from distributions made substantially in accordance with the Stipulation, the plan of allocation approved by the Court, or further Orders of the Court. Lead Plaintiffs, Defendants, and their respective counsel, and all other Defendants' Releasees, shall have no responsibility or liability whatsoever for the investment or distribution of the Settlement Fund or the Net Settlement Fund; the plan of allocation; the determination, administrator; the payment or withholding of taxes owed by the Settlement Fund; or any losses incurred in connection therewith.

80. The Plan of Allocation set forth herein is the plan that is being proposed to the Court for its approval by Lead Plaintiffs after consultation with their damages expert. The Court may approve this plan as proposed or it may modify the Plan of Allocation without further notice to the Class. Any Orders regarding any modification of the Plan of Allocation will be posted on the case website, www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com.

from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020		
Transaction Date Range	Artificial Inflation Per Share	
February 2, 2018 – January 14, 2019	\$5.12	
January 15, 2019 – April 11, 2019	\$4.49	
April 12, 2019 – January 13, 2020	\$3.22	
January 14, 2020 – March 4, 2020	\$1.93	
March 5, 2020 – March 10, 2020	\$1.71	
March 11, 2020	\$1.24	
March 12, 2020	\$0.63	

 TABLE A

 Estimated Artificial Inflation in Wells Fargo Common Stock

 from February 2
 2018 through March 12
 2020

(Average Closing Price: March 12, 2020 – June 9, 2020)				
	Average Closing		Average Closing	
	Price Between		Price Between	
	3/12/2020 and		3/12/2020 and	
Date	Date Shown	Date	Date Shown	
3/12/2020	\$27.20	4/27/2020	\$28.42	
3/13/2020	\$29.05	4/28/2020	\$28.43	
3/16/2020	\$28.20	4/29/2020	\$28.48	
3/17/2020	\$28.56	4/30/2020	\$28.50	
3/18/2020	\$28.47	5/1/2020	\$28.47	
3/19/2020	\$28.44	5/4/2020	\$28.44	
3/20/2020	\$28.16	5/5/2020	\$28.39	
3/23/2020	\$27.80	5/6/2020	\$28.31	
3/24/2020	\$27.92	5/7/2020	\$28.24	
3/25/2020	\$28.03	5/8/2020	\$28.17	
3/26/2020	\$28.29	5/11/2020	\$28.09	
3/27/2020	\$28.45	5/12/2020	\$27.99	
3/30/2020	\$28.57	5/13/2020	\$27.87	
3/31/2020	\$28.58	5/14/2020	\$27.79	
4/1/2020	\$28.44	5/15/2020	\$27.69	
4/2/2020	\$28.37	5/18/2020	\$27.64	
4/3/2020	\$28.24	5/19/2020	\$27.56	
4/6/2020	\$28.26	5/20/2020	\$27.50	
4/7/2020	\$28.29	5/21/2020	\$27.44	
4/8/2020	\$28.39	5/22/2020	\$27.38	
4/9/2020	\$28.62	5/26/2020	\$27.36	
4/13/2020	\$28.75	5/27/2020	\$27.37	
4/14/2020	\$28.81	5/28/2020	\$27.36	
4/15/2020	\$28.79	5/29/2020	\$27.35	
4/16/2020	\$28.72	6/1/2020	\$27.34	
4/17/2020	\$28.70	6/2/2020	\$27.34	
4/20/2020	\$28.67	6/3/2020	\$27.37	
4/21/2020	\$28.60	6/4/2020	\$27.42	
4/22/2020	\$28.54	6/5/2020	\$27.49	
4/23/2020	\$28.47	6/8/2020	\$27.58	
4/24/2020	\$28.42	6/9/2020	\$27.67	

TABLE B90-Day Look-Back Table for Wells Fargo Common Stock(Average Closing Price: March 12, 2020 – June 9, 2020)

Exhibit A-2

MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM

### **GENERAL RULES FOR RECOVERING**

- 1. To recover as a Settlement Class Member based on your claims in the action entitled *In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation*, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN (the "Action"),<sup>1</sup> you must complete and, on page 7 hereof, sign this Proof of Claim and Release Form ("Claim Form"). If you fail to timely and completely file a properly addressed (as set forth in paragraph 3 below) Claim Form, your Claim may be rejected and you may be precluded from any recovery from the Net Settlement Fund created in connection with the proposed Settlement.
- Submission of this Claim Form, however, does not assure that you will share in the proceeds of the Settlement. Your recovery, if any, will be calculated as described in the Plan of Allocation in the Notice of (I) Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; (II) Settlement Fairness Hearing; and (III) Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses ("Notice").
- 3. YOU MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THIS CLAIM FORM AVAILABLE AT WWWWELLSFARGOSECURITIESCLASSACTION.COM NO LATER THAN 11:59 P.M. ET ON \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023 OR MAIL YOUR COMPLETED AND SIGNED CLAIM FORM POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:

Wells Fargo Securities Litigation c/o Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc. P.O. Box 5430 Portland, OR 97228-5430

- 4. If you are NOT a Settlement Class Member (as defined in the Notice), DO NOT submit a Claim Form.
- 5. If you are a Settlement Class Member and you did not timely and validly request exclusion from the proposed Settlement Class (pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Notice), you will still be bound by the terms of the Settlement and proposed Judgment to be entered in the Action, including the releases provided therein, WHETHER OR NOT YOU SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM.
- 6. **PLEASE NOTE:** As set forth in the Plan of Allocation, each Authorized Claimant shall receive his, her, or its *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Fund. If the prorated payment to any Authorized Claimant calculates to less than \$10.00, it will not be included in the calculation, and no distribution will be made to that Authorized Claimant.

## **IDENTIFICATION OF CLAIMANT**

- 7. THIS CLAIM FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE ACTUAL BENEFICIAL PURCHASER(S), OR THE LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF SUCH PURCHASER(S), OF THE WELLS FARGO & CO. ("WELLS FARGO") COMMON STOCK UPON WHICH THESE CLAIMS ARE BASED.
- 8. Use Part I of this form entitled "Claimant Identification" to identify each beneficial purchaser.
- 9. All joint purchasers must sign this Claim Form. Executors, administrators, guardians, conservators, and trustees must complete and sign this Claim Form on behalf of persons represented by them, and their authority must accompany this Claim and their titles or capacities must be stated. The last four digits of the Social Security (or taxpayer identification) number and telephone number of the beneficial owner(s) may be used in verifying the Claim. Failure to provide the foregoing information could delay verification of your Claim or result in rejection of the Claim.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This Claim Form incorporates by reference the definitions in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement between the Parties, dated May 8, 2023 (the "Stipulation"), and all capitalized terms used, but not defined herein, shall have the same meanings as in the Stipulation or in the Notice of (I) Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; (II) Settlement Fairness Hearing; and (III) Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses ("Notice"). Copies of both documents can be obtained at www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com.

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- 10. One Claim should be submitted for each separate legal entity or separately managed account. Separate Claim Forms should be submitted for each separate legal entity (e.g., an individual should not combine his or her IRA transactions with transactions made solely in the individual's name). Generally, a single Claim Form should be submitted on behalf of one legal entity including all holdings and transactions made by that entity on one Claim Form. However, if a single person or legal entity had multiple accounts that were separately managed, separate Claims may be submitted for each such account. The Claims Administrator reserves the right to request information on all the holdings and transactions in Wells Fargo common stock made on behalf of a single beneficial owner.
- 11. Agents, executors, administrators, guardians, and trustees must complete and sign the Claim Form on behalf of persons represented by them, and they must:
  - (a) expressly state the capacity in which they are acting;

(b) identify the name, account number, Social Security Number (or taxpayer identification number), address, and telephone number of the beneficial owner of (or other person or entity on whose behalf they are acting with respect to) the Wells Fargo common stock; and

(c) furnish herewith evidence of their authority to bind to the Claim Form the person or entity on whose behalf they are acting. (Authority to complete and sign a Claim Form cannot be established by stockbrokers demonstrating only that they have discretionary authority to trade securities in another person's accounts.)

#### **IDENTIFICATION OF TRANSACTION(S)**

- 12. Use Part II of this form entitled "Schedule of Holdings and Transactions in Wells Fargo Common Stock" to supply all required details of your transaction(s) in Wells Fargo common stock. If you need more space or additional schedules, attach separate sheets giving all of the required information in substantially the same form. Sign and print or type your name on each additional sheet.
- 13. On the schedules, provide all of the requested information with respect to *all* of your transactions in Wells Fargo common stock which took place during the period from February 2, 2018 and March 12, 2020, inclusive (the "Class Period"), as well as the 90-day period subsequent to the Class Period (*i.e.*, from March 12, 2020 through June 9, 2020), whether such transactions resulted in a profit or a loss. Failure to report all such transactions may result in the rejection of your Claim.
- 14. List each transaction separately and in chronological order, by trade date, beginning with the earliest. You must accurately provide the month, day, and year of each transaction you list.
- 15. You should attach documentation verifying your transactions in Wells Fargo common stock, such as copies of broker confirmations. Failure to provide this documentation could delay verification of your Claim or result in rejection of your Claim.
- 16. By submitting a signed Claim Form, you will be swearing to the truth of the statements contained therein and the genuineness of the documents attached thereto, subject to penalties of perjury under the laws of the United States of America. The making of false statements, or the submission of forged or fraudulent documentation, will result in the rejection of your claim and may subject you to civil liability or criminal prosecution.

#### **OTHER**

- 17. Payments to eligible Authorized Claimants will be made only if the Court approves the Settlement, after any appeals are resolved, and after the completion of all claims processing.
- 18. If you have questions concerning the Claim Form, or need additional copies of the Claim Form or the Notice, you may contact the Claims Administrator, Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc., at the above address, by email at info@WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com or by toll-free phone at 888-301-4209, or you can visit the website, www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com, where copies of the Claim Form and Notice are available for downloading.
- 19. NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILES: Certain claimants with large numbers of transactions may request, or may be requested, to submit information regarding their transactions in electronic files. To obtain the mandatory electronic filing requirements and file layout, you may visit the settlement website at www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com or you may email the Claims Administrator's electronic filing department at info@WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com Any file not in accordance with the required electronic filing format will be subject to rejection. The complete name of the beneficial owner of the securities must be entered where called for. No electronic files will be considered to have been submitted unless the Claims Administrator issues an email confirming receipt of your submission. Do not assume that your file has been received until you receive that email. If you do not receive such an email within 10 days of your submission, you should contact the electronic filing department at info@ WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com to inquire about your file and confirm it was received.

#### **IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE**

YOUR CLAIM IS NOT DEEMED FILED UNTIL YOU RECEIVE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POSTCARD. THE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR WILL ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF YOUR CLAIM FORM BY MAIL, WITHIN 60 DAYS. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POSTCARD WITHIN 60 DAYS, CALL THE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR TOLL FREE AT 888-301-4209.

## **PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM**

MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK In re Wells Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN

### **PART I: CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION**

#### **Claimant/Representative Contact Information:**

The Claims Administrator will use the contact information for all correspondence relevant to this Claim (including the issuance of the
distribution check, if the Claim is ultimately determined to be eligible for payment). If the contact information changes, then you must
notify the Claims Administrator in writing at the address identified above.

Claimant's Name (as you would like it to appear on your check if eligible for payment)

Address Line 1 (Number and Street or P.O. Box)

Address Line 2 (if needed)

City

Country name

State or Province

Zip Code

Last four digits of Social Security Number (for individuals) or T.I.N. (for estates, trusts, corporations, etc.)

Representative's Name (if different from the Claimant's Name(s) listed above)

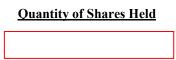
Telephone Number (Work)

Telephone Number (Home)

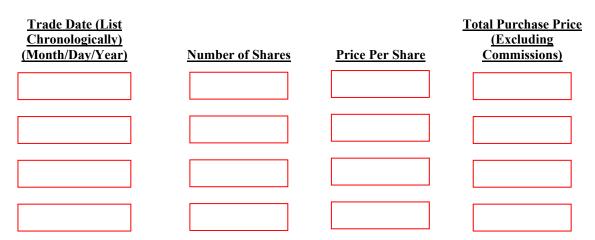
Email

#### PART II: SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS IN WELLS FARGO COMMON STOCK

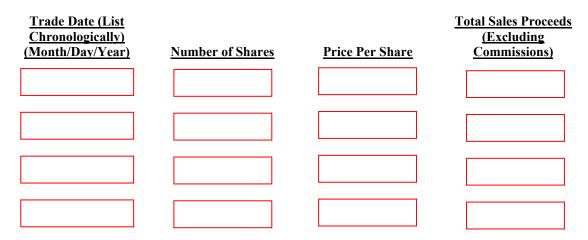
A. Holdings at Start of Class Period: List all shares of Wells Fargo common stock held as of the opening of trading on February 2, 2018.



B. Purchases: List all purchases of Wells Fargo common stock between February 2, 2018 and June 9, 2020, inclusive. Be sure to attach documentation verifying your transactions.



C. Sales: List all sales of Wells Fargo common stock between February 2, 2018 and June 9, 2020, inclusive. Be sure to attach documentation verifying your transactions.



D. Unsold Holdings: List the number of shares of Wells Fargo common stock held as of the close of trading on June 9, 2020. Be sure to attach documentation verifying your holdings such as a current account statement.

If you require additional space to list your transactions, use photocopies of this page and check this box.  $\Box$ 

## YOU MUST READ THE RELEASE AND YOUR SIGNATURE ON PAGE 7 WILL CONSTITUTE YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE RELEASE.

### PART III: SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION OF COURT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I (we) submit this Claim Form under the terms of the Settlement described in the notice. I (we) also submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York with respect to my (our) claim as a Settlement Class Member and for purposes of enforcing the releases set forth in the Settlement and repeated herein. I (we) further acknowledge that I am (we are) bound by and subject to the terms of any judgment that may be entered in the Action. I (we) agree to furnish additional information to the Claims Administrator to support this claim if requested to do so. I (we) have not submitted any other claim covering the same purchases or sales of Wells Fargo common stock and know of no other person having done so on my (our) behalf.

### **PART IV: RELEASE**

- 1. I (we) hereby acknowledge, on behalf of myself (ourselves), and each of my (our) heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns, in their capacities as such, and any other person or entity legally entitled to bring Released Plaintiffs' Claims on behalf of myself (ourselves), in that capacity, that I (we) fully, finally, and forever compromise, settle, release, resolve, relinquish, waive, and discharge each and every Released Plaintiffs' Claim against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees, and are forever barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees.
- 2. "Defendants' Releasees" means Defendants and Charles W. Scharf, including each of their current and former parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, agents, successors, predecessors, assigns, assignees, heirs, executors, estates, administrators, joint ventures, entities in which they have a controlling interest, partnerships, partners, trustees, trusts, employees, Immediate Family Members, insurers, reinsurers, accountants, auditors, and attorneys, in their capacities as such.
- 3. "Released Plaintiffs' Claims" means all claims and causes of action of every nature and description, whether known or Unknown Claims (as defined in ¶ 4 below), whether arising under federal, state, common, or foreign law, that Lead Plaintiffs or any other member of the Settlement Class (a) asserted in the Complaint; or (b) could have asserted in any forum that arise out of or are based upon the allegations, transactions, facts, matters or occurrences, representations or omissions involved, set forth, or referred to in the Complaint and that relate to the purchase, acquisition, or ownership of Wells Fargo common stock during the Class Period. This release does not include any claims that have already been asserted in a related shareholder derivative action or ERISA action, including *Timothy Himstreet and Montini Family Trust v. Charles W. Scharf, et al.*, No. CGC-22-599223 (Cal. Super. Ct. Apr. 19, 2022), or any claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement.
- 4. "Unknown Claims" means any Released Plaintiffs' Claims which any Lead Plaintiff or any other Settlement Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of such claims, and any Released Defendants' Claims which any Defendant does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of such claims, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to this Settlement. With respect to any and all Released Claims, the Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants shall expressly waive, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed to have waived, and by operation of the Judgment shall have expressly waived, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law or foreign law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil Code § 1542, which provides:

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A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants acknowledge that they may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those which he, she, or it or their counsel now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims, but, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiff and Defendants shall expressly settle and release, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, settled and released, any and all Released Claims without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts. Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants acknowledge, and each of the other Settlement Class Members shall be deemed by operation of law to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and a material element of the Settlement.

- 5. This release shall be of no force or effect unless and until the court approves the Settlement and the Effective Date of the Settlement (as defined in the Stipulation) occurs.
- 6. I (we) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have not assigned or transferred or purported to assign or transfer, voluntarily or involuntarily, any matter released pursuant to the Settlement or any other part or portion thereof.
- 7. I (we) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have included information about all of my (our) purchases and sales of Wells Fargo common stock during the required periods as set forth above.
- 8. I (we) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have not submitted any other claim covering the same purchases of Wells Fargo common stock and knows (know) of no other person having done so on my (our) behalf.
- 9. I (we) hereby warrant and represent that I am (we are) not excluded from the Settlement Class as defined in the Notice and that I (we) have not requested to be excluded from the Settlement Class pursuant to the procedures set forth in the notice.
- 10. The claimant(s) submit(s) to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to claimant's (claimants') claim and for purposes of enforcing the releases set forth herein.
- 11. I (we) agree to furnish such additional information with respect to this Claim Form as Lead Counsel, the Claims Administrator, or the Court may require.
- 12. The claimant(s) waive(s) the right to trial by jury, to the extent it exists, and agree(s) to the determination by the Court of the validity or amount of this Claim, and waive(s) any right of appeal or review with respect to such determination.
- 13. I (we) acknowledge that the claimant(s) will be bound by and subject to the terms of any judgment(s) that may be entered in the Action; and
- 14. I (we) certify that I am (we are) not subject to backup withholding under the provisions of section 3406(a)(1)(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Note: if you have been notified by the Internal Revenue Service that you are subject to backup withholding, please strike out the language that you are not subject to backup withholding in the certification above.

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## I (WE) DECLARE THAT THE FOREGOING INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE UNDERSIGNED IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Executed this day	of	_, in	,
	(Month/Year)	(City)	(State/Country)
Signature of Claimant		Signature of Joi	int Claimant, if any
Print Name of Claimant		Print Name of Jo	oint Claimant, if any
Date		Date	

If Claimant is other than an individual, or is not the person completing this form, the following <u>also</u> must be provided:

Signature of Person Completing Form	Date
Print Name of Person Completing Form	Capacity of Person(s) Signing ( <i>e.g.</i> , Beneficial Purchaser, Execut or Administrator)

## **REMINDER CHECKLIST**

- $\Box$  1. Please be sure to sign this Claim Form.
- □ 2. Remember to attach **COPIES OF** documentation verifying your transactions listed above.
- **3.** DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS OF ANY DOCUMENTS VERIFYING YOUR TRANSACTIONS.
- $\Box$  4. Keep a copy of your Claim Form for your records.
- □ 5. If you move, please send your new address to the Claims Administrator at the address below:

Wells Fargo Securities Litigation c/o Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc. P.O. Box 5430 Portland, OR 97228-5430 888-301-4209 info@WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com

### □ 6. Do not use highlighter on the Claim Form or supporting documentation.

#### Exhibit A-3

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

## IN RE WELLS FARGO & COMPANY SECURITIES LITIGATION

Case No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN

## SUMMARY NOTICE OF (I) PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT; (II) SETTLEMENT FAIRNESS HEARING; AND (III) MOTION FOR <u>ATTORNEYS' FEES AND LITIGATION EXPENSES</u>

**TO:** All persons or entities who purchased or otherwise acquired the common stock of Wells Fargo & Company during the period from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive (the "Class Period"), and were damaged thereby (the "Settlement Class").<sup>1</sup>

# PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY, YOUR RIGHTS WILL BE AFFECTED BY A CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT PENDING IN THIS COURT.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and an Order of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"), that the above-captioned securities class action (the "Action") is pending in the Court.

YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED that Lead Plaintiffs in the Action have reached a proposed settlement of the Action for \$1,000,000,000 in cash (the "Settlement"), that, if approved, will resolve all claims in the Action.

A hearing will be held on \_\_\_\_\_\_, **2023 at \_:\_\_\_\_.m.**, before the Honorable Gregory H. Woods either in person at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, Daniel Patrick Moynihan U.S. Courthouse, Courtroom 12C, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007-1312, or by telephone or videoconference, to determine (i) whether the proposed Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate; (ii) whether, for purposes of the proposed Settlement only, the Action should be certified as a class action on behalf of the Settlement Class, Lead Plaintiffs should be certified as Class Representatives for the Settlement Class, and Lead Counsel should be appointed as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class; (iii) whether the Action should be dismissed with prejudice against Defendants, and the Releases specified and described in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated May 8, 2023 (and in the Notice) should be granted; (iv) whether the proposed Plan of Allocation should be approved as fair and reasonable; and (v) whether Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses should be approved.

If you are a member of the Settlement Class, your rights will be affected by the pending Action and the Settlement, and you may be entitled to a payment from the Settlement. If you have not yet received the Notice and Claim Form, you may obtain copies of these documents by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Certain persons and entities are excluded from the Settlement Class by definition as set forth in the full Notice of (I) Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; (II) Settlement Fairness Hearing; and (III) Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses (the "Notice"), available at www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com.

contacting the Claims Administrator at *Wells Fargo Securities Litigation*, c/o Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc., P.O. Box 5430, Portland, OR 97228-5430; (888) 301-4209; or info@WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com. Copies of the Notice and Claim Form can also be downloaded from the Settlement website, <u>www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com</u>.

If you are a member of the Settlement Class, in order to be eligible to receive a payment from the Settlement, you must submit a Claim Form *postmarked* (or submitted online) no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023. If you are a Settlement Class Member and do not submit a proper Claim Form, you will not be eligible to receive a payment from the Settlement but you will nevertheless be bound by any judgments or orders entered by the Court in the Action.

If you are a member of the Settlement Class and wish to exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you must submit a request for exclusion such that it is *received* no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, in accordance with the instructions set forth in the Notice. If you properly exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you will not be bound by any judgments or orders entered by the Court in the Action and you will not be eligible to receive a payment from the Settlement. Excluding yourself is the only option that may allow you to be part of any other current or future lawsuit against Defendants or any of the other released parties concerning the claims being resolved by the Settlement.

Any objections to the proposed Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, must be filed with the Court and delivered to Lead Counsel and Defendants' Counsel such that they are *received* no later than , 2023, in accordance with the instructions set forth in the Notice.

Please do not contact the Court, the Clerk's office, Defendants, or their counsel regarding this notice. All questions about this notice, the proposed Settlement, or your eligibility to participate in the Settlement should be directed to the Claims Administrator or Lead Counsel.

Requests for the Notice and Claim Form should be made to:

Wells Fargo Securities Litigation c/o Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc. P.O. Box 5430 Portland, OR 97228-5430 (888) 301-4209 info@WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com www.WellsFargoSecuritiesClassAction.com

Inquiries, other than requests for the Notice and Claim Form, should be made to Lead Counsel:

Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC Attn: Laura H. Posner 88 Pine St., 14th Floor New York, NY 10005 Tel.: (212) 220-2925 Fax: (212) 838-7745 Email: lposner@cohenmilstein.com Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP Attn: John C. Browne 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020 Tel.: (212) 554-1400 Fax: (212) 554-1444 Email: johnb@blbglaw.com

By Order of the Court

#### Exhibit B

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

## IN RE WELLS FARGO & COMPANY SECURITIES LITIGATION

Case No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN

#### JUDGMENT APPROVING CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, a consolidated securities action is pending in this Court entitled *In re Wells* Fargo & Co. Securities Litigation, No. 1:20-cv-04494-GHW-SN (the "Action");

WHEREAS, (a) Lead Plaintiffs Handelsbanken Fonder AB ("Handelsbanken"); Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi ("Mississippi"); State of Rhode Island, Office of the General Treasurer ("Rhode Island"); and Louisiana Sheriffs' Pension & Relief Fund ("Louisiana Sheriffs") on behalf of themselves and the other members of the Settlement Class; and (b) defendants Wells Fargo & Company ("Wells Fargo"), Timothy J. Sloan, John R. Shrewsberry, C. Allen Parker, and Elizabeth "Betsy" Duke (collectively, the "Individual Defendants" and, with Wells Fargo, "Defendants") have entered into a Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated May 8, 2023 (the "Stipulation"), that provides for a complete dismissal with prejudice of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action on the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation, subject to the approval of this Court (the "Settlement");

WHEREAS, unless otherwise defined in this Judgment, the capitalized terms herein shall have the same meaning as they have in the Stipulation;

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WHEREAS, by Order dated \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023 (the "Preliminary Approval Order"), this Court: (a) found, pursuant to Rule 23(e)(1)(B), that it (i) would likely be able to approve the Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate under Rule 23(e)(2) and (ii) would likely be able to certify the Settlement Class for purposes of the Settlement; (b) ordered that notice of the proposed Settlement be provided to potential Settlement Class Members; (c) provided Settlement Class Members with the opportunity either to exclude themselves from the Settlement Class or to object to the proposed Settlement; and (d) scheduled a hearing regarding final approval of the Settlement;

WHEREAS, due and adequate notice has been given to the Settlement Class;

WHEREAS, the Court conducted a hearing on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023 (the "Settlement Hearing") to consider, among other things, (a) whether the terms and conditions of the Settlement are fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Settlement Class, and should therefore be approved; and (b) whether a judgment should be entered dismissing the Action with prejudice as against the Defendants; and

WHEREAS, the Court having reviewed and considered the Stipulation, all papers filed and proceedings held herein in connection with the Settlement, all oral and written comments received regarding the Settlement, and the record in the Action, and good cause appearing therefor;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

1. <u>Jurisdiction</u> – The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, and all matters relating to the Settlement, as well as personal jurisdiction over all of the Parties and each of the Settlement Class Members.

2. **Incorporation of Settlement Documents** – This Judgment incorporates and makes a part hereof: (a) the Stipulation filed with the Court on May 15, 2023; and (b) the Notice and the Summary Notice, both of which were filed with the Court on May 15, 2023.

3. **<u>Class Certification for Settlement Purposes</u> – The Court hereby certifies for the** purposes of the Settlement only, the Action as a class action pursuant to Rules 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of the Settlement Class consisting of all persons or entities who purchased or otherwise acquired the common stock of Wells Fargo from February 2, 2018 through March 12, 2020, inclusive (the "Class Period") and were damaged thereby. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) Defendants; (b) the Officers (defined as any employee serving on Wells Fargo's Operating Committee) and Directors of Wells Fargo during the Class Period; (c) Defendants' Immediate Family Members; and (d) any entity in which any Defendant has or had a controlling interest. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Investment Vehicle (defined as any investment company or pooled investment fund, including but not limited to mutual fund families, exchange-traded funds, funds of funds, private equity funds, real estate funds, and hedge funds, as to which Wells Fargo or any affiliate of Wells Fargo acts or acted as investment advisor but of which Wells Fargo or any affiliate of Wells Fargo is not a majority owner or does not hold a majority beneficial interest) shall be excluded from the Settlement Class. [Also excluded from the Settlement Class are any persons or entities who or which exclude themselves by submitting a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.]

4. <u>Settlement Class Findings</u> – For purposes of the Settlement only, the Court finds that each element required for certification of the Settlement Class pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure has been met: (a) the members of the Settlement Class are so numerous that their joinder in the Action would be impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class which predominate over any individual questions; (c) the claims of Lead Plaintiffs in the Action are typical of the claims of the Settlement Class; (d) Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have and will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests

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of the Settlement Class; and (e) a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of the Settlement Class in the Action.

5. <u>Adequacy of Representation</u> – Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and for the purposes of the Settlement only, the Court hereby appoints Lead Plaintiffs as Class Representatives for the Settlement Class, and appoints Lead Counsel Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have fairly and adequately represented the Settlement Class both in terms of litigating the Action and for purposes of entering into and implementing the Settlement and have satisfied the requirements of Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 23(a)(4) and 23(g), respectively.

6. **Notice** – The Court finds that the dissemination of the Notice and the publication of the Summary Notice: (a) were implemented in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order; (b) constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances; (c) constituted notice that was reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Settlement Class Members of (i) the pendency of the Action; (ii) the effect of the proposed Settlement (including the Releases to be provided thereunder); (iii) Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses; (iv) their right to object to any aspect of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses; (v) their right to exclude themselves from the Settlement Class; and (vi) their right to appear at the Settlement Hearing; (d) constituted due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all persons and entities entitled to receive notice of the proposed Settlement; and (e) satisfied the requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the United States Constitution (including the Due Process Clause), and the Private

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Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4, as amended, and all other applicable law and rules.

7. <u>CAFA</u> – The Court finds that the notice requirements set forth in the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, 28 U.S.C. § 1715 *et seq.*, to the extent applicable to the Action, have been satisfied.

8. **Final Settlement Approval and Dismissal of Claims** – Pursuant to, and in accordance with, Rule 23(e)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, this Court hereby fully and finally approves the Settlement set forth in the Stipulation in all respects (including, without limitation, the amount of the Settlement, the Releases provided for therein, and the dismissal with prejudice of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action), and finds that the Settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable and adequate to the Settlement Class. Specifically, the Court finds that (a) Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have adequately represented the Settlement Class; (b) the Settlement was negotiated by the Parties at arm's length; (c) the relief provided for the Settlement Class; and the proposed means of distributing the Settlement Fund to the Settlement Class; and the proposed attorneys' fee award; and (d) the Settlement treats members of the Settlement Class equitably relative to each other. The Parties are directed to implement, perform, and consummate the Settlement in accordance with the terms and provisions contained in the Stipulation.

9. The Action and all of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action by Lead Plaintiffs and the other Settlement Class Members are hereby dismissed with prejudice. The Parties shall bear their own costs and expenses, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Stipulation.

10. **Binding Effect** – The terms of the Stipulation and of this Judgment shall be forever binding on Defendants, Lead Plaintiffs, and all other Settlement Class Members (regardless of

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whether or not any individual Settlement Class Member submits a Claim Form or seeks or obtains a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund), as well as their respective successors and assigns. [The persons and entities listed on Exhibit 1 hereto are excluded from the Settlement Class pursuant to request and are not bound by the terms of the Stipulation or this Judgment.]

11. <u>Releases</u> – The Releases set forth in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Stipulation, together with the definitions contained in paragraph 1 of the Stipulation relating thereto, are expressly incorporated herein in all respects. The Releases are effective as of the Effective Date. Accordingly, this Court orders that:

(a) Without further action by anyone, and subject to paragraph 12 below, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs and each of the other Settlement Class Members, on behalf of themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns, in their capacities as such, and any other person or entity legally entitled to bring Released Plaintiffs' Claims on behalf of a Settlement Class Member, in that capacity, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Plaintiffs' Claim against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees.

(b) Without further action by anyone, and subject to paragraph 12 below, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Defendants, on behalf of themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns, in their capacities as such, and any other person or entity legally entitled to bring Released Defendants' Claims on behalf of a Defendant, in that capacity, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of this

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Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Defendants' Claim against Lead Plaintiffs and the other Plaintiffs' Releasees, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Defendants' Claims against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees. [This Release shall not apply to any person or entity listed on Exhibit 1 hereto.]

12. Notwithstanding paragraphs 11(a) - (b) above, nothing in this Judgment shall bar any action by any of the Parties to enforce or effectuate the terms of the Stipulation or this Judgment.

13. <u>Rule 11 Findings</u> – The Court finds and concludes that the Parties and their respective counsel have complied in all respects with the requirements of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in connection with the institution, prosecution, defense, and settlement of the Action.

14. <u>No Admissions</u> – Neither this Judgment, the Stipulation (whether or not consummated), including the exhibits thereto and the Plan of Allocation contained therein (or any other plan of allocation that may be approved by the Court), the negotiations leading to the execution of the Stipulation, nor any proceedings taken pursuant to or in connection with the Stipulation and/or approval of the Settlement (including any arguments proffered in connection therewith):

(a) shall be offered against any of the Defendants' Releasees as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Defendants' Releasees with respect to the truth of any fact alleged by Lead Plaintiffs or the validity of any claim that was or could have been asserted or the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in this Action or in any other

litigation, or of any liability, negligence, fault, or other wrongdoing of any kind of any of the Defendants' Releasees or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Defendants' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Stipulation;

(b) shall be offered against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees, as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession or admission by any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees that any of their claims are without merit, that any of the Defendants' Releasees had meritorious defenses, or that damages recoverable under the Complaint would not have exceeded the Settlement Amount or with respect to any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind, or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Stipulation; or

(c) shall be construed against any of the Releasees as an admission, concession, or presumption that the consideration to be given under the Settlement represents the amount which could be or would have been recovered after trial;

*provided, however*, that the Parties and the Releasees and their respective counsel may refer to this Judgment and the Stipulation to effectuate the protections from liability granted hereunder and thereunder or otherwise to enforce the terms of the Settlement.

15. **Retention of Jurisdiction** – Without affecting the finality of this Judgment in any way, this Court retains continuing and exclusive jurisdiction over: (a) the Parties for purposes of the administration, interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of the Settlement; (b) the

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disposition of the Settlement Fund; (c) any motion for an award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses by Lead Counsel in the Action that will be paid from the Settlement Fund; (d) any motion to approve the Plan of Allocation; (e) any motion to approve the Class Distribution Order; and (f) the Settlement Class Members for all matters relating to the Action.

16. Separate orders shall be entered regarding approval of a plan of allocation and the motion of Lead Counsel for attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses. Such orders shall in no way affect or delay the finality of this Judgment and shall not affect or delay the Effective Date of the Settlement.

17. <u>Modification of the Agreement of Settlement</u> – Without further approval from the Court, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants are hereby authorized to agree to and adopt such amendments or modifications of the Stipulation or any exhibits attached thereto to effectuate the Settlement that: (a) are not materially inconsistent with this Judgment; and (b) do not materially limit the rights of Settlement Class Members in connection with the Settlement. Without further order of the Court, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants may agree to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any provisions of the Settlement.

18. **Termination of Settlement** – If the Settlement is terminated as provided in the Stipulation or the Effective Date of the Settlement otherwise fails to occur, this Judgment shall be vacated, rendered null and void, and be of no further force and effect, except as otherwise provided by the Stipulation, and this Judgment shall be without prejudice to the rights of Lead Plaintiffs, the other Settlement Class Members, and Defendants, and the Parties shall revert to their respective positions in the Action immediately prior to the execution of the Stipulation on May 8, 2023, as provided in the Stipulation.

19. <u>Entry of Final Judgment</u> – There is no just reason to delay the entry of this

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Judgment as a final judgment in this Action. Accordingly, the Clerk of Court is expressly directed to immediately enter this final judgment in this Action.

SO ORDERED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

The Honorable Gregory H. Woods United States District Judge

## Exhibit 1

## [List of Persons and Entities Excluded from the Settlement Class Pursuant to Request]