Notice of Empress Ambulance Network Incident Class Action Settlement

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

THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

- A proposed Settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit against Empress Ambulance Service, LLC ("Defendant") regarding a "Network Incident." Plaintiffs allege that in July 2022, Empress discovered that unauthorized persons gained access to Empress's network systems, resulting in access to certain files or data that may have contained information concerning Empress's patients and other affiliated persons.
- You are a "Class Member" if your Personal Information (email addresses, phone numbers, home address, date of birth, Social Security number (SSN), drivers' license information, tax records, bank account and routing information, and other personally identifying information, as well as information used to process health insurance claims, prescription information, medical records and data, and other medical or personal health information) was potentially compromised in the Network Incident that Defendant discovered on or about July 14, 2022 and you were sent a notice by Empress via U.S. Mail that your Personal Information may have been compromised in the Network Incident.
- Class Members may file a Claim Form to receive one of the following two Settlement Payment options. As part of the Settlement, Class Members may also submit a Claim Form for Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services ("CMIS") in addition to or instead of one of the two Settlement Payment options below.

Settlement Payment Options

- 1. **Documented Loss Payment:** You may submit a Claim Form for a cash Settlement Payment of up to \$10,000 for reimbursement in the form of a Documented Loss Payment; <u>OR</u>
- 2. Cash Fund Payment: You may submit a Claim Form to receive a pro rata (equal share) cash Settlement Payment. Cash Fund Payment amounts are estimated to be as follows: \$114 per claimant at a 1% claims rate; \$53 per claimant at a 2% claims rate; and \$21 per claimant at a 4% claims rate. This is just an estimate and actual payment amounts may be different.

<u>Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services</u> – In addition to or instead of the cash Settlement Payment options, you may submit a Claim Form for 12 months free Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services provided by TransUnion, which includes three credit bureau monitoring services and \$1 million in identity theft insurance.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT:			
File a Claim Form Deadline: April 8, 2024	Submitting a Claim Form is the only way that you can receive any of the Settlement Benefits provided by this Settlement, including Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services, a Documented Loss Payment, or a Cash Fund Payment. If you submit a Claim Form, you will give up the right to sue Empress and certain Released Parties in a separate lawsuit about the legal claims this Settlement resolves.		
Exclude Yourself From This Settlement	This is the only option that allows you to sue, continue to sue, or be part of another lawsuit against Empress, or certain Released Parties (as defined in the Settlement Agreement), for the claims this Settlement resolves.		
DEADLINE: March 8, 2024	If you exclude yourself, you will give up the right to receive any Settlement Benefits from this Settlement.		
OBJECT TO OR Comment on the Settlement	You may object to the Settlement by writing to the Court and informing it why you do not think the Settlement should be approved. You can also write the Court to provide comments or reasons why you support the Settlement. You will still be bound by the Settlement if it is approved, and you will not be allowed to exclude yourself from the Settlement.		
DEADLINE: March 8, 2024	If you object, you may also file a Claim Form to receive Settlement Benefits, but you will give up the right to sue Empress and Released Parties in a separate lawsuit about the legal claims this Settlement resolves.		
GO TO THE "FINAL APPROVAL" HEARING DATE: APRIL 3, 2024	You may attend the Final Approval Hearing where the Court may hear arguments concerning approval of the Settlement. If you wish to speak at the Final Approval Hearing, you must make a request to do so in your written objection or comment. You are <u>not</u> required to attend the Final Approval Hearing.		
DO NOTHING	If you do nothing, you will not receive any of the Settlement Benefits and you will give up your rights to sue Empress and certain Released Parties for the claims this Settlement resolves.		

- These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice.
- The Court in charge of this case still has to decide whether to approve the Settlement and the requested attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses. No Settlement Benefits will be provided unless the Court approves the Settlement and it becomes final.

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BASIC INFORMATION

1. Why is this notice being provided?

A court authorized this notice because you have the right to know about the proposed Settlement of this class action lawsuit and about all of your rights and options before the Court decides whether to grant final approval of the Settlement. This notice explains the lawsuit, the Settlement, your legal rights, what benefits are available, who is eligible for the benefits, and how to get Settlement Benefits.

This class action lawsuit is pending before the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Westchester County. The case is known as *Finn and Contristano v. Empress Ambulance Service, LLC*, No. 61058/2023, in the Supreme Court of the State of New York. The persons who filed this lawsuit are called the "Plaintiffs" and the company sued, Empress Ambulance Services, LLC is called the "Defendant."

2. What is this lawsuit about?

The Plaintiffs allege that in July 2022, Empress discovered that unauthorized persons gained access to Empress's network systems, resulting in unauthorized access to certain files that may have contained information of Empress's patients and other affiliated persons ("Class Members").

Empress specifically denies any and all wrongdoing, and no court or other entity has made any judgment other determination of any wrongdoing or that the law has been violated. By entering into the Settlement, Empress is not admitting that it did anything wrong.

3. Why is the lawsuit a class action?

In a class action, one or more people called the Class Representatives (in this Action, Plaintiffs John Finn and Salvatore J. Contristano) sue on behalf of all people who have similar claims. Together, all these people are called a Settlement Class or Class Members. One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those Class Members who timely exclude themselves (opt out) from the Settlement Class.

4. Why is there a Settlement?

The Plaintiffs and the Defendant do not agree with respect to the legal allegations asserted in this lawsuit. The Court has not decided in favor of the Plaintiffs or the Defendant. Instead, the Plaintiffs and the Defendant have agreed to settle the lawsuit. The Plaintiffs and the attorneys for the Settlement Class ("Class Counsel") believe the Settlement is best for all Class Members because of the benefits of the Settlement and the risks and uncertainty associated with continued litigation and the nature of the defenses raised by Empress.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT?

5. How do I know if I am part of the Settlement?

You are a Class Member if you are a resident of the United States, and your Personal Information was potentially compromised in the Network Incident that Defendant discovered on or about July 14, 2022 and you were sent a notice by Empress via U.S. Mail that your Personal Information may have been compromised in the Network Incident.

Personal Information means email addresses, phone numbers, home addresses, dates of birth, Social Security numbers (SSN), drivers' license information, tax records, bank account and routing

information, and other personally identifying information, as well as information used to process health insurance claims, prescription information, medical records and data, and other medical or personal health information.

6. Are there exceptions to being included in the Settlement?

Yes. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (1) the Judges presiding over the Action and members of their families; (2) Empress, its subsidiaries, parent companies, successors, predecessors, and any entity in which Empress or its parents have a controlling interest, and their current or former officers and directors; (3) natural persons who properly execute and submit a Request for Exclusion prior to the expiration of the Opt-Out Period; and (4) the successors or assigns of any such excluded natural person.

7. What if I am still not sure whether I am part of the Settlement?

If you are still not sure whether you are a Class Member, you may go to the Settlement Website at www.EmpAmbulanceSettlement.com or call the Settlement Administrator's Settlement Toll-Free Number at 1-888-482-4942.

THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT YOU GET IF YOU QUALIFY

8. What does the Settlement provide?

If you are a Class Member, you may receive <u>only one</u> of the following two Settlement Payment benefit options as part of the Settlement, by submitting a timely and valid Claim Form.

Settlement Payment Options

1. **Documented Loss Payment:** You may submit a timely and valid Claim Form for a cash Settlement Payment of up to \$10,000 for reimbursement in the form of a Documented Loss Payment.

To request a Documented Loss Payment, your Claim Form must include all of the following:

- Select the option to receive the Documented Loss Payment Settlement Benefit;
- Sign the attestation regarding any actual and unreimbursed Documented Loss made under penalty of perjury; and
- You must provide Reasonable Documentation to support your Documented Loss claim and that it is more likely than not related to the Network Incident. Reasonable Documentation means, but is not limited to, credit card statements, bank statements, invoices, telephone records, and receipts. Documented Loss costs cannot be documented solely by a personal certification, declaration, or affidavit from you.

If you do not submit Reasonable Documentation supporting your Documented Loss Payment claim, or if your claim for a Documented Loss Payment is rejected by the Settlement Administrator for any reason, and you fail to cure your claim, the claim will be rejected and your claim will instead be automatically considered a claim for a Cash Fund Payment.

Cash Fund Payment: In the alternative to the Documented Loss Payment, you may submit a timely and valid Claim Form to receive a pro rata (a legal term that means equal share) cash Settlement Payment. This amount may increase or decrease as described in Question 9. Cash Fund Payment amounts are estimated to be as follows: \$114 per claimant at a 1% claims rate; \$53 per claimant at a 2% claims rate; and \$21 per claimant at a 4% claims rate. This is just an estimate and actual payment amounts may be different.

<u>Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services</u>: In addition to or instead of selecting one of the above cash Settlement Payment options, you also may submit a timely and valid Claim Form for 12 months of free Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services provided by TransUnion, which includes three credit bureau monitoring services and \$1 million in identity theft insurance.

If you elected to use a previous offer of Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services from Empress, or you obtained Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services from another provider as a result of the Network Incident, you will be permitted to postpone activation of you Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services Settlement Benefit for up to 12 months.

9. How will claims be paid and what may cause a Settlement Benefit to increase or decrease?

According to the Settlement Agreement, the \$1,050,000 Settlement Fund established for the Settlement will be used to pay for: (1) Administrative Expenses reasonably incurred by the Settlement Administrator that are approved by the Parties, (2) Service Awards approved by the Court, (3) any amounts approved by the Court for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses ("Fee Award and Costs"), and (4) taxes, if any. The amount remaining after these items are paid or allocated, if any is the "Net Settlement Fund."

The Net Settlement Fund will be used to pay for Approved Claims for Class Members in the following order of priority: (1) Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services and Documented Loss Payments; (2) Cash Fund Payments, which will be calculated after Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services and Documented Loss Payments claimed benefits have been deducted, by dividing the remaining Net Settlement Fund amount by the number of valid claims designated to receive a Cash Fund Payment. This is called a pro rata share.

If the claims for Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services and Documented Loss Payments exceed the amount of money in the Net Settlement Fund, then no payments for claims for Cash Fund Payments will be made, and the value of the Documented Loss Payments and duration of the CMIS Settlement Benefit to be distributed to each Class Member shall be reduced, on a pro rata basis, such that the aggregate value of all Documented Loss Payments and CMIS claims does not exceed the Net Settlement Fund.

10. What am I giving up to receive Settlement Benefits or stay in the Settlement Class?

Unless you exclude yourself (opt out), you are choosing to remain in the Settlement Class. If the Settlement is approved and becomes final, all Court orders will apply to you and legally bind you. You will not be able to sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other action for all Released Claims, including Unknown Claims, against each of the Released Parties that relates to the Network Incident or otherwise arises out of the same facts and circumstances set forth in the complaint in this lawsuit. The specific rights you are giving up are called "Released Claims."

11. What are the Released Claims?

The Settlement Agreement in Sections 1.38, 1.39, and 4 describes the Release, Released Claims, and Released Parties in necessary legal terminology, so please read these sections carefully. The Released Claims also include the release of Unknown Claims, which is also described in necessary legal terminology in the Settlement Agreement in Section 1.52. The Settlement Agreement is available at www.EmpAmbulanceSettlement.com or in the public Court records on file in this lawsuit. For questions regarding the Release or Released Claims and what the language in the Settlement Agreement means, you can also contact one of the lawyers listed in Question 15 of this Notice, or you can talk to your own lawyer at your own expense.

HOW TO GET BENEFITS FROM THE SETTLEMENT

12. How do I make a claim for Settlement Benefits?

To submit a Claim Form for one of the cash Settlement Payment options (i.e., Documented Loss Payment **or** Cash Fund Payment) and/or Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services, you must submit a timely and valid Claim Form. Your Claim Form must be filed with the Settlement Administrator, postmarked, or submitted online on or before **April 8, 2024**. Claim Forms may be submitted online at www.EmpAmbulanceSettlement.com or printed from the Settlement Website and mailed to the Settlement Administrator at the address on the Claim Form. The quickest way to submit a Claim Form is online. Claim Forms are also available by calling 1-888-482-4942 or by writing to:

Empress Ambulance Settlement Administrator PO Box 2059 Portland, OR 97208-2059

13. What happens if my contact information changes after I submit a Claim Form?

If you change your mailing address or email address after you submit a Claim Form, it is your responsibility to inform the Settlement Administrator of your updated information. You may notify the Settlement Administrator of any changes by calling 1-888-482-4942 or by writing to:

Empress Ambulance Settlement Administrator PO Box 2059 Portland, OR 97208-2059

14. When will I receive my Settlement Benefits?

If you file a timely and valid Claim Form, cash Settlement Payments and Credit Monitoring and Insurance Services will be provided after the Settlement is approved by the Court and becomes final.

It may take time for the Settlement to be approved and become final. Please be patient and check www.EmpAmbulanceSettlement.com for updates.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

15. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

Yes, the Court has appointed attorneys Tina Wolfson and Andrew W. Ferich of Ahdoot & Wolfson, PC, and Ben Barnow and Anthony L. Parkhill of Barnow and Associates, P.C. as Class Counsel to represent you and the Settlement Class for the purposes of this Settlement. You may hire your own lawyer at your own cost and expense if you want someone other than Class Counsel to represent you in this lawsuit.

16. How will Class Counsel be paid?

Class Counsel will file a motion asking the Court to award attorneys' fees and, separately, reimbursement of reasonable costs and expenses incurred in prosecuting the lawsuit. Class Counsel may also ask the Court to approve Service Awards not to exceed \$1,500 per Class Representative (total of \$3,000), which are intended to recognize the Class Representatives for their efforts in the litigation and commitment on behalf of the Settlement Class. If awarded by the Court, attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses, and the Service Awards will be paid out of the Settlement Fund. The Court may award less than these amounts. The Settlement is not conditioned upon approval of these awards.

OPTING OUT OF THE SETTLEMENT

If you are a Class Member and want to keep any right you may have to sue or continue to sue the Defendant or Released Parties on your own based on the claims raised in this lawsuit or released by the Released Claims, then you must take steps to get out of the Settlement. This is called excluding yourself from or "opting out" of the Settlement.

17. How do I get out of the Settlement?

To opt out of the Settlement, you must mail a written Request for Exclusion, which must include all the following:

- 1) The case name Finn, et al. v. Empress Ambulance Service, LLC, No. 61058/f;
- 2) Your full name, address, and telephone number;
- 3) Your physical signature; and
- 4) A statement that "I hereby request to be excluded from the proposed Settlement Class in Finn, et al. v. Empress Ambulance Service, LLC, NO. 61058/2023."

The Request for Exclusion must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator at the following address **postmarked** by **March 8, 2024**:

Empress Ambulance Settlement Administrator Exclusions PO Box 2059 Portland, OR 97208-2059

You cannot exclude yourself by telephone or by email. A Request for Exclusion may only be done on an individual basis, and no person may request to be excluded from the Settlement Class through "mass" or "class" opt-outs.

18. If I opt out, can I get anything from the Settlement?

No. If you opt out, you are telling the Court you do not want to be part of the Settlement. You can only get Settlement Benefits if you stay in the Settlement.

19. If I do not opt out, can I sue the Defendant for the same thing later?

No. Unless you opt out, you give up any right to sue the Released Parties (including the Defendant) for all claims and other matters released in and by the Settlement Agreement Section 4. You must opt out of this lawsuit to start or continue with your own lawsuit or be part of any other lawsuit against the Released Parties (including the Defendant) regarding the Released Claims. If you have a pending lawsuit, speak to your lawyer in that case immediately.

OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT

20. How do I tell the Court that I do not like the Settlement?

If you are a Class Member, you can object to the Settlement, meaning tell the Court you do not agree with all or any part of the Settlement. Your written objection must include the following information:

- 1) The case name and number, Finn, et al. v. Empress Ambulance Service, LLC, No. 61058/2023;
- 2) Your full name, current mailing address, and telephone number;
- 3) A statement that you believe you are a member of the Settlement Class;

- 4) Proof that you are a member of the Settlement Class (for example a copy of the settlement notice or a copy of the original notice of the Network Incident);
- 5) A statement of the specific factual and legal basis for the objection;
- 6) A statement to identify whether you are objecting to the Settlement in part or in whole;
- 7) A statement of whether the objection applies only to the objector, a subset of the Settlement Class, or the entire Settlement Class;
- 8) Identify all lawyer(s) representing you as the Class Member, if any;
- 9) Include a list, including case name, court, and docket number, of all other cases in which you as the objector and/or your lawyer(s) has filed an objection to any proposed class action settlement in the past five (5) years;
- 10) Include all documents or writings that you desire the Court to consider;
- 11) A statement regarding whether you as a Class Member (or lawyer(s) of your choosing) intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing; and
- 12) Your original signature or the signature of your duly authorized attorney or representative.

Your written objection must be filed with or mailed to the Court and sent to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel **postmarked** by **March 8**, 2024 at the following addresses:

Court	Class Counsel	Defendant's Counsel
Supreme Court of New York, Westchester County, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., White Plains, New York 10601	Andrew W. Ferich	Casie D. Collignon Baker & Hostetler LLP 1801 California Street, Suite 4400 Denver, Colorado 80202

Any Class Member who does not make their objection following the requirements listed above and by the deadline, will be deemed to have waived any objections and will be forever barred from raising such objections in this or any other lawsuit or proceeding, absent further order of the Court.

21. What is the difference between objecting and asking to opt out?

Objecting is simply telling the Court you do not like something about the Settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class (meaning you do not opt out of the Settlement). Opting out of the Settlement is telling the Court you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class or the Settlement. If you opt out, you cannot object to the Settlement.

THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

22. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on **April 3, 2024**, at **9:30** a.m. before the Honorable Gretchen Walsh, at 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., White Plains, NY 10601.

At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and decide whether to approve the Settlement, Class Counsels' motion for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses, and Service Awards for the Class Representatives. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will also listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing.

<u>Note</u>: The date and time of the Final Approval Hearing are subject to change. The Court may also decide to hold the hearing via Zoom or by phone. In the event the hearing is remote, instructions for how to attend the hearing remotely will be made available on the Settlement Website prior to the hearing. Any change will be posted on the Settlement Website at www.EmpAmbulanceSettlement.com.

23. Do I have to attend the Final Approval Hearing?

No. Class Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have. If you send an objection, you have the right, but do not have to, attend the Final Approval Hearing to speak about it. As long as you file or mail your written objection on time, the Court will consider it.

24. May I speak at the Final Approval Hearing?

If you are a Class Member *and* you file an objection, you have the right, but are not required, to attend the Final Approval Hearing. If you are a Class Member and you intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, either with or without your own lawyer(s), you must also file a Notice of Appearance with the Court (as well as send the Notice of Appearance to Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel) at the addresses listed in Question 20, by **March 8, 2024**.

If you are a Class Member and you file an objection, and you intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing through counsel, you must identify the lawyer(s) representing you who will appear at the Final Approval Hearing and include the lawyer(s) name, address, telephone number, email address, state bar(s) to which the lawyer(s) is admitted, as well as associated state bar number(s).

Any Class Member who does not submit a timely objection in compliance with all the requirements provided for in the Settlement Agreement, this Notice, and otherwise as ordered by the Court, will not be treated as having filed a valid objection to the Settlement and will be forever barred from raising any objection to the Settlement.

IF YOU DO NOTHING

25. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Class Member and you do nothing, you will not receive any Settlement Benefits. You will give up rights explained in the "Opting Out of the Settlement" section of this notice, including your right to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit, etc. against the Released Parties (including the Defendant) regarding the Released Claims in this lawsuit.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

26. How do I get more information?

This notice summarizes the Settlement. Complete details are provided in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and other related documents are available at www.EmpAmbulanceSettlement.com, by calling 1-888-482-4942 or by writing to:

> Empress Ambulance Settlement Administrator PO Box 2059 Portland, OR 97208-2059

PLEASE DO NOT TELEPHONE THE COURT OR THE COURT'S CLERK'S OFFICE REGARDING THIS NOTICE.