

## CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Class Action Settlement Agreement (“Settlement Agreement”) is entered into between and among the Class Representatives, all Class Members, and the Defendant.

### **1. Article 1 – Recitals**

- 1.1** On March 4, 2015, Plaintiffs Pastor David Bacon, Patricia Hepner, Ruth Dold, and Sharon Hvam (now deceased), individually and as representatives of a class of similarly situated persons, and on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan (“ELCA Plan”) and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (“Good Samaritan Plan”) (collectively referred to herein as the “Plan”), filed their complaint in the Fourth Judicial District for the State of Minnesota in Hennepin County, File No. 27-CV-15-3425. Plaintiffs brought this action alleging that Defendant Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services), a Minnesota a non-profit corporation, breached its fiduciary duties relating to the management, operation, and administration of the Plan. They sought to recover all losses to the Plan resulting from each breach and for other equitable and remedial relief.
- 1.2** On October 13, 2015, the District Court granted Defendant’s motion to dismiss Plaintiffs’ complaint. On July 25, 2016, the State of Minnesota Court of Appeals reversed the District Court’s dismissal of this action and remanded the action for further proceedings.
- 1.3** The parties then proceeded to significant merits discovery which included document production and fact depositions. Among other information, Defendant completed its production of all relevant committee minutes and materials related to the operation of the Plan, the materials prepared in connection with those meetings, plan documents, service provider agreements, fee and performance disclosures, documents reflecting the business operations of Portico, correspondence and other materials requested by Class Counsel.
- 1.4** On July 10, 2018, the District Court certified a portion of the case as a class action pursuant to Rule 23.02(c) of the Minnesota State Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiffs appealed the decision to certify the class under Rule 23.02(c). The Court of Appeals reversed the District Court’s decision and ordered that the case be certified as a class action pursuant to Rule 23.02(a). The following class was certified:

All participants or beneficiaries of the Plans subject to the allegedly excessive fees described in the Complaint, excluding alleged wrongdoers, who held account balances in the Plans managed and assessed fees, including but not limited to investment

fees and administrative fees, by Portico from the period of March 1, 2009 through the final disposition of this action in the district court.

The District Court denied Plaintiffs' motion for class certification in all other respects.

The District Court appointed plaintiffs Bacon, Dold and Hepner as representatives of the class and appointed Schlichter Bogard & Denton and Lockridge, Grindal, Nauen PLLP as class counsel.

- 1.5** On July 9, 2019, the parties conducted an in-person mediation session through a private mediator. Although a settlement was not reached at that time, through extensive discussions after the mediation the parties reached an agreement on the monetary and non-monetary terms of the settlement.
- 1.6** On September 24, 2019, the parties reached an agreement on all terms. The terms of the parties' settlement are memorialized in this Settlement Agreement.
- 1.7** The Class Representatives and Class Counsel consider it desirable and in the Class Members' best interests that the claims against Defendant be settled on behalf of the Class Representatives and the Class upon the terms set forth below, and they have concluded that such terms are fair, reasonable, and adequate and that this Settlement will result in benefits to Class Representatives and the Class.
- 1.8** Defendant admits no wrong doing or liability with respect to any of the allegations or claims in this action. Defendant contends that the Plan has been managed, operated and administered at all relevant times reasonably and prudently, in the best interests of the Plan and Plan participants and beneficiaries, and in compliance with applicable state statutes, and regulations., This Settlement Agreement, and the discussions between the Settling Parties preceding it, shall in no event constitute, be construed as, or be deemed evidence of, an admission or concession of fault or liability of any kind by Defendant or any individual named in the amended complaint and identified in the Settlement Agreement.
- 1.9** The Settling Parties, as defined below, have concluded it is desirable that this matter be finally settled upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Settlement Agreement.
- 1.10** Therefore, the Settling Parties, in consideration of the promises, covenants, and agreements herein described, acknowledged by each of them to be satisfactory and adequate, and intending to be legally bound, do hereby mutually agree to the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

## 2. Article 2 – Definitions

As used in this Settlement Agreement and the Exhibits hereto, unless otherwise defined, the following terms have the meanings specified below:

- 2.1** “Administrative Expenses” means expenses incurred in the administration of this Settlement Agreement, including (a) all fees, expenses, and costs associated with providing the Settlement Notices to the Class, including but not limited to the reasonable fees of the Plan’s recordkeeper(s) to identify the names and addresses of Class Members; (b) related tax expenses (including taxes and tax expenses as described in Paragraph 5.3); (c) all expenses and costs associated with the distribution of funds under the Plan of Allocation, including but not limited to the fees of the Plan’s recordkeepers associated with implementing this Settlement Agreement, facilitating the distribution of funds under the Plan of Allocation, and gathering the data necessary to prepare the Plan of Allocation; and, (d) all fees and expenses of the Independent Fiduciary, Settlement Administrator, Escrow Agent, and the Consultant described in Paragraph 10.1. Excluded as Administrative Expenses are Defendant’s internal expenses and the Settling Parties’ respective legal expenses. Administrative Expenses shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount.
- 2.2** “Active Account” means an individual investment account in the Plan with a balance greater than \$0 as of September 30, 2019.
- 2.3** “Alternate Payee” means a person other than a participant or Beneficiary in the Plan who is entitled to a benefit under the Plan as a result of a Qualified Domestic Relations Order.
- 2.4** “Attorneys’ Fees and Costs” means the amount awarded by the Court as compensation for the services provided by Class Counsel and to be provided in the future during the Settlement Period. The amount of attorneys’ fees for Class Counsel shall not exceed \$3,666,300.00, which shall be recovered from the Gross Settlement Amount. Class Counsel also will seek reimbursement for all litigation costs and expenses advanced and carried by Class Counsel for the duration of this litigation, including the pre-litigation investigation period, not to exceed \$175,000.00, which also shall be recovered from the Gross Settlement Amount.
- 2.5** “Authorized Former Participant” means a Former Participant who has submitted a completed, satisfactory Former Participant Claim Form with a postmarked date by the Claims Deadline, or electronically submitted online no later than the Claims Deadline, set by the Court in the Preliminary Order and whose Former Participant Claim Form is accepted by the Settlement Administrator.

- 2.6** “Beneficiary” means a person who currently is entitled to receive a benefit under the Plan upon the death of a plan participant, other than an Alternate Payee. A Beneficiary includes, but is not limited to, a spouse, surviving spouse, domestic partner, or child who currently is entitled to a benefit.
- 2.7** “Claims Deadline” means a date that is no later than ten (10) calendar days before the Fairness Hearing.
- 2.8** “Class Action” means *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425*, in the Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County, Minnesota.
- 2.9** “Class Counsel” means Schlichter, Bogard & Denton LLP, 100 S. Fourth Street, Suite 1200, Saint Louis, Missouri, 63102.
- 2.10** “Class Members” means all individuals in the Settlement Class, including the Class Representatives.
- 2.11** “Class Period” means the period from March 1, 2009 through September 30, 2019.
- 2.12** “Class Representatives” means David Bacon, Patricia Hepner, and Ruth Dold.
- 2.13** “Class Representatives’ Compensation” means an amount to be determined by the Court, but not to exceed \$25,000 for each Class Representative, which shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount directly to each Class Representative.
- 2.14** “Individual Named Plaintiff” means Sharon Hvam, now deceased.
- 2.15** “Individual Named Plaintiff Compensation” means an amount to be determined by the Court, but not to exceed \$10,000, which shall be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount directly to the designated beneficiary of Ms. Hvam, the Sharon R. Hvam Irrevocable Real Estate Trust.
- 2.16** “Confidentiality Agreement” means the Stipulation and Protective Order entered by the Court on May 17, 2017.
- 2.17** “Court” means the Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County, Minnesota.
- 2.18** “Court of Appeals” means the Court of Appeals for the State of Minnesota.
- 2.19** “Current Participant” means a person who participated in the Plan during the Class Period and had an Active Account as of September 30, 2019.

- 2.20** “Defendant” or “Portico” means Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services).
- 2.21** “Defense Counsel” means counsel for Defendant including Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP.
- 2.22** “Escrow Agent” means Commerce Bank, or another entity agreed to by the Settling Parties.
- 2.23** “Fairness Hearing” means the hearing scheduled by the Court to consider (a) any objections from Class Members to the Settlement Agreement, (b) Class Counsel’s petition for Attorneys’ Fees and Costs, Class Representatives’ and Individual Named Plaintiff Compensation, and (c) whether to finally approve the Settlement.
- 2.24** “Final Order” means the entry of the order and final judgment approving the Settlement Agreement, implementing the terms of this Settlement Agreement, and dismissing the Class Action with prejudice, to be proposed by the Settling Parties for approval by the Court, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit 5 hereto.
- 2.25** “Final” means with respect to any judicial ruling, order, or judgment that the period for any motions for reconsideration, motions for rehearing, appeals, petitions for certiorari, or the like (“Review Proceeding”) has expired without the initiation of a Review Proceeding, or, if a Review Proceeding has been timely initiated, that it has been fully and finally resolved, either by court action or by voluntary action of any party, without any possibility of a reversal, vacatur, or modification of any judicial ruling, order, or judgment, including the exhaustion of all proceedings in any remand or subsequent appeal and remand. The Settling Parties agree that absent an appeal or other attempted review proceeding, the period after which the Final Order becomes Final is thirty-five (35) calendar days after its entry by the Court.
- 2.26** “Former Participant” is a person who participated in the Plan during the Class Period and did not have an Active Account as of September 30, 2019.
- 2.27** “Former Participant Claim Form” means the form described generally in Paragraph 3.4.2 and substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 1.
- 2.28** “Gross Settlement Amount” means the sum of eleven million dollars (\$11,000,000), contributed to the Qualified Settlement Fund in accordance with Article 5. The Gross Settlement Amount shall be the full and sole monetary payment to the Settlement Class, Plaintiffs, and Class Counsel made on behalf of Defendant in connection with the Settlement effectuated through this Settlement Agreement. Defendant and its insurers

will make no additional payment in connection with the Settlement of the Class Action.

- 2.29** “Independent Fiduciary” means an independent fiduciary who will serve as a fiduciary to the Plan in accordance with Article 3 that has no relationship or interest in any of the Settling Parties and is mutually agreed to by the Settling Parties.
- 2.30** “Mediator” means Hunter R. Hughes III or, if he is unavailable, another mediator mutually agreed upon by the Settling Parties.
- 2.31** “Net Settlement Amount” means the Gross Settlement Amount minus: (a) all Attorneys’ Fees and Costs paid to Class Counsel; (b) all Class Representatives’ and Individual Named Plaintiff Compensation as authorized by the Court; (c) all Administrative Expenses; and (d) a contingency reserve not to exceed an amount to be mutually agreed upon by the Settling Parties that is set aside by the Settlement Administrator for: (1) Administrative Expenses incurred before the Settlement Effective Date but not yet paid, (2) Administrative Expenses estimated to be incurred after the Settlement Effective Date but before the end of the Settlement Period, and (3) an amount estimated for adjustments of data or calculation errors.
- 2.32** “Plaintiffs” means the Class Representatives, Individual Plaintiff and the Class Members.
- 2.33** “Plan” means the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society.
- 2.34** “Plan of Allocation” means the methodology for allocating and distributing the Net Settlement Amount in accordance with Article 6 herein.
- 2.35** “Portico Executive Leadership Team” consists of Jeff Thiemann, Curt Fee, and Stacy Kruse.
- 2.36** “Preliminary Order” means the order proposed by the Settling Parties and approved by the Court in connection with the Motion for Entry of the Preliminary Order to be filed by Class Representatives through Class Counsel, as described in Paragraph 3.2 and in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 2.37** “Qualified Settlement Fund” or “Settlement Fund” means the interest-bearing, settlement fund account to be established and maintained by the Escrow Agent in accordance with Article 5 herein and referred to as the

Qualified Settlement Fund (within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1).

- 2.38** “Released Parties” means (a) Portico, (b) Portico’s insurers, co-insurers, and reinsurers, (c) Portico’s past, present, and future parent corporation(s), (d) Portico’s past, present, and future affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, joint ventures, predecessors, successors, successors-in-interest, and assigns, (e) Portico’s agents, officers, employees, trustees, Board of Trustees, members of the Board of Trustees, independent contractors, representatives, attorneys, administrators, fiduciaries, accountants, auditors, advisors, consultants, personal representatives, spouses, heirs, executors, administrators, associates, employee benefit plan fiduciaries (with the exception of the Independent Fiduciary), employee benefit plan administrators, service providers to the Plan (including their owners and employees), members of their immediate families, consultants, subcontractors, and all persons acting under, by, through, or in concert with any of them, and (f) the Plan and the Plan’s fiduciaries, administrators, and Plan administrators (with the exception of the Independent Fiduciary).
- 2.39** “Released Claims” means any and all actual or potential claims, actions, demands, rights, obligations, liabilities, damages, attorneys’ fees, expenses, costs, and causes of action, whether arising under federal, state or local law, whether by statute, contract or equity, whether brought in an individual or representative capacity, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, foreseen or unforeseen, arising from conduct occurring from March 1, 2009, to the entry of the Preliminary Order:
- 2.39.1** That were asserted in the Class Action, or that arise out of, relate to, or are based on any of the allegations, acts, omissions, facts, matters, transactions, or occurrences that were alleged, asserted, or set forth in the amended complaint, in any complaint previously filed in the Class Action; or
- 2.39.2** That arise out of, relate in any way to, are based on, or have any connection with: (1) the selection, oversight, retention, monitoring, compensation, fees, or performance of the Plan’s investment options and service providers; (2) fees, costs, or expenses charged to, or paid or reimbursed by, the Plan or any Class Member; (3) disclosures or failures to disclose information regarding the Plan’s investment options or service providers; (4) the investment options offered to Plan participants; (5) the compensation received by Portico or the Plan’s service providers; (6) the services provided to the Plan or the costs of those services; (7) alleged breach of the duty of loyalty, care, prudence, diversification, or any other fiduciary duties or prohibited transactions; or

- 2.39.3** That would be barred by *res judicata* based on entry of the Final Order; or
- 2.39.4** That relate to the direction to calculate, the calculation of, and/or the method or manner of allocation of the Qualified Settlement Fund to the Plan or any member of the Settlement Class in accordance with the Plan of Allocation; or
- 2.39.5** That relate to the approval by the Independent Fiduciary of the Settlement Agreement, unless brought against the Independent Fiduciary alone.
- 2.40** “Released Claims” specifically exclude (1) those claims not related to 2.39.1–5 above; (2) claims of individual denial of benefits from the Plan that do not fall within any of the categories identified in Paragraph 2.39.1; (3) labor or employment claims unrelated to the Plan, including by way of example only, claims arising under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Equal Pay Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1981, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the National Labor Relations Act, the Sarbanes Oxley Act, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Protection Act, state anti-discrimination and wage-payment laws, claims for wrongful termination under state common law and other state law claims of a similar nature to those set forth in this subpart; and (4) claims arising exclusively from conduct occurring before March 1, 2009, or after the entry of the Preliminary Order.
- 2.41** “Settlement” or “Settlement Agreement” refers to the agreement embodied in this agreement and its exhibits.
- 2.42** “Settlement Administrator” means an independent contractor to be retained by Class Counsel to administer the Settlement and Plan of Allocation.
- 2.43** “Settlement Agreement Execution Date” means that date on which the final signature is affixed to this Settlement Agreement.
- 2.44** “Settlement Class” means all persons who participated in the Plans at any time during the Class Period, including any Beneficiary of a deceased person who participated in the Plans at any time during the Class Period, and any Alternate Payee of a person subject to a Qualified Domestic Relations Order who participated in the Plan at any time during the Class Period. Excluded from the Settlement Class are members of the Portico Executive Leadership Team.
- 2.45** “Settlement Effective Date” means the date on which the Final Order is Final, provided that by such date the Settlement has not been terminated in accordance with Article 11.



- 2.46** “Settlement Notice” means the Notices of Class Action Settlement and Fairness Hearing to be sent to Class Members identified by the Settlement Administrator following the Court’s issuance of the Preliminary Order, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibits 3 and 4. The Settlement Notice also shall inform Class Members of a Fairness Hearing to be held before the Court, on a date to be determined by the Court, at which any Class Member satisfying the conditions set forth in the Preliminary Order and the Settlement Notice may be heard regarding: (a) the terms of the Settlement Agreement; (b) the petition of Class Counsel for award of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs; (c) payment of and reserve for Administrative Expenses; and (d) Class Representatives’ Compensation. The Settlement Notice shall inform Former Participants of the Claims Deadline by which they must file a completed Former Participant Claim Form to be eligible for a distribution in accordance with the Plan of Allocation.
- 2.47** “Settlement Website” means the internet website established in accordance with Paragraph 12.2.
- 2.48** “Settling Parties” means the Defendant and the Class Representatives and Individual Plaintiff, on behalf of themselves, the Plan, and each of the Class Members.

**3. Article 3 – Review and Approval by Independent Fiduciary, Preliminary Settlement Approval, and Notice to the Class**

- 3.1** The Independent Fiduciary, agreed to by Class Counsel and Defendant, and retained by Defendant on behalf of the Plan, shall have the following responsibilities including whether to approve and authorize the settlement of Released Claims on behalf of the Plan.
- 3.1.1** The Independent Fiduciary shall comply with all relevant conditions set forth in Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 2003-39, “Release of Claims and Extensions of Credit in Connection with Litigation,” issued December 31, 2003, by the United States Department of Labor, 68 Fed. Reg. 75,632, as amended (“PTE 2003-39”) and any Minnesota state law equivalent, in making its determination.
- 3.1.2** The Independent Fiduciary shall notify Defendant directly of its determination, in writing (with copies to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel), which notification shall be delivered no later than thirty (30) calendar days before the Fairness Hearing.
- 3.1.3** All fees and expenses associated with the Independent Fiduciary’s determination and performance of its other obligations in connection with the Settlement will constitute Administrative Expenses to be deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount.

- 3.1.4** Defendant, Defense Counsel, and Class Counsel shall respond to reasonable requests by the Independent Fiduciary for information so that the Independent Fiduciary can review and evaluate the Settlement Agreement.
- 3.1.5** If Defendant concludes that the Independent Fiduciary's determination does not comply with PTE 2003-39 or the Minnesota state law equivalent or is otherwise deficient, Defendant shall so inform the Independent Fiduciary within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the determination, copying Class Counsel.
- 3.2** Class Representatives, through Class Counsel, shall file with the Court motions seeking preliminary approval of this Settlement Agreement and class certification for settlement purposes only, and for entry of the Preliminary Order in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit 2. The Preliminary Order to be presented to the Court shall, among other things:

  - 3.2.1** Grant the request to certify the Settlement Class for settlement purposes only;
  - 3.2.2** Approve the text of the Settlement Notice and Former Participant Claim Form for mailing or sending by electronic means to Class Members and Former Participants identified by the Settlement Administrator to notify them (1) of the Fairness Hearing and (2) that notice of changes to the Settlement Agreement, future orders regarding the Settlement, modifications to the Class Notice, changes in the date or timing of the Fairness Hearing, or other modifications to the Settlement, including the Plan of Allocation, may be provided to the Class through the Settlement Website without requiring additional mailed or electronic notice;
  - 3.2.3** Determine that the Settlement Notice constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances, provide due and sufficient notice of the Fairness Hearing and of the rights of all Class Members, and comply fully with the requirements of Minnesota State Court Rules, the Minnesota Constitution, and any other applicable law;
  - 3.2.4** Cause the Settlement Administrator to mail, by first class mail or by electronic means, the Settlement Notice to each Class Member identified by the Settlement Administrator, and the Former Participant Claim Form to each Former Participant identified by the Settlement Administrator, based upon the data provided by the Plan's recordkeeper;
  - 3.2.5** Provide that, pending final determination of whether the Settlement Agreement should be approved, no Class Member may directly, through representatives, or in any other capacity, commence any action or proceeding in any court or tribunal asserting any of the Released Claims against Defendant, the Released Parties, or the Plan;

- 3.2.6** Set the Fairness Hearing for no sooner than one hundred twenty (120) calendar days after the date the Motion for Entry of the Preliminary Order is filed, in order to determine whether (i) the Court should approve the Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate, (ii) the Court should enter the Final Order, and (iii) the Court should approve the application for Attorneys' Fees and Costs, Class Representatives' Compensation, Individual Named Plaintiff Compensation, Administrative Expenses incurred to date, and a reserve for anticipated future Administrative Expenses;
- 3.2.7** Provide that any objections to any aspect of the Settlement Agreement shall be heard, and any papers submitted in support of said objections shall be considered, by the Court at the Fairness Hearing if they have been filed validly with the Clerk of the Court and copies provided to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel. To be filed validly, the objection and any notice of intent to appear or supporting documents must be filed at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Fairness Hearing. Any person wishing to speak at the Fairness Hearing shall file and serve a notice of intent to appear within the time limitation set forth above;
- 3.2.8** Provide that the Settling Parties may, but are not required to, serve discovery requests, including requests for documents and notices of deposition not to exceed two (2) hours in length, on any objector within ten (10) days of receipt of the objection, and that any responses to discovery or depositions must be completed within ten (10) days of the discovery request being served on the objector;
- 3.2.9** Provide that any party may file a response to an objection by a Class Member at least ten (10) days before the Fairness Hearing;
- 3.2.10** Set a deadline of no later than the date of ten (10) calendar days prior to the Fairness Hearing by which each Former Participant must file a Former Participant Claim Form with the Settlement Administrator in order to be considered for a distribution in accordance with the Plan of Allocation;
- 3.2.11** Provide that the Fairness Hearing may, without further direct notice to the Class Members, other than by notice to Class Counsel, be adjourned or continued by order of the Court;
- 3.3** Defendant and Defense Counsel shall use reasonable efforts to respond timely to written requests, including by e-mail, from the Settlement Administrator for readily accessible data that are reasonably necessary to determine the feasibility of administering the Plan of Allocation or to implement the Plan of Allocation. The actual and reasonable expenses of any third party, including the Plan's recordkeepers, that are necessary to perform such work shall be Administrative Expenses to be deducted from the Gross Settlement Amount,

except that the Plan's recordkeeper(s) shall not receive compensation for crediting the accounts of the Current Participants under Paragraph 6.4.

- 3.3.1** The Settlement Administrator shall be bound by the Confidentiality Agreement and any further non-disclosure or security protocol required by the Settling Parties.
  - 3.3.2** The Settlement Administrator shall use the data provided by Defendant and the Plan's recordkeepers solely for the purpose of meeting its obligations as Settlement Administrator, and for no other purpose.
  - 3.3.3** At the request of the Settling Parties, the Settlement Administrator shall provide a written protocol concerning how the Settlement Administrator will maintain and store information provided to it in order to ensure that reasonable and necessary precautions are taken to safeguard the privacy and security of such information.
- 3.4** By the date and in the manner set by the Court in the Preliminary Order, and unless otherwise set forth below, the Settlement Administrator shall:
- 3.4.1** Cause to be sent to each Class Member identified by the Settlement Administrator a Settlement Notice in the form and manner to be approved by the Court, which shall be in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibits 3 and 4 or a form subsequently agreed to by the Settling Parties and approved by the Court. The Settlement Notice shall be sent to the last known address, or e-mail address if sent electronically, of each Class Member provided by the Plan's recordkeepers (or their designee(s)) through Defense Counsel, unless an updated address is obtained by the Settlement Administrator through its efforts to verify the last known addresses provided by the Plan's recordkeeper (or their designee(s)). Class Counsel also shall post a copy of the Settlement Notice on the Settlement Website. The Settlement Administrator shall use commercially reasonable efforts to locate any Class Member whose Settlement Notice is returned and re-send such documents one additional time.
  - 3.4.2** Cause the Former Participant Claim Form, which shall be in substantially the form attached as Exhibit 1, or a form subsequently agreed to by the Settling Parties and approved the Court, to be included with the Settlement Notice that is mailed or sent by electronic means to the Former Participants.

**4. Article 4 – Final Settlement Approval**

- 4.1** No later than ten (10) business days before the Fairness Hearing, Class Counsel shall submit to the Court a motion for entry of the Final Order (Exhibit 5) in the form approved by Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, which shall request

approval by the Court of the terms of this Settlement Agreement and entry of the Final Order in accordance with this Settlement Agreement. The Final Order as proposed by the Settling Parties shall provide for the following, among other things, as is necessary to carry out the Settlement consistent with applicable law and governing Plan documents:

- 4.1.1** Approval of the Settlement of the Released Claims covered by this Settlement Agreement adjudging the terms of the Settlement Agreement to be fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Plan and the Class Members and directing the Settling Parties to take the necessary steps to effectuate the terms of the Settlement Agreement;
- 4.1.2** A determination under Rule 23 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure that the Settlement Notice constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and that due and sufficient notice of the Fairness Hearing and the rights of all Class Members has been provided;
- 4.1.3** Dismissal with prejudice of the Class Action and all Released Claims asserted therein whether asserted by Class Representatives on their own behalf or on behalf of the Class Members, or on behalf of the Plan, without costs to any of the Settling Parties other than as provided for in this Settlement Agreement;
- 4.1.4** That the Court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce Article 8 of the Settlement Agreement;
- 4.1.5** That the Plan and each Class Member (and their respective heirs, beneficiaries, executors, administrators, estates, past and present partners, officers, directors, agents, attorneys, predecessors, successors, and assigns) shall be (i) conclusively deemed to have, and by operation of the Final Order shall have, fully, finally, and forever settled, released, relinquished, waived, and discharged the Released Parties from all Released Claims, and (ii) barred and enjoined from suing the Released Parties in any action or proceeding alleging any of the Released Claims. The provisions (i) and (ii) shall apply even if any Class Member may thereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those which the Class Members or Class Counsel now know or believe to be true with respect to the Class Action and the Released Claims, whether or not such Class Members receive a monetary benefit from the Settlement, whether or not such Class Members have executed and delivered a Former Participant Claim Form, whether or not such Class Members have filed an objection to the Settlement or to any application by Class Counsel for an award of Attorneys' Fees and Costs, and whether or not the objections or claims for distribution of such Class Members have been approved or allowed;

- 4.1.6 That each Class Member shall release the Released Parties, Defense Counsel, and Class Counsel for any claims, liabilities, and attorneys' fees and expenses arising from the allocation of the Gross Settlement Amount or Net Settlement Amount and for all tax liability and associated penalties and interest as well as related attorneys' fees and expenses;
  - 4.1.7 That the Settlement Administrator shall have final authority to determine the share of the Net Settlement Amount to be allocated to each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant in accordance with the Plan of Allocation approved by the Court;
  - 4.1.8 That, with respect to payments or distributions to Authorized Former Participants, all questions not resolved by the Settlement Agreement shall be resolved by the Settlement Administrator in its sole and exclusive discretion;
  - 4.1.9 That, with respect to any matters that arise concerning the implementation of distributions to Current Participants (after allocation decisions have been made by the Settlement Administrator in its sole discretion), all questions not resolved by the Settlement Agreement shall be resolved by Defendant in accordance with applicable law and governing terms of the Plan; and
  - 4.1.10 That within twenty-one (21) calendar days following the issuance of all settlement payments to Class Members as provided by the Plan of Allocation approved by the Court, the Settlement Administrator shall prepare and provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel a list of each person who received a settlement payment or contribution from the Qualified Settlement Fund and the amount of such payment or contribution.
- 4.2 The Final Order and judgment entered by the Court approving the Settlement Agreement shall provide that upon its entry all Settling Parties, the Settlement Class, and the Plan shall be bound by the Settlement Agreement and by the Final Order.

**5. Article 5 – Establishment of Qualified Settlement Fund**

- 5.1 No later than five (5) business days after entry of the Preliminary Order, the Escrow Agent shall establish an escrow account. The Settling Parties agree that the escrow account is intended to be, and will be, an interest-bearing Qualified Settlement Fund within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1. In addition, the Escrow Agent timely shall make such elections as necessary or advisable to carry out the provisions of this Paragraph 5.1, including the “relation-back election” (as defined in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1) back to the earliest permitted date. Such elections shall be made in compliance with the procedures and requirements contained in such regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the

Escrow Agent to prepare and deliver, in a timely and proper manner, the necessary documentation for signature by all necessary parties, and thereafter to cause the appropriate filing to occur.

- 5.2** For the purpose of § 468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, the “administrator” shall be the Escrow Agent. The Escrow Agent, or the Settlement Administrator on its behalf, shall timely and properly cause to be filed all informational and other tax returns necessary or advisable with respect to the Gross Settlement Amount (including without limitation applying for a Taxpayer Identification Number for the Fund and filing the returns described in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(k)). Such returns as well as the election described in Paragraph 5.1 shall be consistent with this Article 5 and, in all events, shall reflect that all taxes (as defined in Paragraph 5.3 below) (including any estimated taxes, interest, or penalties) on the income earned by the Gross Settlement Amount shall be deducted and paid from the Gross Settlement Amount as provided in Paragraph 5.3 hereof.
- 5.3** Taxes and tax expenses are Administrative Expenses to be deducted and paid from the Gross Settlement Amount, including but not limited to: (1) all taxes (including any estimated taxes, interest, or penalties) arising with respect to the income earned by the Gross Settlement Amount, including any taxes or tax detriments that may be imposed upon Defendant or Defense Counsel with respect to any income earned by the Gross Settlement Amount for any period during which the Gross Settlement Amount does not qualify as a “qualified settlement fund” for federal or state income tax purposes, and (2) all tax expenses and costs incurred in connection with the operation and implementation of this Article 5 (including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and/or accountants and mailing and distribution costs and expenses relating to filing (or failing to file) the returns described in this Article 5). Such taxes and tax expenses shall be Administrative Expenses and shall be paid timely by the Escrow Agent out of the Gross Settlement Amount without prior order from the Court. The Escrow Agent shall be obligated (notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary) to withhold from distribution to any Class Member any funds necessary to pay such amounts, including the establishment of adequate reserves for any taxes and tax expenses (as well as any amounts that may be required to be withheld under Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(1)(2)); neither the Released Parties, Defense Counsel, nor Class Counsel are responsible nor shall they have any liability therefor. The Settling Parties agree to cooperate with the Escrow Agent, each other, and their tax attorneys and accountants to the extent reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this Article 5.
- 5.4** Within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the later of (a) the date the Preliminary Order is entered, or (b) the date the escrow account described in Paragraph 5.1 is established and the Escrow Agent shall have furnished to Defendant in writing the escrow account name, IRS W-9 Form, and all

necessary wiring instructions, Defendant and/or its insurer shall deposit two million dollars (\$2,000,000) into the Qualified Settlement Fund.

- 5.5** Within five (5) business days after the Settlement Effective Date, Defendant and/or its insurer shall deposit twelve million dollars (\$9,000,000) into the Qualified Settlement Fund.
- 5.6** The Escrow Agent shall, at the written direction of Class Counsel, invest the Qualified Settlement Fund in short-term United States Agency or Treasury Securities or other instruments backed by the Full Faith and Credit of the United States Government or an Agency thereof, or fully insured by the United States Government or an Agency thereof, and shall reinvest the proceeds of these investments as they mature in similar instruments at their then-current market rates.
- 5.7** The Escrow Agent shall not disburse the Qualified Settlement Fund or any portion except as provided in this Settlement Agreement, in an order of the Court, or in a subsequent written stipulation between Class Counsel and Defense Counsel. Subject to the orders of the Court, the Escrow Agent is authorized to execute such transactions as are consistent with the terms of this Settlement Agreement.
- 5.8** Within one-hundred twenty (120) calendar days after the Settlement Effective Date, the Gross Settlement Amount will be distributed from the Qualified Settlement Fund as follows: (a) first, all Attorneys' Fees and costs shall be paid to Class Counsel within three (3) business days after the Settlement Effective Date; (b) second, all Administrative Expenses not paid previously shall be paid within five (5) business days after the Settlement Effective Date; (c) third, any Class Representatives' and Individual Plaintiff Compensation ordered by the Court shall be paid within five (5) business days after the Settlement Effective Date; (d) fourth, a contingency reserve not to exceed an amount to be mutually agreed upon by the Settling Parties shall be set aside by the Settlement Administrator for: (1) Administrative Expenses incurred before the Settlement Effective Date but not yet paid, (2) Administrative Expenses estimated to be incurred after the Settlement Effective Date but before the end of the Settlement Period, (3) an amount estimated for adjustments of data or calculation errors, and (d) fourth, the Net Settlement Amount will be distributed in accordance with the Plan of Allocation. Pending final distribution of the Net Settlement Amount in accordance with the Plan of Allocation, the Escrow Agent will maintain the Qualified Settlement Fund.
- 5.9** The Escrow Agent, or the Settlement Administrator on its behalf, shall be responsible for making provision for the payment from the Qualified Settlement Fund of all taxes and tax expenses, if any, owed with respect to the Qualified Settlement Fund, and for all tax reporting, remittance, and/or withholding obligations, if any, for amounts distributed from it. The Released Parties, Defense Counsel, and/or Class Counsel have no responsibility or any



liability for any taxes or tax expenses owed by, or any tax reporting or withholding obligations, if any, of the Qualified Settlement Fund.

- 5.10** No later than February 15 of the year following the calendar year in which Defendant, its insurers, or agents make a transfer to the Qualified Settlement Fund in accordance with the terms of this Article 5, Defendant, its insurers, or agents shall timely furnish a statement to the Escrow Agent, or the Settlement Administrator on its behalf, that complies with Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-3(e)(2), which may be a combined statement under Treas. Reg. § 1.468B3(e)(2)(ii), and shall attach a copy of the statement to their federal income tax returns filed for the taxable year in which Defendant, their insurers, or agents make a transfer to the Qualified Settlement Fund.

**6. Article 6 – Plan of Allocation**

- 6.1** After the Settlement Effective Date, the Settlement Administrator shall cause the Net Settlement Amount to be allocated and distributed to Authorized Former Participants and those Current Participants covered by Paragraph 6.5 below, and to the Plan for distribution to the remaining Current Participants in accordance with the Plan of Allocation set forth in this Article 6 and as ordered by the Court.
- 6.2** To be eligible for a distribution from the Net Settlement Amount, a person must be a Current Participant, an Authorized Former Participant, or a Beneficiary or Alternate Payee of such a person.
- 6.2.1** Current Participants shall receive their settlement payments as either contributions to their Plan account(s) or by check, as provided in Paragraphs 6.4 and 6.5 below.
- 6.2.2** Authorized Former Participants shall receive their settlement payments in the form of a check, as provided in Paragraph 6.6 below.
- 6.2.3** Beneficiaries shall receive payments by check in amounts corresponding to their entitlement as beneficiaries of the Current Participant or of the Authorized Former Participant with respect to which the payment is made. Alternate Payees shall receive payments by check if and to the extent they are entitled to receive a portion of a Current Participant's or Authorized Former Participant's allocation under this Article 6 in accordance with the terms of the applicable Qualified Domestic Relations Order. The Settlement Administrator shall have sole and final discretion to determine the amounts to be paid to Beneficiaries and Alternate Payees in accordance with the Plan of Allocation set forth in this Article 6 and as ordered by the Court.

**6.3 Calculation of Settlement Payments.** Payments to Authorized Former Participants and Current Participants shall be calculated by the Settlement Administrator in accordance with the Plan of Allocation as follows:

**6.3.1** The Settlement Administrator shall obtain from Class Counsel, Defendant, or the Plan's recordkeepers the quarter-ending account balances invested in the Plan's investment options or the Plan for each Class Member during the Class Period, as well as data reflecting the allocation of new contributions among the Plan's recordkeepers for each Current Participant as of June 30, 2019. Defendant agrees to provide the necessary approvals authorizing transmission of such information to the Settlement Administrator.

**6.3.2** Payments to Authorized Former Participants and Current Participants shall be calculated by the Settlement Administrator as follows:

1. The Net Settlement Amount shall first be divided into two sums proportional to the relative size of total assets for each Plan as of December 14, 2018;
2. For each Plan, the end-of-quarter balances for the Class Period of Current and Authorized Former Participants are identified for each quarter;
3. All end-of-quarter balances identified in step 2 are summed together for each Participant;
4. An average end-of-quarter balance for each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant is calculated for the Class Period (with a zero included as the balance for any quarter during which the individual did not participate in the Plan);
5. For each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant, the average end-of-quarter balance of step 4 is divided by the sum of the average end-of-quarter balance for the Class Period of all Current and Authorized Former Participants;
6. Each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant will receive the percentage of the Net Settlement Amount for each Plan which is calculated in step 5.

**6.3.3** No amount shall be distributed to a Class Member that is ten dollars (\$10.00) or less, because such an amount is de minimis and would cost more in processing than its value. All such amounts shall be retained in the Qualified Settlement Fund for distribution under Paragraph 6.13.

**6.3.4** The Settlement Administrator shall determine the total settlement payment available to each Current Participants and Authorized Former

Participant by calculating each such participant's share of the Net Settlement as set forth above.

- 6.3.5** The Settlement Administrator shall complete all payment calculations for all Current Participants and Authorized Former Participants within thirty (30) business days after the Settlement Effective Date.
- 6.3.6** The Settlement Administrator shall utilize the calculations required to be performed herein for (a) making the required payments to Current Participants and Authorized Former Participants under Paragraphs 6.5, 6.6, and 6.7 of the Settlement Agreement; and (b) instructing Defendant as to the amounts to be distributed to the Current Participants under Paragraph 6.4 of the Settlement Agreement and calculating the total amount to deposit into each Current Participant's Active Account(s) to fulfill this instruction.
- 6.3.7** The total amount of all checks to be written by the Settlement Administrator plus the total amount of all credits that Defendant is instructed to make to Current Participants may not exceed the Net Settlement Amount. Nothing in this Paragraph is intended to modify the requirements of Paragraph 6.8 below. In the event that the Settlement Administrator determines that the Plan of Allocation would otherwise require payments exceeding the Net Settlement Amount, the Settlement Administrator is authorized to make such changes as are necessary to the Plan of Allocation such that said totals do not exceed the Net Settlement Amount.
- 6.3.8** The Released Parties shall not have any responsibility for or liability whatsoever with respect to the Plan of Allocation, including, but not limited to, the determination of the Plan of Allocation or the reasonableness of the Plan of Allocation.
- 6.4 Payments to Current Participants.** Current Participants will not be required to submit a Former Participant Claim Form to receive a settlement payment.
- 6.4.1** Within two (2) business days after the Settlement Administrator has completed all payment calculations for all Current Participants, the Settlement Administrator will provide to the Plan's recordkeeper an Excel spreadsheet containing the name, Social Security number, and the amount of the settlement payment to be made by that recordkeeper into the Active Account(s) for each Current Participant.
- 6.4.2** Thereafter, within ten (10) business days' written notice to Defendant (or its designee), the Settlement Administrator shall effect a transfer from the Qualified Settlement Fund to the Plan's recordkeeper of the aggregate amount of all settlement payments payable to Current

Participants with that recordkeeper, as reflected in the spreadsheets provided by the Settlement Administrator.

- 6.4.3 Defendant (or its designee) shall direct the recordkeepers of the ELCA Plan to credit the individual Active Account(s) of each Current Participant in an amount equal to that stated on the spreadsheets provided by the Settlement Administrator in relation to such Current Participant.
  - 6.4.4 Defendant (or its designee) shall also request, in writing, that the administrator of the Good Samaritan Plan direct the recordkeeper of the Good Samaritan Plan to credit the individual Active Account(s) of each Current Participant in an amount equal to that stated on the spreadsheets provided by the Settlement Administrator in relation to such Current Participant.
  - 6.4.5 The settlement payment for each Current Participant with each recordkeeper will be invested in accordance with and proportionate to such Current Participant's investment elections then on file for new contributions with that recordkeeper. If there is no investment election for new contributions on file for any Current Participant with a recordkeeper, then such Current Participant shall be deemed to have directed such payment to be invested in the relevant Plan's "Qualified Default Investment Alternative" as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 2550.404c-5 or the Minnesota state law or regulation equivalent.
  - 6.4.6 The Plan's recordkeepers shall process all Current Participant transactions within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving direction from Defendant, its designee, or the administrator of the Good Samaritan Plan, for any Current Participant.
- 6.5 Payments to Current Participants Who Have a Zero Account Balance as of the Date the Settlement Payments Are Made.** For each Current Participant who has an account balance of zero as of the date the settlement payments are made, the Settlement Administrator shall issue a check from the Qualified Settlement Fund and mail the check to the address of the Current Participant then on file. A Current Participant who has an account balance of zero as of the date the settlement payments are made need not complete a Former Participant Claim Form. The checks shall be issued as follows:
- 6.5.1 For each check issued, the Settlement Administrator shall (i) calculate and withhold any applicable taxes associated with the payments allocable to the Current Participant; (ii) report such payments and remit such tax withholdings to the Internal Revenue Service and applicable state revenue agents; and (iii) issue appropriate tax forms to the Current Participant.

- 6.5.2** Settlement payments that cannot be made by the Plan's recordkeepers within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving direction from Defendant, its designee, or the administrator of the Good Samaritan Plan, as described in Paragraph 6.4, because the Current Participant has an account balance of zero in the Plan, shall be returned by the Plan's recordkeepers to the Settlement Administrator for distribution pursuant to this Paragraph 6.5 within twenty (20) calendar days thereafter.
- 6.6** **Payments to Authorized Former Participants.** The Former Participant Claim Form shall advise the Authorized Former Participant that any distribution in accordance with the Settlement may be rollover eligible and of their right to roll over such an amount. If the Authorized Former Participant elects to treat the Settlement Distribution as a rollover, the Settlement Administrator shall follow proper rollover instructions provided by the Authorized Former Participant. Neither the Released Parties, Defense Counsel, nor Class Counsel shall have any responsibility for or liability whatsoever with respect to any tax advice given to the Authorized Former Participants or the Current Participants.
- 6.7** For each Authorized Former Participant, the Settlement Administrator will issue a single check from the Qualified Settlement Fund and mail the check to the address of such Authorized Former Participant listed in his or her Former Participant Claim Form or, in the case of ambiguity or uncertainty, to the address of such person as determined by the Settlement Administrator using commercially reasonable means. The check shall be issued as follows:
- 6.7.1** For each check issued, the Settlement Administrator shall (i) calculate and withhold any applicable taxes associated with the payments allocable to the Authorized Former Participant; (ii) report such payments and remit such tax withholdings to the Internal Revenue Service and applicable state revenue agents; and (iii) issue appropriate tax forms to the Authorized Former Participants.
- 6.7.2** The Settlement Administrator shall advise the Authorized Former Participant that any distribution in accordance with the Settlement is rollover eligible and of their right to rollover such an amount, and shall follow proper rollover instructions provided by the Authorized Former Participant.
- 6.8** This Plan of Allocation is based upon preliminary data regarding the Class Members who may be entitled to settlement payments. If the Settlement Administrator concludes that it is impracticable to implement any provision of this Plan of Allocation, the Settling Parties will modify promptly the terms of this Plan of Allocation and present such modified terms, first, to the Independent Fiduciary for its review and approval and, second, to the Court for its approval. Direct mailed or electronic notice to Class Members of such proposed modification of the Plan of Allocation shall not be required. However, notice of such proposed modification shall be posted on the

Settlement Website within five (5) business days of the date that the proposed modification is submitted to the Court for its approval. If the proposed modification is implemented, notice of such modification shall be posted on the Settlement Website within five (5) business days of the date that the modification was implemented.

The Settlement Administrator shall be solely responsible for performing any calculations required by this Plan of Allocation.

- 6.9** Within ten (10) business days of completing all aspects of this Plan of Allocation, the Settlement Administrator shall send to Class Counsel, Defense Counsel, and Defendant one or more affidavits stating the following: (a) the name of each Class Member to whom the Settlement Administrator sent the Settlement Notice or the Former Participant Claim Form, and the address of such mailing; (b) the date(s) upon which the Settlement Administrator sent the Settlement Notice or the Former Participant Claim Form; (c) the name of each Class Member whose Settlement Notice or Former Participant Claim Form was returned as undeliverable; (d) the efforts made by the Settlement Administrator to find the correct address and to deliver the Settlement Notice or Former Participant Claim Form for each such Class Member; and (e) the name of each Class Member to whom the Settlement Administrator made a distribution from the Net Settlement Amount, together with the amount of the distribution, the name of the payee, the date of distribution, the amount of tax withholdings, if applicable, and the date of remittance of tax withholdings to the appropriate tax authority, if applicable. These affidavits and the accompanying information shall be considered “Confidential” under the terms of the Confidentiality Agreement.
- 6.10** The Settling Parties acknowledge that any payments to Class Members or their attorneys may be subject to applicable tax laws. Defendant, Defense Counsel, Class Counsel, and Class Representatives will provide no tax advice to the Class Members and make no representation regarding the tax consequences of any of the settlement payments described in this Settlement Agreement. To the extent that any portion of any settlement payment is subject to income or other tax, the recipient of the payment shall be responsible for payment of such tax. Deductions will be made, and reporting will be performed by the Settlement Administrator, as required by law in respect of all payments made under the Settlement Agreement. Payments from the Qualified Settlement Fund shall not be treated as wages by the Settling Parties.
- 6.11** Each Class Member, Beneficiary, or Alternate Payee who receives a payment under this Settlement Agreement shall be fully and ultimately responsible for payment of any and all federal, state, or local taxes resulting from or attributable to the payment received by such person. Each such Class Member, Beneficiary, or Alternate Payee shall hold the Released Parties, Defense Counsel, Class Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator harmless from any tax liability, including penalties and interest, related in any way to payments

under the Settlement Agreement, and shall hold the Released Parties, Defense Counsel, Class Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator harmless from the costs (including, for example, attorneys' fees and disbursements) of any proceedings (including, for example, investigation and suit), related to such tax liability.

- 6.12** All checks issued in accordance with this Plan of Allocation shall expire no later than one hundred twenty (120) calendar days after their issue date. All checks that are undelivered or are not cashed before their expiration date shall revert to the Qualified Settlement Fund.
- 6.13** No sooner than thirty (30) calendar days following the end of the Settlement Period, any Net Settlement Amount remaining in the Qualified Settlement Fund after distributions, including costs, taxes and interest-earned on the Qualified Settlement Fund, shall be paid to the ELCA Plan and the Good Samaritan Plan proportionally according to the percentage used in Section 6.3.2(1) above for the purpose of defraying administrative fees and expenses of the Plan that would otherwise be charged to the Plan's participants. In no event shall any part of the Settlement Fund be used to reimburse any Defendant or otherwise offset settlement related costs incurred by any Defendant.

## **7. Article 7 – Attorneys' Fees and Costs**

- 7.1** Class Counsel intends to seek to recover their attorneys' fees not to exceed \$3,666,300.00, and litigation costs and expenses advanced and carried by Class Counsel for the duration of this litigation, not to exceed \$175,000.00, which shall be recovered from the Gross Settlement Amount. Class Counsel also intends to seek Class Representatives' Compensation, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 each for Class Representatives and \$10,000 for the Individual Plaintiff not named as a Class Representative by the Court, which shall be recovered from the Gross Settlement Amount.
- 7.2** Class Counsel will file a motion for an award of Attorneys' Fees and Costs at least thirty (30) days before the deadline set in the Preliminary Order for objections to the proposed settlement, which may be supplemented thereafter.

## **8. Article 8 – Release and Covenant Not to Sue**

- 8.1** As of the Settlement Effective Date, the Plan (subject to Independent Fiduciary approval as required by Paragraph 3.1) and the Class Members (and their respective heirs, beneficiaries, executors, administrators, estates, past and present partners, officers, directors, agents, attorneys, predecessors, successors, and assigns), on their own behalves and on behalf of the Plan, shall be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever settled, released, relinquished, waived, and discharged all Released Parties from the Released Claims, whether or not such Class Members have received a monetary benefit from the Settlement, whether of not such Class Members have executed and delivered a Former Participant

Claim Form, whether or not such Class Members have filed an objection to the Settlement or to any application by Class Counsel for an award of Attorneys' Fees and Costs, and whether or not the objections or claims for distribution of such Class Members have been approved or allowed.

- 8.2** As of the Settlement Effective Date, the Class Members and the Plan (subject to Independent Fiduciary approval as required by Paragraph 3.1), by Class Counsel, expressly agree that they, acting individually or together, or in combination with others, shall not sue or seek to institute, maintain, prosecute, argue, or assert in any action or proceeding (including but not limited to an IRS determination letter proceeding, a Department of Labor proceeding, an arbitration or a proceeding before any state insurance or other department or commission), any cause of action, demand, or claim on the basis of, connected with, or arising out of any of the Released Claims. Nothing herein shall preclude any action to enforce the terms of this Settlement Agreement in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Settlement Agreement.
- 8.3** Class Counsel, the Class Representatives, or the Plan, by Class Counsel, may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those that they know or believe to be true with respect to the Released Claims. Such facts, if known by them, might have affected the decision to settle with the Released Parties, or the decision to release, relinquish, waive, and discharge the Released Claims, or the decision of a Class Member not to object to the Settlement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Class Member and the Plan shall expressly, upon the entry of the Final Order, be deemed to have, and, by operation of the Final Order, shall have fully, finally, and forever settled, released, relinquished, waived, and discharged any and all Released Claims. The Class Representatives, Class Members and the Plan acknowledge and shall be deemed by operation of the Final Order to have acknowledged that the foregoing waiver was bargained for separately and is a key element of the Settlement embodied in this Settlement Agreement of which this release is a part.
- 8.4** Each Class Representative, each Class Member, and the Plan hereby stipulate and agree with respect to any and all Released Claims that, upon entry of the Final Order, the Class Members shall be conclusively deemed to, and by operation of the Final Order shall, settle, release, relinquish, waive and discharge any and all rights or benefits they may now have, or in the future may have, under any law relating to the releases of unknown claims pertaining specifically to Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims which 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.



Also, the Class Representatives and Class Members shall, upon entry of the Final Order with respect to the Released Claims, waive any and all provisions, rights and benefits conferred by any law or of any State or territory within the United States or any foreign country, or any principle of common law, which is similar, comparable or equivalent in substance to Section 1542 of the California Civil Code.

## **9. Article 9 – Representations and Warranties**

### **9.1 The Settling Parties represent:**

**9.1.1** That they are voluntarily entering into this Settlement Agreement as a result of arm’s length negotiations among their counsel, and that in executing this Settlement Agreement they are relying solely upon their own judgment, belief, and knowledge, and upon the advice and recommendations of their own independently selected counsel, concerning the nature, extent, and duration of their rights and claims hereunder and regarding all matters that relate in any way to the subject matter hereof;

**9.1.2** That they assume the risk of mistake as to facts or law;

**9.1.3** That they recognize that additional evidence may have come to light, but that they nevertheless desire to avoid the expense and uncertainty of litigation by entering into the Settlement;

**9.1.4** That they have read carefully the contents of this Settlement Agreement, and this Settlement Agreement is signed freely by each individual executing this Settlement Agreement on behalf of each of the Settling Parties; and

**9.1.5** That they have made such investigation of the facts pertaining to the Settlement and all matters pertaining thereto, as they deem necessary.

**9.2** Each individual executing this Settlement Agreement on behalf of a Settling Party does hereby personally represent and warrant to the other Settling Parties that he/she has the authority to execute this Settlement Agreement on behalf of, and fully bind, each principal that each such individual represents or purports to represent.

## **10. Article 10 – Additional Terms**

### **10.1 Selection and Retention of Consultant**

**10.1.1** Within sixty (60) days after the Preliminary Order is entered, Defendant shall select, with the approval of Class Counsel, an independent consultant familiar with the operation of church plans (“Consultant”) to serve the functions and provide the services described below. The cost of

the Consultant shall be an Administrative Expense under Section 2.1. Unless agreed to by Class Counsel, the Consultant shall not provide any additional services related to Portico, the Plan, or any benefit services offered or proposed to be offered by Portico.

**10.1.2** The Consultant shall be retained as soon as practicable following the Settlement Effective Date.

## **10.2 Evaluation of Cost Allocation Policy**

**10.2.1** Defendant and the Consultant shall evaluate the accounting and cost allocation policies that govern the charging of Plan Administrative Expenses to the ELCA Plan, and make recommendations regarding potential changes to those policies in the context of all benefits provided to the ELCA Plan's members. For purposes of this Article 10, "Plan Administrative Expenses" means direct expenses, overhead, and third-party expenses charged to the ELCA Plan, excluding investment expenses.

**10.2.2** In its review and evaluation of the current accounting and cost allocation policies and in the provision of recommendations regarding potential changes to those policies, the Consultant shall be provided with, among any of documents the Consultant deems necessary in performing its tasks, the following:

- The Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;
- Portico's Policy Governance Manual;
- The ELCA Retirement Plan Document;
- The Restated ELCA Retirement Trust.

**10.2.3** Within six months after the Settlement Effective Date, Portico shall submit the Consultant's recommendations to the Portico Board of Trustees ("Board"). The Board shall receive and consider the Consultant's recommendations at its next scheduled meeting and decide whether to adopt them. To the extent the Board decides not to follow the Consultant's recommendations, the Board shall, within sixty (60) days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to Class Counsel along with the Consultant's recommendations and the basis for such recommendation.

**10.2.4** If the Board approves the Consultant's recommendations, or any portion thereof, any ensuing changes shall go into effect within a reasonable time, but no later than nine (9) months after the approval. The Consultant

and Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the final version within thirty (30) days after the Board's approval of the new accounting and cost allocation policy as adopted. Class Counsel shall receive, within thirty (30) days of adoption, any amendments to the policy, if applicable, that are adopted within two years following the initial approval.

### **10.3 Enhanced Cost and Fee Reporting**

**10.3.1** Three months after the end of the first and second fiscal years in which Portico applies any new accounting and cost allocation policy based on the Consultant's recommendations, as approved by the Board, Portico shall furnish the Consultant, Class Counsel, and the Board a summary of all expense categories charged to the ELCA Plan for the fiscal year including Portico's Plan Administrative Expenses.

**10.3.2** At the end of the first and second fiscal years in which Portico applies any new accounting and cost allocation policy based on the Consultant's recommendations, as approved by the Board, the Board shall receive, in addition to all other materials it typically receives as part of its responsibilities, duties, and roles, a report that shows:

- the average total fee (Plan Administrative Expenses plus investment expenses) charged to an ELCA Plan participant for participating in the ELCA Plan;
- Investment expenses broken out by internal and external investment expenses;
- Administrative Expenses broken out by direct expenses, overhead expenses, and third-party expenses.

**10.3.3** The Consultant shall review and provide recommendations as to the form, format and content of this detail provided to the Board. The Board may request any additional information it deems necessary in its review of the carrying out of the relief provided herein and in the carrying out of its typical responsibilities.

### **10.4 Evaluation of Outsourcing Options**

**10.4.1** In addition to reviewing Portico's accounting and cost allocation policies, the Consultant shall evaluate the expense categories that Portico allocates to the ELCA Plan to assess whether any of the services associated with the expense categories could be outsourced. This evaluation shall also include:

- a review of the expenses categories, including Portico officer, executive, and employee salaries, that are not associated with a direct expense category charged to and assessed against the ELCA Plan: and,
  - an assessment of whether the services provided by Portico to the ELCA Plan overlap with the services provided by any third-party.
- 10.4.2** As part of its evaluation, the Consultant may recommend that a request for proposal(s) (“RFP”) be conducted for certain functions and services.
- 10.4.3** Within twelve (12) months after the Settlement Effective Date, the Consultant shall submit a written report to the Board with a recommendation regarding the outsourcing of services that Portico provides to the Plan. The Board shall consider the Consultant’s report in the context of Portico’s mandate, duties, and obligations under the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the ELCA Plan Document, the Policy Governance Manual, and in conformity with the laws of the State of Minnesota. At its next scheduled meeting, the Board shall decide what action, if any, to take. Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the Consultant’s report to the Board.
- 10.4.4** In the event the Board determines an RFP(s) should be conducted for identified services, at least ninety (90) days prior to the issuance of the RFP, the content, form, and intended distribution and dissemination of the RFP shall be reviewed by the Consultant. The Consultant shall provide recommendations or amendments to the RFP, if any, to Portico and the Board. Portico may participate in the RFP.
- 10.4.5** The Consultant shall (1) review all of the vendor proposals submitted during the RFP process; and (2) provide written recommendations on the proposed vendors for consideration by the Board. These recommendations, if any, will be provided to the Board thirty (30) days in advance of any decision.
- 10.4.6** After its receipt of the RFP responses and the recommendations of the Consultant, the Board shall have three (3) months to decide whether to accept, reject, or request further information from, any of the vendors or vendor proposals for the provision of administrative services. It is acknowledged that more than one vendor may be selected to provide administrative services to the ELCA Plan that are determined to be necessary. A copy of the Board determination(s) shall be provided to Class Counsel and the Consultant.
- 10.4.7** To the extent the Board decides not to follow any of the Consultant’s recommendations as provided herein, the Board shall, within sixty (60)

days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to Class Counsel.

## **10.5 Request for Proposals (RFP) for Recordkeeping Services Provided by Outside Vendors**

- 10.5.1** To the extent any RFPs for recordkeeping services currently provided by outside vendors with respect to the ELCA Plan are commenced during the two years following the Settlement Effective Date, Portico shall work with the Consultant to ensure that the content, form, and intended distribution of the RFP are reasonable under the circumstances.
- 10.5.2** The Consultant, in conjunction with Portico, shall (1) review all of the vendor proposals submitted during the RFP process; and (2) provide a written recommendation to Portico (with a copy to the Board) regarding which vendor it recommends. The recommendation, if any, will be provided to Portico and the Board sixty (60) days in advance of any decision. Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the recommendation submitted to Portico.
- 10.5.3** Portico shall have three months to approve or reject the vendor recommended to provide the services covered by the RFP. A copy of Portico's determination shall be provided to Class Counsel and the Consultant.
- 10.5.4** To the extent Portico decides not to follow the Consultant's recommendation, Portico shall, within sixty (60) days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to the Board and Class Counsel.
- 10.5.5** For a period of two (2) years following the Settlement Effective Date, Portico shall not provide any services that are identified as Fidelity's responsibilities in the current services agreement with Fidelity other than those services provided by Portico as of the Settlement Effective Date

## **10.6 Additional Terms**

- 10.6.1** Portico shall continue to ensure that all third-party entities providing services to the ELCA Plan refrain from using information about Plan participants acquired in the course of services being provided to the ELCA Plan to market or sell products or services unrelated to the ELCA Plan.
- 10.6.2** If a dispute arises regarding the non-monetary relief, the parties agree to meet and confer meaningfully, expeditiously, and in good faith to resolve the dispute. If the dispute cannot be resolved informally it shall be consolidated with any other pending disputes and submitted to, the

District Court, which shall retain jurisdiction over the settlement. The decision of the District Court shall be final and binding, with no right to appeal.

**10.6.3** If the Consultant determines that there has been a material failure to comply with any portion of this Article 10, it shall promptly notify Class Counsel and counsel for Portico.

**10.6.4** Any materials provided to Class Counsel pursuant to this Article 10 shall be designated as confidential pursuant to the terms of the Confidentiality Agreement.

**11. Article 11 – Termination, Conditions of Settlement, and Effect of Disapproval, Cancellation, or Termination**

**11.1** The Settlement Agreement shall automatically terminate, and thereby become null and void with no further force or effect if:

**11.1.1** Under Paragraph 3.1, (1) either the Independent Fiduciary does not approve the Settlement Agreement or disapproves the Settlement Agreement for any reason whatsoever, or Defendant reasonably concludes that the Independent Fiduciary's approval does not include the determinations required by the PTE 2003-39 or the applicable Minnesota state law equivalent, if any; and (2) the Settling Parties do not mutually agree to modify the terms of this Settlement Agreement to facilitate an approval by the Independent Fiduciary or the Independent Fiduciary's determinations required by PTE 2003-39 or the applicable Minnesota state law equivalent, if any.

**11.1.2** The Preliminary Order or the Final Order is not entered by the Court in substantially the form submitted by the Settling Parties or in a form which is otherwise agreed to by the Settling Parties;

**11.1.3** The Settlement Class is not certified as defined herein or in a form which is otherwise agreed to by the Settling Parties;

**11.1.4** This Settlement Agreement is disapproved by the Court or fails to become effective for any reason whatsoever; or

**11.1.5** The Preliminary Order or Final Order is finally reversed on appeal, or is modified on appeal, and the Settling Parties do not mutually agree to any such modifications.

**11.2** If the Settlement Agreement is terminated, deemed null and void, or has no further force or effect, the Class Action and the Released Claims asserted by Class Representatives shall for all purposes with respect to the Settling Parties revert to their status as though the Settling Parties never executed the Settlement Agreement. All funds deposited in the Qualified Settlement Fund,

and any interest earned thereon, shall be returned to Defendant, its agents, or insurers pro rata based on their contributions to the Qualified Settlement Fund within thirty (30) calendar days after the Settlement Agreement is finally terminated or deemed null and void, except as provided for in Paragraph 11.4.

**11.3** It shall not be deemed a failure to approve the Settlement Agreement if the Court denies, in whole or in part, Class Counsel's request for Attorneys' Fees and Costs and/or Class Representatives' or Individual Named Plaintiff Compensation and/or modifies any of the proposed orders relating to Attorneys' Fees and Costs and/or Class Representatives' or Individual Named Plaintiff's Compensation.

**11.4** In the event that the Settlement Agreement is terminated, Administrative Expenses incurred prior to the termination shall be paid first from the interest earned, if any, on the Qualified Settlement Fund. Administrative Expenses in excess of the interest earned on the Qualified Settlement Fund shall be split evenly and paid by Class Counsel, on the one hand, and Defendant, on the other hand.

**12. Article 12 – Confidentiality of the Settlement Negotiations and Permitted Settlement-Related Communications**

**12.1** Except as set forth explicitly below, the Settling Parties, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel agree to keep confidential all positions, assertions, and offers made during settlement negotiations relating to the Class Action and the Settlement Agreement, except that they may discuss the negotiations with the Class Members, the Independent Fiduciary, and the Settling Parties' tax, legal, and regulatory advisors, provided in each case that they (a) secure written agreements with such persons or entities that such information shall not be further disclosed and (b) comply with this Article 12 in all other respects.

**12.2** Class Counsel will establish a Settlement Website on which it will post the following documents or links to the following documents on or following the date of the Preliminary Order: the operative Complaint, Settlement Agreement and its Exhibits, Settlement Notice, Former Participants Claim Form, Class Representatives' Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Costs and Award of Compensation to Class Representatives, any Court orders related to the Settlement, any amendments or revisions to these documents, and any other documents or information mutually agreed upon by the Settling Parties ("Settlement Website Information"). No other information or documents will be posted on the Settlement Website unless agreed to in advance by the Settling Parties in writing. Class Counsel will take down the Settlement Website ninety (90) calendar days after the receipt of the affidavit(s) referenced in Paragraph 6.9.

**12.3** Within thirty (30) calendar days of the filing of the motion for preliminary approval of the Settlement, Defendant may issue a communication to Plan

participants explaining the terms of the Settlement and/or Plan of Allocation. If Defendant decides to issue such a communication, it shall be approved by Class Counsel.

### **13. Article 13 – General Provisions**

- 13.1** The Settling Parties agree to cooperate fully with each other in seeking Court approvals of the Preliminary Order and the Final Order, and to do all things as may reasonably be required to effectuate preliminary and final approval and the implementation of this Settlement Agreement according to its terms. The Settling Parties agree to provide each other with copies of any filings necessary to effectuate this Settlement reasonably in advance of filing.
- 13.2** Three years after the Settlement Effective Date, the Settling Parties shall either return to the producing parties, or destroy, all documents produced under a claim of confidentiality in accordance with the Confidentiality Agreement, including but not limited to documents produced under a claim of privilege. The Settling Parties, Class Counsel, and Defense Counsel agree that at all times they will honor the requirements of the Confidentiality Agreement, including with regard to the parties' settlement negotiations, notwithstanding Settlement of the Class Action. This provision shall not preclude the parties from maintaining for their records a secured electronic copy of any document that is designated as confidential in this case.
- 13.3** This Settlement Agreement, whether or not consummated, and any negotiations or proceedings hereunder are not, and shall not be construed as, deemed to be, or offered or received as evidence of an admission by or on the part of any Released Party of any wrongdoing, fault, or liability whatsoever by any Released Party, or give rise to any inference of any wrongdoing, fault, or liability or admission of any wrongdoing, fault, or liability in the Class Action or any other proceeding, and Defendant and Released Parties admit no wrongdoing, fault, or liability with respect to any of the allegations or claims in the Class Action. This Settlement Agreement, whether or not consummated, and any negotiations or proceedings hereunder, shall not constitute admissions of any liability of any kind, whether legal or factual. The Settlement and the negotiations related to it are not admissible as substantive evidence, for purposes of impeachment, or for any other purpose. Defendant deny all allegations of wrongdoing and deny all allegations and claims in the Class Action. Defendant contends that the Plan has been managed, operated, and administered at all relevant times reasonably and prudently.
- 13.4** Neither the Settling Parties, Class Counsel, nor Defense Counsel shall have any responsibility for or liability whatsoever with respect to (i) any act, omission, or determination of the Settlement Administrator, or any of their respective designees or agents, in connection with the administration of the Gross Settlement Amount or otherwise; (ii) the determination of the Independent Fiduciary; (iii) the management, investment, or distribution of the Qualified



Settlement Fund; (iv) the Plan of Allocation as approved by the Court; (v) the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of any claims asserted against the Qualified Settlement Fund; (vi) any losses suffered by, or fluctuations in the value of, the Qualified Settlement Fund; or (vii) the payment or withholding of any taxes, expenses, and/or costs incurred in connection with the taxation of the Qualified Settlement Fund or tax reporting, or the filing of any returns. Further, neither Defendant nor Defense Counsel shall have any responsibility for, or liability whatsoever with respect to, any act, omission, or determination of Class Counsel in connection with the administration of the Gross Settlement Amount or otherwise.

- 13.5** Only Class Counsel shall have standing to seek enforcement of this Settlement Agreement on behalf of Plaintiffs and Class Members. Any individual concerned about Defendant's compliance with this Settlement Agreement may so notify Class Counsel and direct any requests for enforcement to them. Class Counsel shall have the full and sole discretion to take whatever action they deem appropriate, or to refrain from taking any action, in response to such request. Any action by Class Counsel to monitor or enforce the Settlement Agreement shall be done without additional fee or reimbursement of expenses beyond the Attorneys' Fees and Costs determined by the Court.
- 13.6** This Settlement Agreement shall be interpreted, construed, and enforced in accordance with applicable federal law and, to the extent that federal law does not govern, Minnesota law.
- 13.7** The Settling Parties agree that any and all disputes concerning compliance with the Settlement Agreement, with the exception of any and all disputes concerning compliance with Article 8, shall be exclusively resolved as follows:
- 13.7.1** If a Settling Party has reason to believe that a legitimate dispute exists concerning the Settlement Agreement, other than any and all disputes concerning compliance with Article 8, the party raising the dispute shall first promptly give written notice under the Settlement Agreement to the other party including in such notice: (a) a reference to all specific provisions of the Settlement Agreement that are involved; (b) a statement of the alleged non-compliance; (c) a statement of the remedial action sought; and (d) a brief statement of the specific facts, circumstances, and any other arguments supporting the position of the party raising the dispute.
- 13.7.2** Within twenty (20) days after receiving the notice described in Paragraph 13.7.1, the receiving party shall respond in writing with its position and the facts and arguments it relies on in support of its position.
- 13.7.3** For a period of not more than twenty (20) days following mailing of the response described in Paragraph 13.7.3, the Settling Parties shall

undertake good-faith negotiations, which may include meeting in person or conferring by telephone, to attempt to resolve the dispute.

- 13.7.4** If the dispute is not resolved during the period described in Paragraph 13.7.3, the parties shall conduct a mediation of the dispute with the Mediator on the earliest reasonably practicable date; provided, however, that the scope of such mediation shall be expressly limited to the dispute.;
- 13.7.5** Within 30 days after the conclusion of the Mediator's attempt to resolve the dispute (the date of the conclusion of the mediation shall be determined by agreement of the parties or by the Mediator), if the dispute persists, the Settling Parties shall submit the dispute to the Mediator for final and binding arbitration.
- 13.7.6** The Settling Parties intend to resolve any disputes quickly, expeditiously, and inexpensively. Accordingly, there shall be no discovery allowed in connection with mediation or arbitration under Paragraphs 13.7.4 and 13.7.5, and no witnesses shall be presented or examined during the mediation or arbitration, except that if the Mediator acting as arbitrator, in his sole discretion, should determine that a limited number of documents or witnesses are needed to resolve the dispute, he may order their production or testimony. The Mediator acting as arbitrator will make his decision based solely on the papers, documents, testimony, and arguments of counsel presented to him.
- 13.7.7** If the Mediator acting as the arbitrator finds that a party has not complied with the Settlement Agreement as asserted, the sole remedy that the Mediator acting as the arbitrator may impose is the issuance of an order requiring the offending party to cure such non-compliance.
- 13.7.8** In any arbitration or mediation under Paragraphs 13.7.4 and 13.7.5, each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees and costs.
- 13.7.9** The Mediator acting as the arbitrator shall issue a written determination, including findings of fact, if requested by any party.
- 13.7.10** Under no circumstances shall the Mediator acting as the arbitrator have authority to consider any disputes or order any remedy other than as expressly set forth in Paragraph 13.7.7. The arbitrator's award may be enforced in the Court under federal law governing arbitration awards. Each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees and costs in any such action.
- 13.8** The Settling Parties agree that the Court has personal jurisdiction over the Settlement Class and Defendant and shall maintain personal and subject matter jurisdiction for purposes of resolving any disputes between the Settling Parties concerning compliance with Article 8 of this Settlement Agreement. Any

motion or action to enforce Article 8 of this Settlement Agreement—including by way of injunction—may be filed in the Court, and or asserted by way of an affirmative defense or counterclaim in response to any action asserting a violation of Article 8 of the Settlement Agreement.

- 13.9** The Settlement Agreement may be executed by exchange of executed signature pages, and any signature transmitted by facsimile or e-mail attachment of scanned signature pages for the purpose of executing this Settlement Agreement shall be deemed an original signature for purposes of this Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and each of such counterparts shall for all purposes be deemed an original, and all such counterparts shall together constitute the same instrument.
- 13.10** Each party to this Settlement Agreement hereby acknowledges that he, she, or it has consulted with and obtained the advice of counsel prior to executing this Settlement Agreement and that this Settlement Agreement has been explained to that party by his, her, or its counsel.
- 13.11** Any headings included in this Settlement Agreement are for convenience only and do not in any way limit, alter, or affect the matters contained in this Settlement Agreement or the Articles or Paragraphs they caption. References to a person are also to the person's permitted successors and assigns, except as otherwise provided herein. Whenever the words "include," "includes" or "including" are used in this Settlement Agreement, they shall not be limiting but shall be deemed to be followed by the words "without limitation."
- 13.12** Before entry of the Preliminary Approval Order and approval of the Independent Fiduciary, this Settlement Agreement may be modified or amended only by written agreement signed by or on behalf of all Settling Parties. Following approval by the Independent Fiduciary, this Settlement Agreement may be modified or amended only if such modification or amendment is set forth in a written agreement signed by or on behalf of all Settling Parties and only if the Independent Fiduciary approves such modification or amendment in writing. Following entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, this Settlement Agreement may be modified or amended only by written agreement signed on behalf of all Settling Parties, and only if the modification or amendment is approved by the Independent Fiduciary in writing and approved by the Court.
- 13.13** This Settlement Agreement and the exhibits attached hereto constitute the entire agreement among the Settling Parties and no representations, warranties, or inducements have been made to any party concerning the Settlement other than those contained in this Settlement Agreement and the exhibits thereto.
- 13.14** The provisions of this Settlement Agreement may be waived only by an instrument in writing executed by the waiving party and specifically waiving

such provisions. The waiver of any breach of this Settlement Agreement by any party shall not be deemed to be or construed as a waiver of any other breach or waiver by any other party, whether prior, subsequent, or contemporaneous, of this Settlement Agreement.

- 13.15** Each of the Settling Parties agrees, without further consideration, and as part of finalizing the Settlement hereunder, that it will in good faith execute and deliver such other documents and take such other actions as may be necessary to consummate and effectuate the subject matter of this Settlement Agreement.
- 13.16** The provisions of this Settlement Agreement are not severable.
- 13.17** All of the covenants, representations, and warranties, express or implied, oral or written, concerning the subject matter of this Settlement Agreement are contained in this Settlement Agreement. No party is relying on any oral representations or oral agreements. All such covenants, representations, and warranties set forth in this Settlement Agreement shall be deemed continuing and shall survive the Effective Date of Settlement.
- 13.18** All of the exhibits attached hereto are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein. The exhibits shall be: Exhibit 1 – Former Participant Claim Form; Exhibit 2 – Preliminary Order; Exhibit 3 – Notice of Class Action Settlement and Fairness Hearing to Current Participants; Exhibit 4 – Notice of Class Action Settlement and Fairness Hearing to Former Participants and Exhibit 5 – Final Order.
- 13.19** No provision of the Settlement Agreement or of the exhibits attached hereto shall be construed against or interpreted to the disadvantage of any party to the Settlement Agreement because that party is deemed to have prepared, structured, drafted, or requested the provision.
- 13.20** Any notice, demand, or other communication under this Settlement Agreement (other than the Settlement Notice, or other notices given at the direction of the Court) shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given upon receipt if it is addressed to each of the intended recipients as set forth below and personally delivered, sent by registered or certified mail postage prepaid, or delivered by reputable express overnight courier;

IF TO THE CLASS REPRESENTATIVES:

Jerome J. Schlichter (jschlichter@uselaws.com)  
SCHLICHTER, BOGARD & DENTON, LLP  
100 S. Fourth Street, Suite 1200  
St. Louis, Missouri 63102  
Tel: (314) 621-6115

IF TO DEFENDANT:

Christopher A. Weals (christopher.weals@morganlewis.com)  
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP  
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
Tel: (202) 739-5350

ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFFS, Individually and as Representatives of the Class:

Dated: Dec. 23, 2019

SCHLICHTER, BOGARD & DENTON LLP

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerome J. Schlichter  
100 South Fourth Street, Suite 1200  
St. Louis, MO 63102  
Tel: (314) 621-6115  
Fax: (314) 621-5934  
Attorneys for Plaintiffs and Class Representatives

ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT:

Dated: 12/23/2019

Stacy A. Dune  
Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
(d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)

The Portico 403(b) Settlement Administrator  
[Address  
City, State, Zip]  
www.elcabop403bsettlement.com  
**FORMER PARTICIPANT CLAIM FORM**

ABC1234567890

Claim Number: 1111111

**\*ABC1234567890\***

JOHN Q CLASS MEMBER  
123 MAIN ST  
APT 1  
ANYTOWN, ST 12345

This Former Participant Claim Form is **ONLY** for Class Members who are **Former Participants**, or the beneficiaries, alternate payees or attorneys-in-fact of Former Participants (all of whom will be treated as Former Participants). A Former Participant is a Class Member who did not have a plan account with a balance greater than \$0 as of September 30, 2019.

This form must be completed, signed and mailed with a postmark date no later than XXXXXXXXX to the Settlement Administrator in order for you to receive your share of the Settlement proceeds. **Former Participants who do not complete and timely return this form will not receive any Settlement payment.** Please review the instructions below carefully. If you have questions regarding this Claim Form, you may contact the Settlement Administrator as indicated below.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**PART 1: INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORMER PARTICIPANT CLAIM FORM**

1. Complete this claim form and keep a copy of all pages of your Former Participant Claim Form, including page 1 with the address label, for your records.
2. Mail your completed Former Participant Claim Form postmarked no later than XXXXXXXXX to the Settlement Administrator at the following address:

The Portico 403(b) Settlement Administrator  
[Address  
City, State, Zip]

It is your responsibility to ensure the Settlement Administrator has timely received your Former Participant Claim Form.

3. Other Reminders:
  - You must provide date of birth, signature and a completed Substitute IRS Form W-9, which is attached as Part 5 to this form.
  - If you desire to do a rollover and you do not complete in full the rollover information in Part 4 Payment Election of the Settlement Distribution Form, payment will be made to the participant.
  - If you change your address after sending in your Former Participant Claim Form, please send your new address to the Settlement Administrator.
  - **Timing Of Payments To Eligible Settlement Class Members.** Please note that Settlement payments are subject to the Settlement Agreement's receiving final Court approval. If the Settlement Agreement is approved and if you are entitled to a Settlement payment under the terms of the Settlement, such payments will be distributed no earlier than middle or late 2020 due to the need to process and verify information for all Settlement Class Members who are entitled to a payment and to compute the amount of each payment. Payments may be further delayed if any appeals are filed.
4. **Questions?** If you have any questions about this Former Participant Claim Form, please call the Settlement Administrator at XXX-XXX-XXXX. The Settlement Administrator will provide advice only regarding completing this form and will not provide financial, tax or other advice concerning the Settlement. You therefore may want to consult with your financial or tax advisor. Information about the status of the approval of the Settlement, Settlement administration, and claim processing is available on the lawsuit website, www.elcabop403bsettlement.com.

You are eligible to receive a payment from a class action settlement. The Court has preliminarily approved the class settlement of *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)*, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425. That settlement provides allocation of monies to the individual accounts of Settlement Class Members who had plan accounts with a positive balance in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (collectively referred to as “Plan”) as of September 30, 2019 (“Current Participants”). Settlement Class Members who are entitled to a distribution but who did not have a plan account with a positive balance as of September 30, 2019 (“Former Participants”) will receive their allocation in the form of a check or rollover if and only if they mail a valid Former Participant Claim Form postmarked no later than XXXXXXXX to the Settlement Administrator. For more information about the Settlement, please see [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com), or call XXX-XXX-XXXX.

Because you are a Former Participant (or beneficiary of a Former Participant) in the Plan, you must decide whether you want your payment (1) sent payable to you directly or (2) to be rolled over into another eligible retirement plan or into an individual retirement account (“IRA”). To make that choice, please complete and mail this Former Participant Claim Form that is postmarked no later than XXXXXXXX to the Settlement Administrator. If you do not indicate a payment election, your payment will be sent payable to you directly.

**PART 2: PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

First Name Middle Last Name

--	--	--

Mailing Address

--

City State Zip Code

--	--	--

Home Phone Work Phone or Cell Phone

--	--	--

Participant's Social Security Number Participant's Date of Birth

--	--

M M    D D    Y Y Y Y

Email Address

--

Check here if you were a Former Participant, but did not receive this Claim Form in the mail. This may be because you were a participant in the Plan only for a brief period.

**PART 3: BENEFICIARY OR ALTERNATE PAYEE INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)**

- Check here if you are the **surviving spouse or other beneficiary** for the Former Participant and the Former Participant is deceased. **Documentation must be provided showing current authority of the representative to file on behalf of the deceased.** Please complete the information below and then continue on to Parts 4 and 5 on the next page.
- Check here if you are an **alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order (QDRO), or attorney-in-fact** for the Former Participant. The Settlement Administrator may contact you with further instructions. Please complete the information below and then continue on to Parts 4 and 5 on the next page.

Your First Name Middle Last Name

--	--	--

Your Social Security Number or Tax ID Number Your Date of Birth

--	--

M M    D D    Y Y Y Y

Your Mailing Address

--

City State Zip Code

--	--	--



**PART 4: PAYMENT ELECTION**

- Payment to Self** – A check subject to mandatory federal and applicable state withholding tax will be mailed to your address on the previous page.
- Direct Rollover to an Eligible Plan** – Check only one box below and complete Rollover Information Section Below:
  - Government 457(b)                       401(a)/401(k)                       403(b)
  - Direct Rollover to a Traditional IRA                       Direct Rollover to a Roth IRA (subject to ordinary income tax)

**Rollover Information:**

Company or Trustee's Name (to whom the check should be made payable)

[Grid for Company or Trustee's Name]

Company or Trustee's Mailing Address 1

[Grid for Company or Trustee's Mailing Address 1]

Company or Trustee's Mailing Address 2

[Grid for Company or Trustee's Mailing Address 2]

Company or Trustee's City

State

Zip Code

[Grid for Company or Trustee's City]

[Grid for State]

[Grid for Zip Code]

Account Number

Company or Trustee's Phone Number

[Grid for Account Number]

[Grid for Phone Number Area 1]

[Grid for Phone Number Separator]

[Grid for Phone Number Area 2]

**PART 5: SIGNATURE, CONSENT, AND SUBSTITUTE IRS FORM W-9**

UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, I CERTIFY THAT ALL OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORMER PARTICIPANT CLAIM FORM IS TRUE, CORRECT AND COMPLETE AND THAT I SIGNED THIS FORMER PARTICIPANT CLAIM FORM.

1. The Social Security number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. Person (including a U.S. resident alien).

M M    D D    Y Y Y Y

[ ] [ ] - [ ] [ ] - [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

**Participant Signature**

**Date Signed (Required)**

Note: if you have been notified by the IRS that you are subject to backup withholding, you must cross out item 2 above. The IRS does not require your consent to any provision of this document other than this Form W-9 certification to avoid backup withholding.

**QUESTIONS? VISIT: [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com), OR CALL ~~XXX-XXX-XXXX~~**

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

DISTRICT COURT  
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE: Civil Other/Miscellaneous

PASTOR DAVID BACON, PATRICIA  
HEPNER, RUTH DOLD, AND SHARON  
HVAM, individually and as representatives of a  
class of similarly situated persons on behalf of  
the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Retirement Plan and the ELCA Retirement Plan  
for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan  
Society,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BOARD OF PENSIONS OF THE  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN  
AMERICA (D/B/A PORTICO BENEFIT  
SERVICES), A MINNESOTA  
CORPORATION.

Defendant.

Court File No. 27-CV-15-3425  
Judge Ronald L. Abrams

**[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING  
JOINT MOTION FOR  
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF  
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

This litigation arises out of a class action alleging breaches of fiduciary duties against the Defendant Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services), a Minnesota Corporation, with respect to its management, operation, and administration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan (the “ELCA Plan”) and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (the “Good Samaritan Plan”) (collectively referred to as “Plans”). Defendant denies and continues to deny the allegations, claims, and contentions of the Class Representatives, deny that it is liable at all to the Settlement Class, and denies that the Settlement Class or the Plan has suffered any harm or damage for which it could be held responsible, as Defendant contends that it acted prudently and in keeping with its fiduciary responsibilities, including by monitoring, reviewing

and evaluating the Plan's investment options, monitoring, reviewing and evaluating the administrative fees paid by the Plan, by eliminating or adding investment options when appropriate, and by negotiating fees for administrative services for the Plan to ensure that the Plan participants paid reasonable fees for the services provided.

In their Unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Settlement, the Class Representatives seek preliminary approval of a settlement of the claims asserted in *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)*, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425 ("Class Action"). Defendant consented to this motion. The terms of the Settlement are set out in a Class Action Settlement Agreement dated (December 23, 2019), executed by the parties and their counsel.

The Court has considered the proposed Settlement. For purposes of this Order, if not defined herein, capitalized terms have the definitions in the Settlement Agreement, which is incorporated herein by reference. Having reviewed the Settlement Agreement and the accompanying and supporting papers, it is **ORDERED** as follows:

- A. The proposed Settlement resulted from extensive arm's-length negotiations;
- B. The Settlement Agreement was executed only after the parties engaged in extensive litigation for approximately four years and after settlement negotiations had continued within that period for months, including an in-person mediation session with a nationally recognized private mediator, and extensive telephonic and email communications with and without the mediator;
- C. Class Counsel has concluded that the Settlement Agreement is fair, reasonable, and adequate; and
- D. The Settlement is sufficiently fair, reasonable, and adequate to warrant sending

notice of the Settlement to the Settlement Class.

1. **Fairness Hearing:** A hearing is scheduled at the Hennepin County Court, the Honorable Judge Ronald L. Abrams, presiding, at \_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, [**not before (May 8, 2020)**] (the “Fairness Hearing”) to determine, among other issues:

A. Whether the Settlement Agreement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate;

B. Whether the Settlement Notice and notice methodology were performed as directed by this Court;

C. Whether the motion for attorneys’ fees and costs to be filed by Class Counsel should be approved;

D. Whether an amount of compensation to Class Representatives and the Individual Plaintiff should be approved; and

E. Whether the Administrative Expenses specified in the Settlement Agreement and requested by the Settling Parties should be approved for payment from the Gross Settlement Amount.

2. **Establishment of Qualified Settlement Fund:** A common fund is agreed to by the Settling Parties in the Settlement Agreement and is hereby established and shall be known as the *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)* Litigation Settlement Fund (the “Settlement Fund” or “Gross Settlement Amount”). The Settlement Fund shall be a “qualified settlement fund” within the meaning of Treasury Regulations § 1.468-1(a) promulgated under Section 468B of the Internal Revenue Code. The Settlement Fund shall consist of \$11,000,000 and any interest earned thereon. The Settlement Fund shall be administered as follows:

A. The Settlement Fund is established exclusively for the purposes of: (i) making distributions to Class Representatives and the Individual Plaintiff and the Settlement Class specified in the Settlement Agreement; (ii) making payments for all settlement administration costs and costs of notice, including payments of all Administrative Expenses specified in the Settlement Agreement; (iii) making payments of all Attorneys' Fees and Costs to Class Counsel as awarded by the Court; and (iv) paying employment, withholding, income and other applicable taxes, all in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement and this Order. Other than the payment of Administrative Expenses or as otherwise expressly provided in the Settlement Agreement, no distribution shall be made from the Settlement Fund until after the Settlement Effective Date.

B. Within the time period set forth in the Settlement Agreement, Defendant or insurer shall cause \$11,000,000 to be deposited into the Settlement Fund.

C. The Court appoints Analytics, LLC, as the Settlement Administrator for providing Settlement Notice, implementing the Plan of Allocation, and otherwise assisting in administration of the Settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

D. Defendant shall timely furnish a statement to the Settlement Administrator that complies with Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-3(e)(2), which may be a combined statement under Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-3(e)(2)(ii), and shall attach a copy of the statement to their federal income tax returns filed for the taxable year in which Defendant makes a transfer to the Settlement Fund.

E. Defendant shall have no withholding, reporting, or tax reporting responsibilities with regard to the Settlement Fund or its distribution, except as otherwise specifically identified herein. Moreover, Defendant shall have no liability, obligation, or

responsibility for administration of the Settlement Fund or the disbursement of any monies from the Settlement Fund except for: (1) its obligation to cause the Gross Settlement Amount to be paid; and (2) its agreement to cooperate in providing information that is necessary for settlement administration set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

F. The oversight of the Settlement Fund is the responsibility of the Settlement Administrator. The status and powers of the Settlement Administrator are as defined by this Order and as approved in the Settlement Agreement.

G. The Gross Settlement Amount caused to be paid by Defendant and/or insurer into the Settlement Fund in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, and all income generated by that amount, shall be *in custodia legis* and immune from attachment, execution, assignment, hypothecation, transfer or similar process by any person. Once the Settlement Fund vests, it is irrevocable during its term and Defendant has divested itself of all right, title, or interest, whether legal or equitable, in the Settlement Fund, if any; provided, however, in the event the Settlement Agreement is not approved by the Court or the Settlement set forth in the Settlement Agreement is terminated or fails to become effective in accordance with its terms (or, if following approval by this Court, such approval is reversed or modified), the parties shall be restored to their respective positions in this case as of the day prior to the Settlement Agreement Execution Date; the terms and provisions of the Settlement Agreement and this Order shall be void and have no force and effect and shall not be used in this case or in any proceeding for any purpose; and the Settlement Fund and income earned thereon shall immediately be returned to the entity(ies) that funded the Settlement Fund.

H. The Settlement Administrator may make disbursements out of the Settlement Fund only in accordance with this Order or any additional Orders issued by the Court.

I. The Settlement Fund shall expire after the Settlement Administrator distributes all of the assets of the Settlement Fund in accordance with Article 6 of the Settlement Agreement, provided, however, that the Settlement Fund shall not terminate until its liability for any and all government fees, fines, taxes, charges, and excises of any kind, including income taxes, and any interest, penalties, or additions to such amounts, are, in the Settlement Administrator's sole discretion, finally determined and all such amounts have been paid by the Settlement Fund.

J. The Settlement Fund shall be used to make payments to Class Members under the Plan of Allocation set forth in the Settlement Agreement. Individual payments to Class Members will be subject to tax withholding as required by law and as described in the Class Notice and its attachments. In addition, all Class Representatives' and Individual Plaintiff's Compensation, Administrative Expenses and all Attorneys' Fees and Costs of Class Counsel shall be paid from the Settlement Fund.

K. The Court and the Settlement Administrator recognize that there will be tax payments, withholding, and reporting requirements in connection with the administration of the Settlement Fund. The Settlement Administrator shall, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, determine, withhold, and pay over to the appropriate taxing authorities any taxes due with respect to any distribution from the Settlement Fund, and shall make and file with the appropriate taxing authorities any reports or returns due with respect to any distributions from the Settlement Fund. The Settlement Administrator also shall determine and pay any income taxes owing with respect to the income earned by the Settlement Fund. Additionally, the Settlement Administrator shall file returns and reports with the appropriate taxing authorities with respect to the payment and withholding of taxes.

L. The Settlement Administrator, in its discretion, may request expedited review and decision by the IRS or the applicable state or local taxing authorities, with regard to the correctness of the returns filed for the Settlement Fund and shall establish reserves to assure the availability of sufficient funds to meet the obligations of the Settlement Fund itself and the Settlement Administrator as fiduciaries of the Settlement Fund. Reserves may be established for taxes on the Settlement Fund income or on distributions.

M. The Settlement Administrator shall have all the necessary powers, and take all necessary ministerial steps, to effectuate the terms of the Settlement Agreement, including the payment of all distributions. Such powers include receiving and processing information from Former Participants pertaining to their claims and investing, allocating and distributing the Settlement Fund, and in general supervising the administration of the Settlement Agreement in accordance with its terms and this Order.

N. The Settlement Administrator shall keep detailed and accurate accounts of all investments, receipts, disbursements, and other transactions of the Settlement Fund. All accounts, books, and records relating to the Settlement Fund shall be open for reasonable inspection by such persons or entities as the Court orders. Included in the Settlement Administrator's records shall be complete information regarding actions taken with respect to the award of any payments to any person; the nature and status of any payment from the Settlement Fund and other information which the Settlement Administrator considers relevant to showing that the Settlement Fund is being administered, and awards are being made, in accordance with the purposes of the Settlement Agreement, this Order, and any future orders that the Court may find it necessary to issue.

O. The Settlement Administrator may establish protective conditions



concerning the disclosure of information maintained by the Settlement Administrator if publication of such information would violate any law, including rights to privacy. Any person entitled to such information who is denied access to the Settlement Fund's records may submit a request to the Court for such information. However, the Settlement Administrator shall supply such information to any claimant as may be reasonably necessary to allow him or her to accurately determine his or her federal, state, and local tax liabilities. Such information shall be supplied in the form and manner prescribed by relevant law.

P. This Order will bind any successor Settlement Administrator. The successor Settlement Administrator(s) shall have, without further act on the part of anyone, all the duties, powers, functions, immunities, and discretion granted to the original Settlement Administrator. Any Settlement Administrator(s) who is replaced (by reason other than death) shall execute all instruments, and do all acts, that may be necessary or that may be ordered or requested in writing by the Court or by any successor Settlement Administrator(s), to transfer administrative powers over the Settlement Fund to the successor Settlement Administrator(s). The appointment of a successor Settlement Administrator(s), if any, shall not under any circumstances require Defendant make any further payment of any nature into the Settlement Fund or otherwise.

3. **Class Notice:** The Settling Parties have presented to the Court proposed forms of Settlement Notice, which are appended hereto as Exhibits 3 and Exhibit 4, respectively.

A. The Court finds that the proposed forms and the website referenced in the Settlement Notice fairly and adequately:

- i. Describe the terms and effect of the Settlement Agreement and of the Settlement;

- ii. Notify the Settlement Class concerning the proposed Plan of Allocation;
- iii. Notify the Settlement Class that Class Counsel will seek compensation from the Settlement Fund for the Class Representatives Individual Plaintiff, and Attorneys' Fees and Costs;
- iv. Notify the Settlement Class that Administrative Expenses related to the implementation of the Settlement will be paid from the Settlement Fund;
- v. Give notice to the Settlement Class of the time and place of the Fairness Hearing; and
- vi. Describe how the recipients of the Class Notice may object to any of the relief requested and the rights of the Settling Parties to discovery concerning such objections.

B. The Settling Parties have proposed the following manner of communicating the notice to Class Members: the Settlement Administrator shall by no later than sixty (60) days before the Fairness Hearing, cause the Settlement Notice, with such non-substantive modifications thereto as may be agreed upon by the Settling Parties, to be sent by electronic email to all Class Members for whom the Settlement Administrator is provided a current email address and mailed, by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the last known address of each member of the Settlement Class for whom there is no current email address that can be identified through commercially reasonable means. The Court finds that such proposed manner is the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and directs the Settlement Administrator to

provide notice to the Settlement Class in the manner described. Defendant shall cooperate with the Settlement Administrator by providing or facilitating the provision of, in electronic format, the names, addresses, email addresses (to the extent available), and social security numbers or other unique identifiers of members of the Settlement Class. The names, addresses, email addresses (to the extent available), and Social Security numbers or other unique identifiers obtained pursuant to this Order shall be used solely for the purpose of providing notice of this settlement and as required for purposes of tax withholding and reporting, and for no other purpose.

C. For any Settlement Notice returned as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator shall utilize the provided Social Security number or other unique identifier to attempt to determine the current address of the person and shall mail notice to that address.

D. At or before the Fairness Hearing, Class Counsel or the Settlement Administrator shall file with the Court a proof of timely compliance with the foregoing requirements.

E. The Court directs Class Counsel, no later than sixty (60) days before the Fairness Hearing, to cause the Settlement Notice to be published on the Settlement Website.

4. **Objections to Settlement:** Any Class Member who wishes to object to the fairness, reasonableness, or adequacy of the Settlement, to the Plan of Allocation, to any term of the Settlement Agreement, to the proposed award of attorneys' fees and costs, or to any request for Class Representatives' Compensation, must file an objection in the manner set out in this Order.

A. A Class Member wishing to raise an objection to the Plan of Allocation, to any term of the Settlement Agreement, to the proposed award of attorneys' fees and costs, or to any request for Class Representatives' Compensation must do the following: (i) file with the Court a statement of his, her, or its objection(s), specifying the reason(s), if any, for each such objection made, including any legal support or evidence that such objector wishes to bring to the Court's attention or introduce in support of such objection; and (ii) serve copies of the objection and all supporting authorities or evidence to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel. The addresses for filing objections with the Court and for service of such objections on counsel for the parties to this matter are as follows:

Clerk of the Court  
Hennepin Co. Govt. Center (GC)  
300 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55487

SCHLICHTER, BOGARD & DENTON, LLP  
Attn: Portico 403(b) Settlement  
100 S. 4th Street, Ste. 1200  
St. Louis, MO 63102  
*Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP  
Attn: Christopher Weals  
1111 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
*Attorneys for Defendant*

B. The objector or his, her, or its counsel (if any) must serve copies of the objection(s) on the attorneys listed above and file it with the Court by no later than thirty (30) calendar days before the date of the Fairness Hearing.

C. If an objector hires an attorney to represent him, her, or it for the purposes of making such objection pursuant to this paragraph, the attorney must serve a notice of appearance on the attorneys listed above and file it with the Court by no later than thirty (30)

calendar days before the date of the Fairness Hearing.

D. Failure to serve objections(s) on either the Court or counsel for the parties shall constitute a waiver of the objection(s). Any Class Member or other person who does not timely file and serve a written objection complying with the terms of this Order shall be deemed to have waived, and shall be foreclosed from raising, any objection to the Settlement, and any untimely objection shall be barred.

E. Any party wishing to obtain discovery from any objector may, but is not required to, serve discovery requests, including requests for documents and notice of deposition not to exceed two (2) hours in length, on any objector within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the objection and that any responses to discovery or depositions must be completed within ten (10) calendar days of the request being served on the objector.

F. Any party wishing to file a response to an objection must do so, and serve the response on all parties, no later than ten (10) calendar days before the Fairness Hearing.

5. **Appearance at Fairness Hearing:** Any objector who files and serves a timely, written objection in accordance with the terms of this Order as set out in Paragraph 8 above may also appear at the Fairness Hearing either in person or through counsel retained at the objector's expense. Objectors or their attorneys intending to speak at the Fairness Hearing must serve a notice of intention to speak setting forth, among other things, the name, address, and telephone number of the objector (and, if applicable, the name, address, and telephone number of the objector's attorney) on Class Counsel and Defense Counsel (at the addresses set out above) and file it with the Court by no later than ten (10) calendar days before the date of the Fairness Hearing. Any objector (or objector's attorney) who does not timely file and serve a notice of

intention to appear in accordance with this paragraph shall not be permitted to speak at the Fairness Hearing.

6. **Claim Form Deadline:** All valid Former Participant Claim Forms must be received by the Settlement Administrator with a postmark date no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, or electronically submitted online at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com) no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

7. **Service of Papers:** Defense Counsel and Class Counsel shall promptly furnish each other with copies of all objections that come into their possession.

8. **Termination of Settlement:** If the Settlement is terminated in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, this Order shall become null and void, and shall be without prejudice to the rights of the Settling Parties, all of whom shall be restored to their respective positions existing the day before the Settlement Agreement Execution Date.

9. **Use of Order:** This Order shall not be construed or used as an admission, concession, or declaration by or against Defendant of any fault, wrongdoing, breach, or liability or a waiver of any claims or defenses, including but not limited to those as to the propriety of any amended pleadings or the propriety and scope of class certification. This Order shall not be construed or used as an admission, concession, or declaration by or against any named plaintiff, Class Representatives, or the Settlement Class that their claims lack merit, or that the relief requested in the Class Action is inappropriate, improper or unavailable. This Order shall not be construed or used as a waiver by any party of any arguments, defenses, or claims he, she, or it may have, including but not limited to any objections by Defendant to class certification in the event that the Settlement Agreement is terminated.

10. **Parallel Proceedings:** Pending final determination of whether the Settlement Agreement should be approved, the Class Representatives, every Class Member, and the Plan are prohibited and enjoined from directly, through representatives, or in any other capacity, commencing any action or proceeding in any court or tribunal asserting any of the Released Claims against the Released Parties (including Defendant and the Plan).

11. **Continuance of Hearing:** The Court may continue the Fairness Hearing in its discretion without direct notice to the Settlement Class, other than by notice to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel, and any Class Member wishing to appear should check the Court's docket or call the Clerk's office three (3) calendar days before the scheduled date of the Fairness Hearing.

**SO ORDERED:**

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

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HON. RONALD L. ABRAMS  
JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE: Civil Other/Miscellaneous

<p>PASTOR DAVID BACON, PATRICIA HEPNER, RUTH DOLD, AND SHARON HVAM, individually and as representatives of a class of similarly situated persons on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Plaintiffs,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">v.</p> <p>BOARD OF PENSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (D/B/A PORTICO BENEFIT SERVICES), A MINNESOTA CORPORATION.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Defendant.</p>	<p>Court File No. 27-CV-15-3425 Judge Ronald L. Abrams</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND FAIRNESS HEARING</b></p>
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**Your legal rights might be affected if you are a member of the following class:**

All persons who participated in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan (“ELCA Plan”) and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (“Good Samaritan Plan”) (collectively referred to as the “Plan”) at any time during the Class Period, including any Beneficiary of a deceased person who participated in the Plan at any time during the Class Period, and any Alternate Payee of a person subject to a Qualified Domestic Relations Order who participated in the Plan at any time during the Class Period.

The Class Period is defined as March 1, 2009 through September 30, 2019. For purposes of this Notice, if not defined herein, capitalized terms have the definitions in the Settlement Agreement, which is incorporated herein by reference.

**PLEASE READ THIS SETTLEMENT NOTICE CAREFULLY.**

- The Court has given its preliminary approval to a proposed settlement (the “Settlement”) of a class action lawsuit brought by certain participants in the ELCA Plan and Good Samaritan Plan against the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services), A Minnesota Corporation “Defendant”), alleging violations of the Minnesota Prudent Investor Act and Minnesota law. The Settlement will provide for the allocation of monies directly into the individual accounts of the Settlement Class who had Plan accounts during the Class Period with a balance greater than \$0 as of September 30, 2019 (“Current Participants”). Class Members who are entitled to a distribution but who no longer had a Plan account with a balance greater than \$0 as of September 30, 2019 (“Former Participants”) will receive their allocation in the form of a check mailed to their last known address or a rollover, if elected.
- The terms and conditions of the Settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement dated December 23, 2019. Capitalized terms used in this Settlement Notice but not defined in this Settlement Notice have the meanings assigned to them in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement is available at



www.elcabop403bsettlement.com. Any amendments to the Settlement Agreement or any other settlement documents will be posted on that website. You should visit that website if you would like more information about the Settlement and any subsequent amendments to the Settlement Agreement or other changes, including changes to the Plan of Allocation, the date, time, or location of the Fairness Hearing, or other Court orders concerning the Settlement.

- Your rights and options — and the deadlines to exercise them — are explained in this Settlement Notice.
- The Court still has to decide whether to give its final approval to the Settlement. Payments under the Settlement will be made only if the Court finally approves the Settlement and that final approval is upheld in the event of any appeal.
- A hearing on the final approval of the Settlement and for approval of the Class Representatives’ petition for Attorneys’ Fees and Costs and for Class Representatives’ and Individual Plaintiff’s Compensation will take place on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m., before Hennepin County Court Judge Ronald L. Abrams in Courtroom \_\_\_\_\_, Hennepin Co. Govt. Center (GC), 300 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487.
- Any objections to the Settlement, to the petition for Attorneys’ Fees and Costs or to Class Representatives’ and Individual Plaintiff’s Compensation, must be served in writing on Class Counsel and Defendant’s Counsel, as identified on page 5 of this Settlement Notice.
- Further information regarding the litigation, the Settlement, and this Settlement Notice, including any changes to the terms of the Settlement and all orders of the Court regarding the Settlement, may be obtained at www.elcabop403bsettlement.com.

**According to the Plan’s records, you are a Current Participant. If you believe instead that you meet the definition of a Former Participant, please contact the Settlement Administrator. Current Participants include both participants currently sponsored in the Plan and participants who are no longer sponsored in the Plan but continue to have an account balance in the Plan.**

<b>YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS UNDER THE SETTLEMENT:</b>	
<b>OUR RECORDS INDICATE THAT YOU ARE A CURRENT PARTICIPANT. YOU DO NOT NEED TO DO ANYTHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT</b>	Our records indicate that you are a Current Participant because you had an account balance <u>in the Plan as of September 30, 2019</u> . If, however, you are a Former Participant who participated in the Plan during the Class Period and did not have a balance greater than \$0 as of September 30, 2019 or are the beneficiary, alternate payee, or attorney-in-fact of such a person, then, unlike a Current Participant, you must return a Former Participant Claim Form that is postmarked by _____ to receive a check for your share of the Net Settlement Amount. If you are a Former Participant, and you do not return the Former Participant Claim Form that is postmarked by _____ you will forfeit your share of the Net Settlement Amount even though you will be bound by the Settlement, including the release. We have not included a claim form in your notice because Current Participants do not need to submit a claim form, and our records indicate that you are a Current Participant. However, if you believe you are a Former Participant, a claim form may be obtained by accessing www.elcabop403bsettlement.com.
<b>YOU CAN OBJECT (NO LATER THAN _____, 2020)</b>	If you wish to object to any part of the Settlement, you may (as discussed below) write to the Court and counsel about why you object to the Settlement.
<b>YOU CAN ATTEND A HEARING ON _____</b>	If you submit a written objection to the Settlement to the Court and counsel before the deadline, you may attend the hearing about the Settlement and present your objections to the Court. You may attend the hearing even if you do not file a written objection, but you will not be permitted to address the Court at the hearing if you do not notify the Court and counsel by _____, 2020, of your intention to appear at the hearing.

**The Class Action**

The case is called *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)*, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425 (the “Class Action”). The Court supervising the case is the

Fourth Judicial District for the State of Minnesota in Hennepin County. The individuals who brought this suit are called Class Representatives, and the entity they sued is called the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services), a Minnesota non-profit corporation. The Class Representatives are current and former participants in the Plan. The Class Representatives' claims are described below, and additional information about them is available at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

### **What Does the Settlement Provide?**

The Settlement was reached on September 24, 2019. Class Counsel filed this action March 4, 2015. Since the filing of the case and for a period of over four years, the parties engaged in substantial litigation. Class Counsel devoted substantial time and effort to review and analyze hundreds of thousands of pages of documents produced by Defendant and many other documents, to support their underlying claims. The Settling Parties participated in mediation, with a nationally recognized mediator who has extensive experience in resolving complex class action claims. The Settling Parties also engaged in substantial settlement discussions without a mediator. Only after extensive arm's length negotiation over a period of three months were the Settling Parties able to agree to the terms of the Settlement.

Under the Settlement, a Qualified Settlement Fund of \$11,000,000 will be established to resolve the Class Action. The Net Settlement Amount is \$11,000,000 minus any Administrative Expenses, taxes, tax expenses, Court-approved Attorneys' Fees and Costs, Class Representatives' and Individual Plaintiff's Compensation, and other approved expenses of the litigation.

The Net Settlement Amount will be allocated to Class Members according to a Plan of Allocation to be approved by the Court. Class Members fall into two categories: Current Participants and Former Participants. Allocations to Current Participants who are entitled to a distribution under the Plan of Allocation will be made into their existing Plan accounts. Former Participants who are entitled to a distribution will receive their distribution as a check mailed to their last known address or, if they elect, as a rollover to a qualified retirement account.

### **Additional Benefits Of the Settlement**

In addition to the monetary component of the Settlement, the Parties to the Settlement have agreed to the following additional terms: Within 60 days after preliminary approval of the Settlement, Defendant shall select, with the approval of Class Counsel, an independent consultant familiar with the operation of church plans ("Consultant"). The costs of the Consultant will be paid from the settlement proceeds. Defendant and the Consultant shall evaluate the accounting and cost allocation policies that govern the charging of Administrative Expenses to the ELCA Plan, and make recommendations regarding potential changes to those policies in the context of all benefits provided to the ELCA Plan's members. "Administrative Expenses" means direct expenses, overhead, and third-party expenses charged to the ELCA Plan, but not investment expenses. In its review and evaluation of the current accounting and cost allocation policies and in the provision of recommendations regarding potential changes to those policies, the Consultant shall be provided with documentation related to the operation of the ELCA Plan including the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Portico's Policy Governance Manual; the ELCA Retirement Plan Document; and, the Restated ELCA Retirement Trust. Within six months after the Settlement Effective Date, Defendant shall submit the Consultant's recommendations to the Portico Board of Trustees ("Board"). The Board shall receive and consider the Consultant's recommendations at its next scheduled meeting and decide whether to adopt them. To the extent the Board decides not to follow the Consultant's recommendations, the Board shall, within 60 days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to Class Counsel along with the Consultant's recommendations and the basis for such recommendations. If the Board approves the Consultant's recommendations, or any portion thereof, any ensuing changes shall go into effect within a reasonable time, but no later than nine months after the approval. The Consultant and Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the final version within 30 days after the Board's approval of the new accounting and cost allocation policy as adopted. Class Counsel shall receive, within 30 days of adoption, any amendments to the policy, if applicable, that are adopted within two years following the initial approval.

Three months after the end of the first and second fiscal years in which Defendant applies any new accounting and cost allocation policy based on the Consultant's recommendations, as approved by the Board, Defendant shall furnish the Consultant, Class Counsel, and the Board a summary of all expense categories charged to the ELCA Plan for the fiscal year including Defendant's Administrative Expenses. At the end of the first and second fiscal years in which Defendant applies any new accounting and cost allocation policy based on the Consultant's recommendations, as approved by the Board, the Board shall receive, in addition to all other materials it typically receives as part of its responsibilities, duties, and roles, a report that shows: the average total fee (Administrative Expenses plus investment expenses) charged to an ELCA Plan participant for participating in the ELCA Plan; the investment expenses broken out by internal and external investment expenses; the Administrative Expenses broken out by direct expenses, overhead expenses, and third-party expenses. The Consultant shall review and provide recommendations as to the form, format and content of this detail provided to the Board. The Board may request any additional information it deems necessary in its review of the carrying out of the relief provided herein and in the carrying out of its typical responsibilities.

The Consultant shall also evaluate the expense categories that Defendant allocates to the ELCA Plan to assess whether any of the services associated with the expense categories could be outsourced. This evaluation shall also include: a review of the expenses categories, including Defendant's officer, executive, and employee salaries, that are not associated with a direct expense category charged to and assessed against the ELCA Plan; and, an assessment of whether the services provided by Defendant to the ELCA Plan overlap with the services provided by any third-party. As part of its evaluation, the Consultant may recommend that a request for proposal(s) ("RFP") be conducted for certain functions and services. Within twelve months after the Settlement Effective Date, the Consultant shall submit a written report to the Board with a recommendation regarding the outsourcing of services that Defendant provides to the ELCA Plan. The Board shall consider the Consultant's report in the context of Defendant's mandate, duties, and obligations under the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the ELCA Plan Document, the Policy Governance Manual, and in conformity with the laws of the State of Minnesota. At its next scheduled meeting, the Board shall decide what action, if any, to take. Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the Consultant's report to the Board. In the event the Board determines an RFP(s) should be conducted for identified services, at least 90 days prior to the issuance of the RFP, the content, form, and intended distribution and dissemination of the RFP shall be reviewed by the Consultant. The Consultant shall provide recommendations or amendments to the RFP, if any, to Defendant and the Board. Defendant may participate in the RFP. The Consultant shall (1) review all of the vendor proposals submitted during the RFP process; and (2) provide written recommendations on the proposed vendors for consideration by the Board. These recommendations, if any, will be provided to the Board 30 days in advance of any decision.

After its receipt of the RFP responses and the recommendations of the Consultant, the Board shall have 3 months to decide whether to accept, reject, or request further information from, any of the vendors or vendor proposals for the provision of administrative services. It is acknowledged that more than one vendor may be selected to provide administrative services to the ELCA Plan that are determined to be necessary. A copy of the Board determination(s) shall be provided to Class Counsel and the Consultant. To the extent the Board decides not to follow any of the Consultant's recommendations as provided herein, the Board shall, within 60 days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to Class Counsel.

To the extent any RFPs for recordkeeping services currently provided by outside vendors with respect to the ELCA Plan are commenced during the two years following the Settlement Effective Date, Defendant shall work with the Consultant to ensure that the content, form, and intended distribution of the RFP are reasonable under the circumstances. The Consultant, in conjunction with Defendant, shall (1) review all of the vendor proposals submitted during the RFP process; and (2) provide a written recommendation to Defendant (with a copy to the Board) regarding which vendor it recommends. The recommendation, if any, will be provided to Defendant and the Board 60 days in advance of any decision. Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the recommendation submitted to Defendant. Defendant shall have three months to approve or reject the vendor recommended to provide the services covered by the RFP. A copy of Defendant's determination shall be provided to Class Counsel and the Consultant. To the extent Defendant decides not to follow the Consultant's

recommendation, Defendant shall, within 60 days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to the Board and Class Counsel. For a period of two years following the Settlement Effective Date, Defendant shall not provide any services that are identified as Fidelity's responsibilities in the current services agreement with Fidelity other than those services provided by Defendant as of the Settlement Effective Date

Defendant shall continue to ensure that all third-party entities providing services to the ELCA Plan refrain from using information about ELCA Plan participants acquired in the course of services being provided to the ELCA Plan to market or sell products or services unrelated to the ELCA Plan. Any portion of Settlement Fund remaining after distributions, including costs and taxes, shall be paid to the ELCA Plan. Except as provided in this Agreement, if at all, no part of Settlement Fund may be used to reimburse Defendant or otherwise offset settlement-related costs incurred by Defendant. If a dispute arises regarding the non-monetary relief, the parties agree to meet and confer meaningfully, expeditiously, and in good faith to resolve the dispute. If the dispute cannot be resolved informally it shall be consolidated with any other pending disputes and submitted to, the District Court, which shall retain jurisdiction over the settlement. The decision of the District Court shall be final and binding, with no right to appeal. If the Consultant determines that there has been a material failure to comply with any portion of this Affirmative Relief, it shall promptly notify Class Counsel and counsel for Defendant.

### **Release**

All Class Members and anyone making a claim on their behalf will fully release the Plan as well as Defendant and other "Released Parties" from "Released Claims." The Released Parties include (a) Defendant, (b) Defendant's insurers, co-insurers, and reinsurers, (c) Defendant's past, present, and future parent corporation(s), (d) Defendant's past, present, and future affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, joint ventures, predecessors, successors, successors-in-interest, and assigns, (e) Defendant's agents, officers, employees, trustees, Board of Trustees, members of the Board of Trustees, independent contractors, representatives, attorneys, administrators, fiduciaries, accountants, auditors, advisors, consultants, personal representatives, spouses, heirs, executors, administrators, associates, employee benefit plan fiduciaries (with the exception of the Independent Fiduciary), employee benefit plan administrators, service providers to the Plan (including their owners and employees), members of their immediate families, consultants, subcontractors, and all persons acting under, by, through, or in concert with any of them, and (f) the Plan and the Plan's fiduciaries, administrators, and Plan administrators (with the exception of the Independent Fiduciary).

The Released Claims include all claims that were asserted or might have been asserted in the Class Action or would be barred by the principle of res judicata had the claims asserted been fully litigated and resulted in final judgment; and all claims relating to the implementation of the Settlement.

This is only a summary of the Released Claims and not a binding description of the Released Claims. The actual governing release is found within the Settlement Agreement at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com). Generally, the release means that Class Members will not have the right to sue the Defendant, the Plan, or the Released Parties for conduct arising out of or relating to the allegations in the Class Action.

This is only a summary of the Settlement. The entire Settlement Agreement is at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

### **Statement of Attorneys' Fees and Costs Sought in the Class Action**

Since 2015, Class Counsel has devoted many hours investigating potential claims, bringing this case and handling it. Class Counsel reviewed hundreds of thousands of pages of documents produced in this case and, prior to filing this action, analyzed thousands of pages of publicly filed documents, to support their claims. Class Counsel took the entire risk of litigation and has not been paid for any of their time or for any of their costs incurred in bringing this action. Class Counsel has also agreed: (1) to undertake the additional risk of paying half of the costs of the settlement process if the Settlement is not approved; (2) to monitor Defendant's compliance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement; (3) to enforce the Settlement Agreement in accordance with its terms; and (4) to do each of these without additional pay.

Class Counsel will apply to the Court for payment of Attorneys' Fees and Costs for their work in the case. The amount of fees (not including costs) that Class Counsel will request will not exceed one-third of the Settlement Amount, \$3,666,300.00, in addition to no more than \$ \_\_\_ in litigation costs. Class Counsel will not seek to receive any interest earned by the Qualified Settlement Fund, which will be added to the amount received by the Class. Any Attorneys' Fees and Costs awarded by the Court to Class Counsel will be paid from the Qualified Settlement Fund and must be approved by the Court.

As is customary in class action cases, in which the Class Representatives have spent time and effort on the litigation, Class Counsel also will ask the Court to approve payments, not to exceed \$20,000 each, for three Class Representatives who took on the risk of litigation, devoted considerable time, committed to spend the time necessary to bring the case to conclusion and were appointed by the Court as Class Representatives. Their activities also included assisting in the factual investigation of the case by Class Counsel and providing information for the case. Class Counsel will also ask the Court to approve a payment, not to exceed \$10,000, for the Individual Plaintiff that also brought this action but was not appointed by the Court as a Class Representative. Any Class Representatives' or Individual Plaintiff's Compensation awarded by the Court will be paid from the Qualified Settlement Fund.

A full application for Attorneys' Fees and Costs and for Class Representatives' and Individual Plaintiff's Compensation will be filed with the Court and made available on the Settlement Website, [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

#### **1. Why Did I Receive This Settlement Notice?**

The Court caused this Settlement Notice to be sent to you because the Plan's records indicate that you may be a Class Member. If you fall within the definition of the Class, you have a right to know about the Settlement and about all of the options available to you before the Court decides whether to give its final approval to the Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement, and after any objections and appeals, if any, are resolved, the Net Settlement Amount will be allocated among Class Members according to a Court-approved Plan of Allocation.

#### **2. What Is The Class Action About?**

In the Class Action, Class Representatives claim that, during the Class Period, the Defendant violated its fiduciary duties, with respect to its management, operation and administration of the Plan, including allowing excessive fees and imprudent investments in the Plan.

Defendant has denied and continues to deny the claims and contentions of the Class Representatives, that it is liable at all to the Class, and that the Class or the Plan have suffered any harm or damage for which Defendant could or should be held responsible, as Defendant contends that it acted prudently and in keeping with its fiduciary responsibilities by monitoring, reviewing and evaluating the Plan's investment options, by monitoring, reviewing and evaluating the administrative fees paid by the Plan.

#### **3. Why Is There A Settlement?**

The Court has not reached a final decision as to the Class Representatives' claims. Instead, the Class Representatives and Defendant have agreed to the Settlement. The Settlement is the product of extensive negotiations between Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel over four months, and additional arm's length negotiations. The parties to the Settlement have taken into account the uncertainty and risks of litigation and have concluded that it is desirable to settle on the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement Agreement. Class Counsel, who are highly experienced in this kind of matter, and the Class Representatives believe that the Settlement is best for all Class Members.

#### **4. How Much Will My Distribution Be?**

The amount, if any, that will be allocated to you will be based upon records maintained by the Plan's recordkeeper, or, if on September 30, 2019, you either no longer had a Plan account or had a Plan account with no money in it, based upon your Former Participant Claim Form. Calculations regarding the individual distributions will be performed by the Settlement Administrator, whose determinations will be final and binding, pursuant to the Court-approved Plan of Allocation.

To be eligible for a distribution from the Net Settlement Amount, you must either be a (1) “Current Participant” as defined on page 1, or (2) an “Authorized Former Participant” (a “Former Participant” as defined on page 1 who submitted a completed, satisfactory Former Participant Claim Form that is postmarked by the deadline), or (3) a beneficiary, alternate payee, or attorney-in-fact of persons identified in (1) or (2).

The Plan of Allocation will allocate the Net Settlement Fund among Current and Authorized Former Participants as follows:

1. The Net Settlement Amount shall first be divided in to two sums proportional to the relative size of total assets for each Plan as of the end of the most recent calendar year for each Plan available;
2. For each Plan, the end-of-quarter balances for the Class Period of Current and Authorized Former Participants are identified for each quarter;
3. All end-of-quarter balances identified in step 2 are summed together for each Participant;
4. An average end-of-quarter balance for each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant is calculated for the Class Period (with a zero included as the balance for any quarter during which the individual did not participate in the Plan);
5. For each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant, the average end-of-quarter balance of step 4 is divided by the sum of the average end-of-quarter balance for the Class Period of all Current and Authorized Former Participants;
6. Each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant will receive the percentage of the Net Settlement Amount for each Plan which is calculated in step 5.

No amount shall be distributed to a Class Member that is five dollars (\$5.00) or less, because such an amount is de minimis and would cost more in processing than its value. The method of making these calculations is described in the Plan of Allocation, found in Article 6 of the Settlement Agreement and available at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

There are approximately \_\_\_\_\_ Class Members.

Note that if you are an alternate payee pursuant to a Qualified Domestic Relations Order, you will receive a check if and to the extent you are entitled to receive a portion of a Current Participant’s or Authorized Former Participant’s allocation under the Settlement Agreement in accordance with the plan of allocation as if you are a Current Participant or Authorized Former Participant.

#### **5. How Can I Receive My Distribution?**

Whether you need to submit a claim form to receive your distribution depends on whether you are considered a “Current Participant” or a “Former Participant.” **According to the Plan’s records, you are a Current Participant. Therefore, you do not need to do anything to receive your share of the Settlement.**

#### **6. When Will I Receive My Distribution?**

The timing of the distribution of the Net Settlement Amount is conditioned on several matters, including the Court’s final approval of the Settlement and that approval becoming final and no longer subject to any appeals in any court. An appeal of the final approval may take several years. If the Settlement is approved by the Court, and there are no appeals, the Settlement distribution likely will occur in mid to late 2020.

**There Will Be No Payments Under The Settlement If The Settlement Agreement Is Terminated.**

#### **7. Can I Get Out Of The Settlement?**

No. The Class was certified under Minnesota State Rule of Civil Procedure 23.02(a). Therefore, as a Class Member, you are bound by any judgments or orders that are entered in the Class Action for all claims that were asserted in the Class Action or are otherwise included as Released Claims under the Settlement.

**8. Do I Have A Lawyer In The Case?**

The Court has appointed the law firm Schlichter, Bogard & Denton, in St. Louis, Missouri, as Class Counsel. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

**9. How Will The Lawyers Be Paid?**

Class Counsel will file a petition for the award of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs. This petition will be considered at the Fairness Hearing. Class Counsel has agreed to limit their application for an award of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs to not more than \$3,666,300.00 in fees and \$\_\_\_\_\_ in costs and Class Counsel will also monitor compliance with the Settlement for three years without charge and has committed to bring an enforcement action, if needed, to enforce the Settlement, also with no charge. The Court will determine what fees and costs will be approved.

**10. How Do I Tell The Court If I Don’t Like The Settlement?**

If you are a Class Member, you can tell the Court that you do not agree with the Settlement or some part of it. To object, you must send the Court a written statement that you object to the Settlement in *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)*, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425. Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, signature, and a full explanation of why you object to the Settlement. Your written objection must be received by the Court no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 2020. The Court’s address is Hennepin Co. Govt. Center (GC),300 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487. Your written objection also must be mailed to the lawyers listed below, **no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 2020**. Please note that the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of this Settlement provides that any party to the litigation may, but is not required to, serve discovery requests, including requests for documents and notice of deposition not to exceed two hours in length, on any objector. Any responses to discovery, or any depositions, must be completed within ten days of the request being served on the objector.

CLASS COUNSEL	DEFENDANT’S COUNSEL
SCHLICHTER, BOGARD & DENTON Attn: The Portico 403(b) Settlement 100 S. Fourth St., Suite 1200 St. Louis, MO 63102 Portico403bsettlement@uselaws.com	MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP Attn: Christopher Weals 1111 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004

**11. When And Where Will The Court Decide Whether To Approve The Settlement?**

The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_, at the Hennepin Co. Govt. Center (GC),300 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487.

At the Fairness Hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. After the Fairness Hearing, the Court will decide whether to give its final approval to the Settlement. The Court also will consider the petition for Class Counsel’s Attorneys’ Fees and Costs and any Class Representatives’ Compensation.

**12. Do I Have To Attend The Fairness Hearing?**

No, but you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to the Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it

when the Court considers whether to approve the Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate. You also may pay your own lawyer to attend the Fairness Hearing, but such attendance is not necessary.

**13. May I Speak At The Fairness Hearing?**

If you are a Class Member, you may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Fairness Hearing. To do so, you must send a letter or other paper called a “Notice of Intention to Appear at Fairness Hearing in *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)*, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425.” Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature. Your Notice of Intention to Appear must be mailed to the attorneys and filed with the Clerk of the Court, at the addresses listed in the Answer to Question No. 10, **no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.**

**14. What Happens If I Do Nothing At All?**

**If you are a “Current Participant” as defined on page 1, and do nothing, you will participate in the Settlement of the Class Action as described above in this Settlement Notice if the Settlement is approved. According to the Plan’s records, you are a Current Participant.**

If you are a “Former Participant” as defined on page 1, and you do nothing, you will be bound by the Settlement of the Class Action as described above in this Settlement Notice if the Settlement is finally approved, **BUT YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY MONEY UNLESS YOU SUBMIT A FORMER PARTICIPANT CLAIM FORM.**

**15. How Do I Get More Information?**

If you have general questions regarding the Settlement, you can visit this website: [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com), call 1-\_\_\_\_\_, or write to the Settlement Administrator at The Portico 403(b) Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_.



STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE: Civil Other/Miscellaneous

PASTOR DAVID BACON, PATRICIA HEPNER, RUTH DOLD, AND SHARON HVAM, individually and as representatives of a class of similarly situated persons on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BOARD OF PENSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (D/B/A PORTICO BENEFIT SERVICES), A MINNESOTA CORPORATION.

Defendant.

Court File No. 27-CV-15-3425  
Judge Ronald L. Abrams

**NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION  
SETTLEMENT AND FAIRNESS  
HEARING**

**Your legal rights might be affected if you are a member of the following class:**

All persons who participated in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan (“ELCA Plan”) and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (“Good Samaritan Plan”) (collectively referred to as the “Plan”) at any time during the Class Period, including any Beneficiary of a deceased person who participated in the Plan at any time during the Class Period, and any Alternate Payee of a person subject to a Qualified Domestic Relations Order who participated in the Plan at any time during the Class Period.

The Class Period is defined as March 1, 2009 through September 30, 2019. For purposes of this Notice, if not defined herein, capitalized terms have the definitions in the Settlement Agreement, which is incorporated herein by reference.

**PLEASE READ THIS SETTLEMENT NOTICE CAREFULLY.**

- The Court has given its preliminary approval to a proposed settlement (the “Settlement”) of a class action lawsuit brought by certain participants in the ELCA Plan and Good Samaritan Plan against the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services), A Minnesota Corporation (“Defendant”), alleging violations of the Minnesota Prudent Investor Act and Minnesota law. The Settlement will provide for the allocation of monies directly into the individual accounts of the Settlement Class who had Plan accounts during the Class Period with a balance greater than \$0 as of September 30, 2019 (“Current Participants”). Class Members who are entitled to a distribution but who no longer had a Plan account with a balance greater than \$0 as of September 30, 2019 (“Former Participants”) will receive their allocation in the form of a check mailed to their last known address or a rollover, if elected.
- The terms and conditions of the Settlement are set forth in the Settlement Agreement dated December 23, 2019. Capitalized terms used in this Settlement Notice but not defined in this Settlement Notice have the meanings assigned to them in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement is available at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com). Any amendments to the Settlement Agreement or any other settlement

documents will be posted on that website. You should visit that website if you would like more information about the Settlement and any subsequent amendments to the Settlement Agreement or other changes, including changes to the Plan of Allocation, the date, time, or location of the Fairness Hearing, or other Court orders concerning the Settlement.

- Your rights and options — and the deadlines to exercise them — are explained in this Settlement Notice.
- The Court still has to decide whether to give its final approval to the Settlement. Payments under the Settlement will be made only if the Court finally approves the Settlement and that final approval is upheld in the event of any appeal.
- A hearing on the final approval of the Settlement and for approval of the Class Representatives’ petition for Attorneys’ Fees and Costs and for Class Representatives’ and Individual Plaintiff’s Compensation will take place on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m., before Hennepin County Court Judge Ronald L. Abrams in Courtroom \_\_\_\_\_, Hennepin Co. Govt. Center (GC), 300 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487.
- Any objections to the Settlement, to the petition for Attorneys’ Fees and Costs or to Class Representatives’ and Individual Plaintiffs’ Compensation, must be served in writing on Class Counsel and Defendant’s Counsel, as identified on page 5 of this Settlement Notice.
- Further information regarding the litigation, the Settlement, and this Settlement Notice, including any changes to the terms of the Settlement and all orders of the Court regarding the Settlement, may be obtained at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

**According to the Plan’s records, you are a Former Participant. If you believe instead that you meet the definition of a Current Participant, please contact the Settlement Administrator. Former Participants are individuals who no longer had an account balance in the Plan greater than \$0 as of September 30, 2019.**

<b>YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS UNDER THE SETTLEMENT:</b>	
<b>OUR RECORDS INDICATE THAT YOU ARE A FORMER PARTICIPANT. YOU MUST RETURN THE ENCLOSED FORMER PARTICIPANT CLAIM FORM BY ____ TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT</b>	<u>Our records indicate that you are a Former Participant.</u> You must return a Former Participant Claim Form that is postmarked by _____ to receive your share of the Net Settlement Amount. If you do not return the Former Participant Claim Form that is postmarked by _____, you will forfeit your share of the Net Settlement Amount even though you will be bound by the Settlement, including the release. A claim form is enclosed with this notice but may also be obtained by accessing <a href="http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com">www.elcabop403bsettlement.com</a> .
<b>YOU CAN OBJECT (NO LATER THAN _____, 2020)</b>	If you wish to object to any part of the Settlement, you may (as discussed below) write to the Court and counsel about why you object to the Settlement.
<b>YOU CAN ATTEND A HEARING ON _____</b>	If you submit a written objection to the Settlement to the Court and counsel before the deadline, you may attend the hearing about the Settlement and present your objections to the Court. You may attend the hearing even if you do not file a written objection, but you will not be permitted to address the Court at the hearing if you do not notify the Court and counsel by _____, 2020, of your intention to appear at the hearing.

**The Class Action**

The case is called *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)*, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425 (the “Class Action”). The Court supervising the case is the Fourth Judicial District for the State of Minnesota in Hennepin County. The individuals who brought this suit are called Class Representatives, and the entity they sued is called the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services), a Minnesota non-profit corporation. The Class Representatives are current and former participants in the Plan. The Class Representatives’ claims are described below, and additional information about them is available at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

### **What Does the Settlement Provide?**

The Settlement was reached on September 24, 2019. Class Counsel filed this action on March 4, 2015. Since the filing of the case and for a period of over four years, the parties engaged in substantial litigation. Class Counsel devoted substantial time and effort to review and analyze hundreds of thousands of pages of documents produced by Defendant and many other documents, including U.S. Department of Labor Forms 5500 and other publicly available documents, to support their underlying claims. The Settling Parties participated in two different mediations, one with a court-appointed mediator and the second with a nationally recognized mediator who has extensive experience in resolving complex class action claims. The Settling Parties also engaged in substantial settlement discussions without a mediator. Only after extensive arm's length negotiation over a period of three months were the Settling Parties able to agree to the terms of the Settlement.

Under the Settlement, a Qualified Settlement Fund of \$11,000,000 will be established to resolve the Class Action. The Net Settlement Amount is \$11,000,000 minus any Administrative Expenses, taxes, tax expenses, Court-approved Attorneys' Fees and Costs, Class Representatives' and Individual Plaintiff's Compensation, and other approved expenses of the litigation.

The Net Settlement Amount will be allocated to Class Members according to a Plan of Allocation to be approved by the Court. Class Members fall into two categories: Current Participants and Former Participants. Allocations to Current Participants who are entitled to a distribution under the Plan of Allocation will be made into their existing Plan accounts. Former Participants who are entitled to a distribution will receive their distribution as a check mailed to their last known address or, if they elect, as a rollover to a qualified retirement account.

### **Additional Benefits Of the Settlement**

In addition to the monetary component of the Settlement, the Parties to the Settlement have agreed to the following additional terms: Within 60 days after preliminary approval of the Settlement, Defendant shall select, with the approval of Class Counsel, an independent consultant familiar with the operation of church plans ("Consultant"). The costs of the Consultant will be paid from the settlement proceeds. Defendant and the Consultant shall evaluate the accounting and cost allocation policies that govern the charging of Administrative Expenses to the ELCA Plan, and make recommendations regarding potential changes to those policies in the context of all benefits provided to the ELCA Plan's members. "Administrative Expenses" means direct, overhead, and third-party expenses, but not investment expenses. In its review and evaluation of the current accounting and cost allocation policies and in the provision of recommendations regarding potential changes to those policies, the Consultant shall be provided with documentation related to the operation of the ELCA Plan including the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Portico's Policy Governance Manual; the ELCA Retirement Plan Document; and, the Restated ELCA Retirement Trust. Within six months after the Settlement Effective Date, Defendant shall submit the Consultant's recommendations to the Portico Board of Trustees ("Board"). The Board shall receive and consider the Consultant's recommendations at its next scheduled meeting and decide whether to adopt them. To the extent the Board decides not to follow the Consultant's recommendations, the Board shall, within 60 days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to Class Counsel along with the Consultant's recommendations and the basis for such recommendations. If the Board approves the Consultant's recommendations, or any portion thereof, any ensuing changes shall go into effect within a reasonable time, but no later than nine months after the approval. The Consultant and Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the final version within 30 days after the Board's approval of the new accounting and cost allocation policy as adopted. Class Counsel shall receive, within 30 days of adoption, any amendments to the policy, if applicable, that are adopted within two years following the initial approval.

Three months after the end of the first and second fiscal years in which Defendant applies any new accounting and cost allocation policy based on the Consultant's recommendations, as approved by the Board, Defendant shall furnish the Consultant, Class Counsel, and the Board a summary of all expense categories charged to the Plan for the fiscal year including Defendant's Administrative Expenses. At the end of the first and second fiscal years in which Defendant applies any new accounting and cost allocation policy based on the

Consultant's recommendations, as approved by the Board, the Board shall receive, in addition to all other materials it typically receives as part of its responsibilities, duties, and roles, a report that shows: the average total fee (Administrative Expenses plus investment expenses) charged to an ELCA Plan participant for participating in the ELCA Plan; the investment expenses broken out by internal and external investment expenses; the Administrative Expenses broken out by direct expenses, overhead expenses, and third-party expenses. The Consultant shall review and provide recommendations as to the form, format and content of this detail provided to the Board. The Board may request any additional information it deems necessary in its review of the carrying out of the relief provided herein and in the carrying out of its typical responsibilities.

The Consultant shall also evaluate the expense categories that Defendant allocates to the ELCA Plan to assess whether any of the services associated with the expense categories could be outsourced. This evaluation shall also include: a review of the expenses categories, including Defendant's officer, executive, and employee salaries, that are not associated with a direct expense category charged to and assessed against the ELCA Plan; and, an assessment of whether the services provided by to the ELCA Plan overlap with the services provided by any third-party. As part of its evaluation, the Consultant may recommend that a request for proposal(s) ("RFP") be conducted for certain functions and services. Within twelve months after the Settlement Effective Date, the Consultant shall submit a written report to the Board with a recommendation regarding the outsourcing of services that Portico provides to the ELCA Plan. The Board shall consider the Consultant's report in the context of Defendant's mandate, duties, and obligations under the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the ELCA Plan Document, the Policy Governance Manual, and in conformity with the laws of the State of Minnesota. At its next scheduled meeting, the Board shall decide what action, if any, to take. Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the Consultant's report to the Board. In the event the Board determines an RFP(s) should be conducted for identified services, at least 90 days prior to the issuance of the RFP, the content, form, and intended distribution and dissemination of the RFP shall be reviewed by the Consultant. The Consultant shall provide recommendations or amendments to the RFP, if any, to Defendant and the Board. Defendant may participate in the RFP. The Consultant shall (1) review all of the vendor proposals submitted during the RFP process; and (2) provide written recommendations on the proposed vendors for consideration by the Board. These recommendations, if any, will be provided to the Board 30 days in advance of any decision.

After its receipt of the RFP responses and the recommendations of the Consultant, the Board shall have 3 months to decide whether to accept, reject, or request further information from, any of the vendors or vendor proposals for the provision of administrative services. It is acknowledged that more than one vendor may be selected to provide administrative services to the ELCA Plan that are determined to be necessary. A copy of the Board determination(s) shall be provided to Class Counsel and the Consultant. To the extent the Board decides not to follow any of the Consultant's recommendations as provided herein, the Board shall, within 60 days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to Class Counsel.

To the extent any RFPs for recordkeeping services currently provided by outside vendors with respect to the ELCA Plan are commenced during the two years following the Settlement Effective Date, Defendant shall work with the Consultant to ensure that the content, form, and intended distribution of the RFP are reasonable under the circumstances. The Consultant, in conjunction with Defendant, shall (1) review all of the vendor proposals submitted during the RFP process; and (2) provide a written recommendation to Defendant (with a copy to the Board) regarding which vendor it recommends. The recommendation, if any, will be provided to Defendant and the Board 60 days in advance of any decision. Class Counsel shall receive a copy of the recommendation submitted to Defendant. Defendant shall have three months to approve or reject the vendor recommended to provide the services covered by the RFP. A copy of Defendant's determination shall be provided to Class Counsel and the Consultant. To the extent Defendant decides not to follow the Consultant's recommendation, Defendant shall, within 60 days, document the reasons for that decision and provide those reasons in writing to the Board and Class Counsel. For a period of two years following the Settlement Effective Date, Defendant shall not provide any services that are identified as Fidelity's responsibilities in the current services agreement with Fidelity other than those services provided by Defendant as of the Settlement Effective Date

Defendant shall continue to ensure that all third-party entities providing services to the ELCA Plan refrain from using information about ELCA Plan participants acquired in the course of services being provided to the ELCA Plan to market or sell products or services unrelated to the ELCA Plan. Any portion of Settlement Fund remaining after distributions, including costs and taxes, shall be paid to the ELCA Plan. Except as provided in this Agreement, if at all, no part of Settlement Fund may be used to reimburse Defendant or otherwise offset settlement-related costs incurred by Defendant. If a dispute arises regarding the non-monetary relief, the parties agree to meet and confer meaningfully, expeditiously, and in good faith to resolve the dispute. If the dispute cannot be resolved informally it shall be consolidated with any other pending disputes and submitted to, the District Court, which shall retain jurisdiction over the settlement. The decision of the District Court shall be final and binding, with no right to appeal. If the Consultant determines that there has been a material failure to comply with any portion of this Affirmative Relief, it shall promptly notify Class Counsel and counsel for Defendant.

### **Release**

All Class Members and anyone making a claim on their behalf will fully release the Plan as well as Defendant and other “Released Parties” from “Released Claims.” The Released Parties include (a) Defendant, (b) Defendant’s insurers, co-insurers, and reinsurers, (c) Defendant’s past, present, and future parent corporation(s), (d) Defendant’s past, present, and future affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, joint ventures, predecessors, successors, successors-in-interest, and assigns, (e) Defendant’s agents, officers, employees, trustees, Board of Trustees, members of the Board of Trustees, independent contractors, representatives, attorneys, administrators, fiduciaries, accountants, auditors, advisors, consultants, personal representatives, spouses, heirs, executors, administrators, associates, employee benefit plan fiduciaries (with the exception of the Independent Fiduciary), employee benefit plan administrators, service providers to the Plan (including their owners and employees), members of their immediate families, consultants, subcontractors, and all persons acting under, by, through, or in concert with any of them, and (f) the Plan and the Plan’s fiduciaries, administrators, and Plan administrators (with the exception of the Independent Fiduciary).

The Released Claims include all claims that were asserted or might have been asserted in the Class Action or would be barred by the principle of res judicata had the claims asserted been fully litigated and resulted in final judgment; and all claims relating to the implementation of the Settlement.

This is only a summary of the Released Claims and not a binding description of the Released Claims. The actual governing release is found within the Settlement Agreement at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com). Generally, the release means that Class Members will not have the right to sue the Defendant, the Plan, or the Released Parties for conduct arising out of or relating to the allegations in the Class Action.

This is only a summary of the Settlement. The entire Settlement Agreement is at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

### **Statement of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs Sought in the Class Actions**

Since 2015, Class Counsel has devoted many hours investigating potential claims, bringing this case, and handling. Class Counsel reviewed hundreds of thousands of pages of documents produced in this case and, prior to filing this action, analyzed thousands of pages of publicly filed documents, including those filed with the Department of Labor, to support their claims. Class Counsel took the entire risk of litigation and has not been paid for any of their time or for any of their costs incurred in bringing this action. Class Counsel has also agreed: (1) to undertake the additional risk of paying half of the costs of the settlement process if the Settlement is not approved; (2) to monitor Defendant’s compliance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement; (3) to enforce the Settlement Agreement in accordance with its terms; and (4) to do each of these without additional pay.

Class Counsel will apply to the Court for payment of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs for their work in the case. The amount of fees (not including costs) that Class Counsel will request will not exceed one-third of the Settlement Amount, \$3,666,300.00, in addition to no more than \$\_\_\_\_\_ in litigation costs. Class Counsel will not seek to receive any interest earned by the Qualified Settlement Fund, which will be added to the amount received

by the Class. Any Attorneys' Fees and Costs awarded by the Court to Class Counsel will be paid from the Qualified Settlement Fund and must be approved by the Court.

As is customary in class action cases, in which the Class Representatives have spent time and effort on the litigation, Class Counsel also will ask the Court to approve payments, not to exceed \$20,000 each, for three Class Representatives who took on the risk of litigation, devoted considerable time, and committed to spend the time necessary to bring the case to conclusion and were appointed by the Court as Class Representatives. Their activities also included assisting in the factual investigation of the case by Class Counsel and providing information for the case. Class Counsel will also ask the Court to approve a payment, not to exceed \$10,000, for the Individual Plaintiff that also brought this action but was not appointed by the Court as a Class Representative. Any Class Representatives' or Individual Plaintiff's Compensation awarded by the Court will be paid from the Qualified Settlement Fund.

A full application for Attorneys' Fees and Costs and for Class Representatives' and Individual Plaintiff's Compensation will be filed with the Court and made available on the Settlement Website, [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

### **1. Why Did I Receive This Settlement Notice?**

The Court caused this Settlement Notice to be sent to you because the Plan's records indicate that you may be a Class Member. If you fall within the definition of the Class, you have a right to know about the Settlement and about all of the options available to you before the Court decides whether to give its final approval to the Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement, and after any objections and appeals, if any, are resolved, the Net Settlement Amount will be allocated among Class Members according to a Court-approved Plan of Allocation.

### **2. What Are The Class Actions About?**

In the Class Action, Class Representatives claim that, during the Class Period, the Defendant violated its fiduciary duties, with respect to its management, operation and administration of the Plan, including allowing excessive fees and imprudent investments in the Plan.

Defendant has denied and continues to deny the claims and contentions of the Class Representatives, that it is liable at all to the Class, and that the Class or the Plan have suffered any harm or damage for which Defendant could or should be held responsible, as Defendant contends that it acted prudently and in keeping with its fiduciary responsibilities under ERISA by monitoring, reviewing and evaluating the Plan's investment options, by monitoring, reviewing and evaluating the administrative fees paid by the Plan, by eliminating or adding investment options when appropriate and by negotiating fees for administrative services for the Plan to ensure that the Plan paid reasonable fees for the services provided.

### **3. Why Is There A Settlement?**

The Court has not reached a final decision as to the Class Representatives' claims. Instead, the Class Representatives and Defendant have agreed to the Settlement. The Settlement is the product of extensive negotiations between Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel over four months, including use of a court-appointed mediator, an all-day session with a private national mediator, and additional arm's length negotiations. The parties to the Settlement have taken into account the uncertainty and risks of litigation and have concluded that it is desirable to settle on the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement Agreement. Class Counsel, who are highly experienced in this kind of matter, and the Class Representatives believe that the Settlement is best for all Class Members.

### **4. How Much Will My Distribution Be?**

The amount, if any, that will be allocated to you will be based upon records maintained by the Plan's recordkeeper, or, if on September 30, 2019, you either no longer had a Plan account or had a Plan account with no money in it, based upon your Former Participant Claim Form. Calculations regarding the individual distributions will be performed by the Settlement Administrator, whose determinations will be final and binding, pursuant to the Court-approved Plan of Allocation.

To be eligible for a distribution from the Net Settlement Amount, you must either be a (1) “Current Participant” as defined on page 1, or (2) an “Authorized Former Participant” (a “Former Participant” as defined on page 1 who submitted a completed, satisfactory Former Participant Claim Form that is postmarked by the deadline), or (3) a beneficiary, alternate payee, or attorney-in-fact of persons identified in (1) or (2).

The Plan of Allocation will allocate the Net Settlement Fund among Current and Authorized Former Participants as follows:

1. The Net Settlement Amount shall first be divided in to two sums proportional to the relative size of total assets for each Plan as of the end of the most recent calendar year for each Plan available;
2. For each Plan, the end-of-quarter balances for the Class Period of Current and Authorized Former Participants are identified for each quarter;
3. All end-of-quarter balances identified in step 2 are summed together for each Participant;
4. An average end-of-quarter balance for each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant is calculated for the Class Period (with a zero included as the balance for any quarter during which the individual did not participate in the Plan);
5. For each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant, the average end-of-quarter balance of step 4 is divided by the sum of the average end-of-quarter balance for the Class Period of all Current and Authorized Former Participants;
6. Each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant will receive the percentage of the Net Settlement Amount for each Plan which is calculated in step 5.

No amount shall be distributed to a Class Member that is five dollars (\$5.00) or less, because such an amount is de minimis and would cost more in processing than its value. The method of making these calculations is described in the Plan of Allocation, found in Article 6 of the Settlement Agreement and available at [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com).

There are approximately \_\_\_\_\_ Class Members.

Note that if you are an alternate payee pursuant to a Qualified Domestic Relations Order, you will receive a check if and to the extent you are entitled to receive a portion of a Current Participant’s or Authorized Former Participant’s allocation under the Settlement Agreement in accordance with the plan of allocation as if you are a Current Participant or Authorized Former Participant.

#### **5. How Can I Receive My Distribution?**

Whether you need to submit a claim form to receive your distribution depends on whether you are considered a “Current Participant” or a “Former Participant.” **According to the Plan’s records, you are a Former Participant. Therefore, you need to return your claim form to receive your share of the Settlement.**

#### **6. When Will I Receive My Distribution?**

The timing of the distribution of the Net Settlement Amount is conditioned on several matters, including the Court’s final approval of the Settlement and that approval becoming final and no longer subject to any appeals in any court. An appeal of the final approval may take several years. If the Settlement is approved by the Court, and there are no appeals, the Settlement distribution likely will occur in mid to late 2020.

**There Will Be No Payments Under The Settlement If The Settlement Agreement Is Terminated.**

**7. Can I Get Out Of The Settlement?**

No. The Class was certified under Minnesota State Rule of Civil Procedure 23.02(a). Therefore, as a Class Member, you are bound by any judgments or orders that are entered in the Class Actions for all claims that were asserted in the Class Actions or are otherwise included as Released Claims under the Settlement.

**8. Do I Have A Lawyer In The Case?**

The Court has appointed the law firm Schlichter, Bogard & Denton, in St. Louis, Missouri, as Class Counsel. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

**9. How Will The Lawyers Be Paid?**

Class Counsel will file a petition for the award of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs. This petition will be considered at the Fairness Hearing. Class Counsel has agreed to limit their application for an award of Attorneys’ Fees and Costs to not more than \$3,666,300.00 in fees and \$\_\_\_\_ in costs and Class Counsel will also monitor compliance with the Settlement for three years without charge and has committed to bring an enforcement action, if needed, to enforce the Settlement, also with no charge. The Court will determine what fees and costs will be approved.

**10. How Do I Tell The Court If I Don’t Like The Settlement?**

If you are a Class Member, you can tell the Court that you do not agree with the Settlement or some part of it. To object, you must send the Court a written statement that you object to the Settlement in *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)*, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425. Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, signature, and a full explanation of why you object to the Settlement. Your written objection must be received by the Court no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 2020. The Court’s address is Hennepin Co. Govt. Center (GC),300 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487. Your written objection also must be mailed to the lawyers listed below, **no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 2020**. Please note that the Court’s Order Granting Preliminary Approval of this Settlement provides that any party to the litigation may, but is not required to, serve discovery requests, including requests for documents and notice of deposition not to exceed two hours in length, on any objector. Any responses to discovery, or any depositions, must be completed within ten days of the request being served on the objector.

CLASS COUNSEL	DEFENDANT’S COUNSEL
SCHLICHTER, BOGARD & DENTON Attn: The Portico 403(b) Settlement 100 S. Fourth St., Suite 1200 St. Louis, MO 63102 Portico403bsettlement@uselaws.com	MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP Attn: Christopher Weals 1111 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004

**11. When And Where Will The Court Decide Whether To Approve The Settlement?**

The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_, at the Hennepin Co. Govt. Center (GC),300 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487.

At the Fairness Hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. After the Fairness Hearing, the Court will decide whether to give its final approval to the Settlement. The Court also will consider the petition for Class Counsel’s Attorneys’ Fees and Costs and any Class Representatives’ Compensation.



**12. Do I Have To Attend The Fairness Hearing?**

No, but you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to the Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it when the Court considers whether to approve the Settlement as fair, reasonable and adequate. You also may pay your own lawyer to attend the Fairness Hearing, but such attendance is not necessary.

**13. May I Speak At The Fairness Hearing?**

If you are a Class Member, you may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Fairness Hearing. To do so, you must send a letter or other paper called a “Notice of Intention to Appear at Fairness Hearing in *Bacon, et al., v. Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (d/b/a Portico Benefit Services)*, Case No. 27-CV-15-3425.” Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature. Your Notice of Intention to Appear must be mailed to the attorneys and filed with the Clerk of the Court, at the addresses listed in the Answer to Question No. 10, **no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.**

**14. What Happens If I Do Nothing At All?**

If you are a “Current Participant” as defined on page 1, and do nothing, you will participate in the Settlement of the Class Action as described above in this Settlement Notice if the Settlement is approved.

**If you are a “Former Participant” as defined on page 1, and you do nothing, you will be bound by the Settlement of the Class Action as described above in this Settlement Notice if the Settlement is finally approved, BUT YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY MONEY UNLESS YOU SUBMIT A FORMER PARTICIPANT CLAIM FORM.**

**According to the Plan’s records, you are a Former Participant, so you will need to submit a Former Participant Claim Form in order to receive your share of the Settlement.**

**15. How Do I Get More Information?**

If you have general questions regarding the Settlement, you can visit this website: [www.elcabop403bsettlement.com](http://www.elcabop403bsettlement.com), call 1-\_\_\_\_\_, or write to the Settlement Administrator at The Portico 403(b) Settlement Administrator, \_\_\_\_\_.

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

DISTRICT COURT  
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
CASE TYPE: Civil Other/Miscellaneous

PASTOR DAVID BACON, PATRICIA HEPNER, RUTH DOLD, AND SHARON HVAM, individually and as representatives of a class of similarly situated persons on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Retirement Plan and the ELCA Retirement Plan for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BOARD OF PENSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (D/B/A PORTICO BENEFIT SERVICES), A MINNESOTA CORPORATION.

Defendant.

Court File No. 27-CV-15-3425

Judge Ronald L. Abrams

**[PROPOSED] FINAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT**

Upon consideration of Plaintiffs' Unopposed Motion for Final Approval of the Settlement of this action (the "Class Action") pursuant to the terms of a Class Action Settlement Agreement dated December 23, 2019 (the "Settlement Agreement"), the Court hereby orders and adjudges as follows:

1. For purposes of this Final Order and Judgment, capitalized terms used herein have the definitions in the Settlement Agreement, which is incorporated herein by reference.
2. In accordance with the Court's Orders, and as determined by this Court previously, notice was timely distributed by electronic or first-class mail to all members of the Settlement Class who could be identified with reasonable effort, and notice was published on the website maintained by Class Counsel.

3. The form and methods of notifying the Settlement Class of the terms and conditions of the proposed Settlement Agreement met the requirements of Min. R. Civ. P. 23.03 (b), any other applicable law, and due process, and constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances; and due and sufficient notices of the fairness hearing and the rights of all Settlement Class Members have been provided to all people, powers and entities entitled thereto.

4. Members of the Settlement Class had the opportunity to be heard on all issues regarding the resolution and release of their claims by submitting objections to the Settlement Agreement to the Court.

5. Each and every Objection to the settlement is overruled with prejudice.

6. The motion for final approval of the Settlement Agreement is hereby **GRANTED**, the Settlement of the Class Action is **APPROVED** as fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Plans and the Settlement Class, and the Settling Parties are hereby directed to take the necessary steps to effectuate the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

7. The operative complaint and all claims asserted therein are hereby dismissed with prejudice and without costs to any of the Settling Parties other than as provided for in the Settlement Agreement.

8. The Plan, the Class Representatives and Individual Plaintiff, and the Class Members (and their respective heirs, beneficiaries, executors, administrators, estates, past and present partners, officers, directors, agents, attorneys, predecessors, successors, and assigns) on their own behalves and on behalf of the Plan, hereby fully, finally, and forever settle, release, relinquish, waive, and discharge all Released Parties (including the Defendant and the Plan) from the Released Claims, regardless of, *e.g.*, whether or not such Class Members have executed and delivered a Former Participant Claim Form, whether or not such Class Members have filed an

objection to the Settlement or to any application by Class Counsel for an award of Attorneys' Fees and Costs, and whether or not the objections or claims for distribution of such Class Members have been approved or allowed.

9. The Class Representatives and Individual Plaintiff, Class Members, and the Plans acting individually or together, or in combination with others, are hereby barred and enjoined from suing or seeking to institute, maintain, prosecute, argue, or assert in any action or proceeding (including but not limited to an IRS determination letter proceeding, a Department of Labor proceeding, an arbitration or a proceeding before any state insurance or other department or commission), any cause of action, demand, or claim on the basis of, connected with, or arising out of any of the Released Claims. Nothing herein shall preclude any action to enforce the terms of the Settlement Agreement in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

10. Class Counsel, the Class Representatives and Individual Plaintiff, the Class Members, or the Plan may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those that they know or believe to be true with respect to the Released Claims. Such facts, if known by them, might have affected the decision to settle with the Defendant, the Plans, and the other Released Parties or the decision to release, relinquish, waive, and discharge the Released Claims, or might have affected the decision of a Class Member not to object to the Settlement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Class Representative and Individual Plaintiff, Class Member, and the Plans has and have hereby fully, finally, and forever settled, released, relinquished, waived, and discharged any and all Released Claims, and each Class Representative and Individual Plaintiff, Class Member, and the Plans has and have hereby acknowledged that the foregoing waiver was

bargained for separately and is a key element of the Settlement embodied in the Settlement Agreement of which this release is a part.

11. The Class Representatives and Individual Plaintiff, Class Members, and the Plans hereby settle, release, relinquish, waive, and discharge any and all rights or benefits they may now have, or in the future may have, under any law relating to the releases of unknown claims, including without limitation, Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which provides: “A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor 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.” The Class Representatives and Individual Plaintiff, Class Members, and the Plans with respect to the Released Claims also hereby waive any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law or of any State or territory within the United States or any foreign country, or any principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent in substance to Section 1542 of the California Civil Code.

12. The Court finds that it has subject matter jurisdiction over the claims herein and personal jurisdiction over Class Members, and expressly retains that jurisdiction for purposes of enforcing this Final Order and Judgment and the Settlement Agreement. Any motion to enforce paragraphs 8 through 12 of this Final Order and Judgment or the Settlement Agreement, including by way of injunction, may be filed in this Court, and the provisions of the Settlement Agreement and/or this Final Order and Judgment may also be asserted by way of an affirmative defense or counterclaim in response to any action that is asserted to violate the Settlement Agreement.

13. Each member of the Class shall hold harmless Defense Counsel and the Released Parties for any claims, liabilities, attorneys' fees, and expenses arising from the allocation of the Gross Settlement Amount or Net Settlement Amount and for all tax liability and associated penalties and interest as well as related attorneys' fees and expenses.

14. The Settlement Administrator shall have final authority to determine the share of the Net Settlement Amount to be allocated to each Current Participant and each Authorized Former Participant.

15. With respect to payments or distributions to Authorized Former Participants, all questions not resolved by the Settlement Agreement shall be resolved by the Settlement Administrator in its sole and exclusive discretion.

16. Within twenty-one (21) calendar days following the issuance of all settlement payments to Class Members, the Settlement Administrator shall prepare and provide to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel a list of each person who was issued a settlement payment and the amount of such payment.

17. Upon entry of this Final Order and Judgment, all Class Members and the Plan shall be bound by the Settlement Agreement as amended and by this Final Order and Judgment.

**SO ORDERED:**

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

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HON. RONALD L. ABRAMS  
HENNEPIN COUNTY COURT