1 2 3 MAR 0 7 2025 4 Clerk of the Superior Court 5 By: A. Zarzoso, Deputy 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO 10 LARRY NELSON and JOHN DAUB, 11 CASE NO. 37-2023-00045878-CU-BT-CTL individually and on behalf of all others 12 similarly situated, **CLASS ACTION** 13 Plaintiffs, PROPOSEDPFINAL APPROVAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT 14 VS. 15 [Includes Order Granting Motion for SYSTEM1, INC., a Delaware corporation; Attorney's Fees, Litigation Expenses, and 16 TOTAL SECURITY LIMITED, a UK private Service Awards] company; PROTECTED.NET LLC, a 17 Delaware limited liability company; and DOES 1-50, inclusive, [IMAGED FILE] 18 19 Defendants. 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

 Pending before the Court are two motions relating to the settlement agreement ("Settlement") between plaintiffs Larry Nelson and John Daub (collectively, "Plaintiffs") and defendants System1, Inc., Total Security Limited, and Protected.net LLC (collectively, "Defendants"): (1) Plaintiffs' Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement; and (2) Class Counsel's Motion for Award of Attorneys' Fees, Litigation Expenses, and Service Awards.

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2024, this Court entered an order granting Plaintiffs' motion for preliminary approval of the Settlement ("Preliminary Approval Order") (ROA# 45);

WHEREAS, counsel for the Parties appeared before this Court on March 7, 2025, at which time Plaintiffs requested final approval of the Settlement and Class Counsel requested an award of attorneys' fees, reimbursement of litigation expenses, and service awards;

WHEREAS, due and adequate notice of the Settlement having been given, and the Court having considered all papers filed and proceedings had herein, and good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. All terms and phrases in this Final Approval Order and Judgment ("Order") shall have the same meanings ascribed to them in the Settlement Agreement (ROA# 40 Ex. 1), unless otherwise noted.
- 2. The Court finds and determines that the notice procedure implemented in this Action provides for the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and that such notice procedure satisfies the requirements of California Rules of Court, rule 3.769, and due process.
- 3. The Court finds and determines that no Class Member has objected to any aspect of the Settlement.
- 4. The Court finds and determines that the terms of the Settlement are fair, reasonable, and adequate. The Court further finds and determines that settlement of the Action at this time will avoid substantial additional costs by all Parties, as well as the delay and risks that would be presented by the further prosecution of the Action. The Court hereby grants final approval of the Settlement and directs the Parties to effectuate and consummate the Settlement's terms as set forth in the Agreement and this Order.

5. The Class is defined as follows:

All California residents who, between October 20, 2019 and June 30, 2024, were enrolled in and charged for an automatic renewal or continuous service subscription for Protected Software offered by any of the Defendants, limited to individuals who did not receive a full refund of any amounts paid towards such automatic renewal or continuous service subscription. Excluded from the Class are all employees of Defendants, all employees of Plaintiffs' counsel, and the judicial officers to whom this case is assigned." The term "Protected Software" means one or more of the following software as a service products made available to consumers via the internet for download or via application marketplaces: PC Protect, ScanGuard, Total Adblock, TotalAV, Total Password, Total VPN, and Total WebShield.

- 6. The Court finds that the following three individuals requested to be excluded from the Settlement Class: Dale Komai, Carol Hartwell, and Timothy Lawver. Those individuals are excluded from the Settlement Class and shall not be bound by the Settlement Agreement or Release.
- 7. The Court grants Class Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees in the amount of \$833,250, plus reimbursement of litigation expenses in the amount of \$38,413.70. The Court finds that the attorneys' fees are justified as 33.33% percent of the class recovery under the common fund doctrine and under the lodestar/multiplier approach; that the fee award is warranted in light of the time Class Counsel invested in the case, the risk Class Counsel undertook in prosecuting the Action on a contingency basis, the results achieved, the novelty of the legal issues, and the skill with which Class Counsel presented Plaintiffs' claims; and the litigation expenses were reasonably incurred in the prosecution of the litigation. These amounts shall be paid from the Settlement Amount in accordance with the Settlement Agreement.
- 8. The Court grants the request for service awards in the amount of \$5,000 each to Larry Nelson and John Daub, and \$1,000 each to Andrea Moore, Danielle Breen, Kenneth Ruh, and Patricia Pinkstaff. The Court finds that these payments are justified in light of assistance provided to Class Counsel, the risk undertaken by Larry Nelson and John Daub in serving as the named plaintiffs, and the recovery obtained on behalf of the Class. These amounts shall be paid from the Settlement Amount in accordance with the Settlement Agreement.

- 9. The Court finds that the fees and expenses of the Settlement Administrator, CPT Group, Inc., in the amount of \$90,000, are fair and reasonable. Such payment shall be made from the Settlement Amount in accordance with the Settlement Agreement.
- 10. The Settlement Administrator shall proceed with payment of the attorneys' fees, litigation expenses, service awards, and distribution to the Participating Class Members, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and this Order.
- 11. The Court approves as the *cy pres* recipients Consumer Federation of California and San Francisco Consumer Action, each to receive 50% any residual settlement funds due to uncashed settlement payments. The Settlement Administrator is ordered to pay any *cy pres* amounts pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.
- 12. Other than as stated above in Paragraph 6, Plaintiffs and all Class Members are bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement, including its Release, and this Final Approval Order and Judgment. Pursuant to Section IX of the Settlement Agreement, immediately upon entry of this Judgment, all of the claims to be released by Plaintiffs and Class Members shall be released.
- 13. To provide notice to the Class pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 3.771(b), the Parties are ordered to cause a copy of this Final Approval Order and Judgment to be posted by the Settlement Administrator on the Settlement Website.
- 14. Without affecting the finality of this Final Approval Order and Judgment, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6 and California Rules of Court, rule 3.769(h), this Court retains continuing jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, the Class Representatives, the Settlement Class Members, and Defendants to administer the matters set forth in the Settlement Agreement and implement and enforce the Settlement Agreement and this Order and Judgment.
- 15. This Final Approval Order and Judgment shall constitute a final judgment that is binding on the Parties and the Settlement Class Members. The Clerk is directed to promptly enter this Order and Judgment on the register of actions.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Hon. Matthew C. Braner Judge of the Superior Court Hon. Matthew C. Br	1	DATED: 317, 2025
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