	Case 5:05-cv-04532-JW Document 142	Filed 10/15/07 Page 1 of 8
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	C. Keith Greer, Esq., State Bar No.: 13553 LAW OFFICES OF GREER & ASSOCIATE 16787 Bernardo Center Drive, Suite 14 San Diego, California 92128 Telephone: (858) 613-6677 Fax: (858) 613-6680 greerkeith@aol.com Attorneys for Plaintiffs	7 S, A.P.C.
8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
9	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
10	SAN JOSE DIVISION	
11	STACY JAMES, WILLIAM HAAG and) MICHAEL SCHRIBER, Individually, On) Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated and) On Behalf of the General Public,) Plaintiffs,)) Case No.: C 05-04532 JW
12		CLASS ACTION
13		[FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER
14	VS.) OF DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE
15	IGNATIUS A. PIAZZA, FRONT SIGHT)
16 17	MANAGEMENT INCORPORATED dba FRONT SIGHT FIREARMS TRAINING INSTITUTE, MICHAEL MEACHER and)
18	BRAD ACKMAN,))
19	Defendants.	ý)
20	·	
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28	[FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT, James v. Piazza. Case No. CV 05-04532 JW	
	Judgment (1)	

This matter came before the Court for hearing on October 15, 2007, pursuant to an 1 2 Order of this Court, dated October 3, 2007, on the application of the Settling Parties for 3 approval of the settlement set forth in the Third Amended Stipulation of Settlement dated June 27, 2007 (the "Third Amended Stipulation"). Due and adequate notice having been 4 5 given of the settlement as required in said Order, and the Court having considered all papers filed and proceedings held herein and otherwise being fully informed in the 6 7 premises and good cause appearing therefore, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED 8 AND DECREED that:

9 1. This Judgment incorporates by reference the definitions in the Third
10 Amended Stipulation, and all terms used herein shall have the same meanings set forth in
11 the Third Amended Stipulation.

This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Litigation and over
 all parties to the Litigation, including all Members of the Settlement Class.

All of the Released Claims are dismissed with prejudice as to the Lead
Plaintiffs and the other Members of the Settlement Class who have timely filed valid
claims requesting inclusion in the Settlement Class, and as against each and all of the
Released Persons. The parties are to bear their own costs, except as otherwise provided in
the Third Amended Stipulation.

19 4. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, this Court 20 hereby approves the settlement set forth in the Third Amended Stipulation and finds that 21 said settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable and adequate to, and is in the best 22 interests of, the Lead Plaintiffs, the Settlement Class and each of the Settlement Class 23 Members. This Court further finds the settlement set forth in the Third Amended 24 Stipulation is the result of arm's-length negotiations between experienced counsel 25 representing the interests of the Lead Plaintiffs, the Settlement Class Members and the Defendants. Accordingly, the settlement embodied in the Third Amended Stipulation is 26 27 hereby approved in all respects and shall be consummated in accordance with its terms 28 and provisions. The Settling Parties are hereby directed to perform the terms of the Third [FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT, James v. Piazza. Case No. CV 05-04532 JW

1 Amended Stipulation.

2 5. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, this Court 3 hereby certifies, for purposes of effectuating this settlement, a Settlement Class of all 4 Persons who purchased or acquired lifetime Front Sight Management Incorporated dba 5 Front Sight Firearms Training Institute memberships during the period between January 1, 1997 and December 31, 2003, inclusive. Excluded from the Settlement Class are 6 7 Defendants and their Related Parties as well as members of the immediate families of each 8 named individual Defendant, any entity in which any named Defendant has or had a 9 controlling interest, current or former officers and directors of Front Sight, and the legal 10 representatives, heirs, successors, predecessors in interest, or assignees of any such 11 excluded person or entity. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are those Persons who did not timely file valid claims pursuant the Notice of Pendency and Proposed 12 Settlement of Class Action. The certification of the Settlement Class shall be binding only 13 with respect to the settlement of the Litigation. 14

6. 15 With respect to the Settlement Class, this Court finds for the purposes of 16 effectuating this settlement that: (a) the Members of the Settlement Class are so numerous 17 that joinder of all Settlement Class Members in the Litigation is impracticable; (b) there 18 are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class which predominate over any 19 individual questions; (c) the claims of the Lead Plaintiffs are typical of the claims of the 20 Settlement Class; (d) the Lead Plaintiffs and Class Counsel have fairly and adequately 21 represented and protected the interests of all of the Settlement Class Members; and (e) a 22 class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of 23 the controversy, considering: (i) the interests of the Members of the Settlement Class in 24 individually controlling the prosecution of the separate actions; (ii) the extent and nature 25 of any litigation concerning the controversy already commenced by Members of the Settlement Class: (iii) the desirability or undesirability of continuing the litigation of these 26 27 claims in this particular forum; and (iv) the difficulties likely to be encountered in the 28 management of the Litigation.

[FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT, James v. Piazza. Case No. CV 05-04532 JW

7. Upon the Effective Date, the Lead Plaintiffs and each of the Settlement 2 Class Members shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, 3 fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished and discharged all Released Claims against the Released Persons. "Released Claims" do not include the Defendants' 4 5 obligations under the Third Amended Stipulation, or obligations arising from memberships, awards or certificates for which claims have not been filed or for which 6 7 claims have been determined to be invalid.

8 8. All Settlement Class Members are hereby forever barred and enjoined from 9 prosecuting the Released Claims against the Released Persons.

10 9. Upon the Effective Date, each of the Released Persons shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, 11 relinquished and discharged each and all of the Settlement Class Members and Class 12 Counsel from all claims (including unknown claims), arising out of, relating to, or in 13 connection with the institution or prosecution of the Litigation or the Released Claims, 14 15 except for claims arising from the Settlement Class Members' and Class Counsel's 16 obligations under the Third Amended Stipulation.

17 10. The distribution of the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class 18 Action and supplemental notices, and the publication of the Summary Notice as provided 19 for in the Order Preliminarily Approving Settlement and Providing for Notice, constituted 20 the best notice practicable under the circumstances, including individual notice to all 21 Members of the Settlement Class who could be identified through reasonable effort. Said 22 Notice provided the best notice practicable under the circumstances of those proceedings 23 and of the matters set forth therein, including the proposed settlement set forth in the Third 24 Amended Stipulation, to all Persons entitled to such notice, and said Notice fully satisfied 25 the requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the requirements of due process, and any other applicable law. 26

27 Any plan of allocation submitted by Class Counsel or any order entered 11. 28 regarding the application for attorneys' fees and expenses or Incentive Bonuses for the [FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT, James v. Piazza. Case No. CV 05-04532 JW

Judgment (1)

1

Lead Plaintiff shall in no way disturb or affect this Final Judgment and shall be considered
 separate from this Final Judgment.

-2

3 12. Neither the Third Amended Stipulation nor the settlement contained therein, 4 nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of the Third 5 Amended Stipulation or the settlement: (a) is or may be deemed to be or may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, the validity of any Released Claim, or of any wrongdoing or 6 7 liability of the Defendants or their Related Parties; or (b) is or may be deemed to be or 8 may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, any fault or omission of any of the 9 Defendants or their Related Parties in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding in 10 any court, administrative agency or other tribunal. Defendants and/or their Related Parties may file the Third Amended Stipulation and/or the Judgment in any other action that may 11 be brought against them in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles 12 of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or 13 reduction or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or 14 counterclaim. 15

16 13. Without affecting the finality of this Judgment in any way, this Court hereby retains continuing jurisdiction over: (a) all real property and related rights of Front Sight 17 18 for which this Court has previously issued orders setting restrictions on the sale or 19 encumbrance thereof; (b) implementation of this settlement and any award or distribution 20 of the Settlement Fund, including interest earned thereon; (c) disposition of the Settlement 21 Fund; (d) hearing and determining applications for Incentive Bonuses for the Lead Plaintiffs and attorneys' fees and expenses in the Litigation; and (e) all parties hereto for 22 23 the purpose of construing, enforcing and administering the Third Amended Stipulation, 24 including without limitation determining the adequacy of proof submitted in support of 25 timely filed claims.

14. The Court finds that during the course of the Litigation, the Settling Parties
and their respective counsel at all times complied with the requirements of Rule 11 of the
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

[FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT, James v. Piazza. Case No. CV 05-04532 JW

15. Defendants shall provide to Class Counsel, Gilardi & Co. LLC ("Escrow 1 2 Agent/Claims Administrator") and the Special Master, George C. Fisher, Esq., such 3 documentation as is reasonably necessary to confirm that Defendants are in compliance 4 with Front Sight's financial and other obligations under the Third Amended Stipulation to: 5 pay ten percent (10%) of Front Sight's gross monthly revenues (a) to the Settlement Fund; and 6 7 (b) not encumber, sell or transfer Front Sight's assets except as 8 authorized by the Court. 9 Such verifying documents shall at a minimum include Front Sight's monthly bank 10 account statements and such other documentation as the Escrow Agent/Claims 11 Administrator deems reasonably necessary to properly meet its obligations to the Court. 12 Escrow Agent/Claims Administrator shall continue to apprise the Court, Class Counsel and Defendants' Counsel of the status and activity of matters identified in ¶¶15 13 14 (a) and (b) above via bimonthly reports until final and full distribution of the Settlement 15 Fund. 16 16. The Partial Judgment previously entered by this Court is incorporated in this 17 Judgment, and both the Judgment and the lien against Front Sight's assets previously 18 entered by the Court shall remain effective until the Settlement Fund is fully funded, 19 however they will be immediately reduced to reflect the total of: (1) the actual amount of 20 claims filed to date; (2) Court awarded attorneys' fees and costs of \$800,000.00; and (3) 21 Court awarded Incentive Bonuses awarded to the Lead Plaintiffs in the amount of 22 \$30,000.00 (i.e., \$10,000.00 each). That portion of the Judgment constituting the amount 23 determined by the Special Master to have been paid by Platinum Members in excess of 24 \$25,000.00 and the amount of claims where the Class Members opted to immediately 25 relinquish their memberships, shall accrue simple interest at 5% per annum. The remainder of the Judgment, constituting court awarded attorneys' fees and costs, Incentive 26 27 Awards to the Lead Plaintiffs, and the principle amount of claims filed by Class Members 28 who opted to retain their membership rights until they are paid in full under the terms of [FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT, James v. Piazza. Case No. CV 05-04532 JW

the Third Amended Stipulation of Settlement, shall not accrue interest.

17. The Judgment and lien shall be decreased by the amount paid by Front Sight into the Settlement Fund pursuant to the Third Amended Stipulation of Settlement.

3 4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

1

2

18. The Court appoints Special Master George C. Fisher, Esq. as the hearing officer to oversee evidentiary hearings and make findings of fact and law regarding: (1) the adequacy of proof provided by claimants who timely filed claims that were deemed by the Claims Administrator to not present sufficient documentation to establish the amount said claimants paid for their Front Sight memberships; (2) the adequacy of proof provided by claims are disputed by Defendant Front Sight; and (3) whether claimants filing late claims can establish "good cause" for relief from the court ordered time limitations for filing claims.

12 19. Within 10 days of this Order, the Claims Administrator shall send notice to all claimants who filed claims that were not approved by the Claims Administrator, 13 advising them of: (1) the reason their claims were found to be deficient; (2) that they may 14 15 submit additional documentation to cure the deficiency within 15 days of the date they 16 receive the notice of deficiency (which will be presumed to be five days from the date the notice was sent, unless evidence to the contrary is submitted by the claimant); and (3) that 17 18 they have the right to attend the hearing before the Special Master, which will take place 19 on a specific date identified in the notice, which must be within 60 days of the court order 20 approving the settlement.

21 20. Within 10 days of this Order, Defendant Front Sight shall give written notice 22 to Class Counsel, the Special Master and the Claims Administrator of any claims it 23 disputes, and the reasons for such disputes. Within 5 days after receipt of said notice, the 24 Claims Administrator shall send notice to all affected claimants, advising them of: (1) the 25 reason their claims are being disputed by Defendant Front Sight; (2) that they may submit additional documentation to address the issues raised by Defendant Front Sight within 15 26 27 days of the date they receive the notice of deficiency (which will be presumed to be five 28 days from the date the notice was sent, unless evidence to the contrary is submitted by the [FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT, James v. Piazza. Case No. CV 05-04532 JW

claimant); and (3) that they have the right to attend the hearing before the Special Master,
 which will take place on a specific date identified in the notice, which must be within 60
 days of the court order approving the settlement.

4 21. These evidentiary hearings will take place at the Law Offices of Ropers,
5 Majeski, Kohn & Bentley, 80 North First Street, San Jose, California, or another place
6 mutually agreed to by the parties. Upon completion of the evidentiary hearings the
7 Judgment Lien against Front Sight's assets will be amended to reflect the aggregate
8 amount of claims which are found to be valid by the Special Master, less any monies paid
9 by Front Sight into the Settlement Fund pursuant to the Third Amended Stipulation of
10 Settlement.

11 22. Class Counsel and Lead Plaintiffs will retain full authority to act on behalf of the Settlement Class until such time as the Settlement is fully funded. Such authority 12 includes the authority to act on behalf of the Settlement Class to establish the validity of 13 timely filed claims and to undertake subsequent enforcement proceedings, if necessary. 14 15 Class Counsel shall be responsible for advancing the costs reasonably necessary to 16 instigate and maintain such enforcement action(s) subject to the terms of the Third 17 Amended Stipulation. Class Members will be bound by any and all subsequent rulings 18 and proceedings relating to enforcement of the Settlement Agreement which may be 19 undertaken by Class Counsel and the Lead Plaintiffs.

20 23. In the event that the settlement does not become effective in accordance
21 with the terms of the Third Amended Stipulation, or the Effective Date does not occur,
22 then this Judgment shall be rendered null and void to the extent provided in the Third
23 Amended Stipulation, and all previously entered orders of this Court remain in full force
24 and effect until further order by the Court.

The Clerk shall close this file.

26 DATED: October 15, 2007

27 28

25

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

[FIRST AMENDED PROPOSED] FINAL JUDGMENT, James v. Piazza. Case No. CV 05-04532 JW