# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

In re Stericycle, Inc. Securities Litigation

No. 1:16-cv-07145

Judge Andrea R. Wood

**CLASS ACTION** 

# JUDGMENT APPROVING CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, a consolidated class action is pending in this Court captioned *In re Stericycle, Inc. Securities Litigation*, Civil Action No. 1:16-cv-07145 (the "Action");

WHEREAS, (a) lead plaintiffs the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi and the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System (collectively, "Lead Plaintiffs"), on behalf of themselves and the Settlement Class (defined below); (b) defendant Stericycle, Inc. ("Stericycle" or the "Company"); (c) defendants Charles A. Alutto, Dan Ginnetti, Brent Arnold, Frank ten Brink, and Richard Kogler (collectively, the "Officer Defendants"); (d) defendants Mark C. Miller, Jack W. Schuler, Lynn Dorsey Bleil, Thomas D. Brown, Thomas F. Chen, Rodney F. Dammeyer, William K. Hall, John Patience, and Mike S. Zafirovski (collectively, the "Director Defendants" and, together with Stericycle and the Officer Defendants, the "Stericycle Defendants"); and (e) defendants Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC (f/k/a Goldman, Sachs & Co.), J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., MUFG Securities Americas Inc. (f/k/a Mitsubishi UFJ Securities (USA), Inc.), Santander Investment Securities Inc., SMBC Nikko Securities America, Inc., and U.S. Bancorp Investments, Inc. (collectively, the "Underwriter Defendants" and, together with the Stericycle Defendants, the

"Defendants") (Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants, collectively, the "Parties") have entered into a Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated February 14, 2019 (the "Stipulation"), that provides for a complete dismissal with prejudice of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action on the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation, subject to the approval of this Court (the "Settlement");

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

WHEREAS, by Order dated March 12, 2019 (the "Preliminary Approval Order"), this Court: (a) found, pursuant to Rule 23(e)(1)(B) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, that it (i) would likely be able to approve the Settlement as fair, reasonable, and accurate under Rule 23(e)(2) and (ii) would likely be able to certify the Settlement Class for purposes of the Settlement; (b) ordered that notice of the proposed Settlement be provided to potential Settlement Class Members; (c) provided Settlement Class Members with the opportunity either to exclude themselves from the Settlement Class or to object to the proposed Settlement; and (d) scheduled a hearing regarding final approval of the Settlement;

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

WHEREAS, the Court conducted a hearing on July 22, 2019 (the "Settlement Hearing") to consider, among other things, (a) whether the terms and conditions of the Settlement are fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Settlement Class, and should therefore be approved; and (b) whether a judgment should be entered dismissing the Action with prejudice as against the Defendants; and

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

### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

- 1. <u>Jurisdiction</u> The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, and all matters relating to the Settlement, as well as personal jurisdiction over all of the Parties and each of the Settlement Class Members.
- 2. <u>Incorporation of Settlement Documents</u> This Judgment incorporates and makes a part hereof: (a) the Stipulation filed with the Court on February 25, 2019; and (b) the Notice and the Summary Notice, both of which were filed with the Court on June 17, 2019.
- 3. Class Certification for Settlement Purposes The Court hereby certifies for the purposes of the Settlement only, the Action as a class action pursuant to Rules 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of the Settlement Class consisting of all persons or entities who purchased or otherwise acquired publicly-traded Stericycle common stock or publicly-traded Stericycle depositary shares in the open market during the period from February 7, 2013 through February 21, 2018, inclusive (the "Class Period"), including Stericycle depositary shares purchased in or traceable to the public offering of Stericycle depositary shares conducted on or around September 15, 2015, and were damaged thereby. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (i) Defendants; (ii) members of the Immediate Family of any Individual Defendant; (iii) any person who was an Officer or director of Stericycle during the Class Period and any members of their Immediate Family; (iv) any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of Stericycle; (v) any firm, trust, corporation, or other entity in which any Defendant or any other excluded person or entity has, or had during the Class Period, a controlling interest, provided, however, that any Investment Vehicle

shall not be excluded from the Settlement Class; and (vi) the legal representatives, agents, heirs, successors-in-interest, or assigns of any such excluded persons or entities. Also excluded from the Settlement Class are the persons and entities listed on Exhibit 1 hereto who or which are excluded from the Settlement Class pursuant to request.

- 4. Adequacy of Representation Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and for the purposes of the Settlement only, the Court hereby certifies Lead Plaintiffs as Class Representatives for the Settlement Class and appoints Lead Counsel as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have fairly and adequately represented the Settlement Class both in terms of litigating the Action and for purposes of entering into and implementing the Settlement and have satisfied the requirements of Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 23(a)(4) and 23(g), respectively.
- 5. Notice The Court finds that the dissemination of the Notice and the publication of the Summary Notice: (a) were implemented in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order; (b) constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances; (c) constituted notice that was reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Settlement Class Members of (i) the pendency of the Action; (ii) the effect of the proposed Settlement (including the Releases to be provided thereunder); (iii) Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses; (iv) their right to object to any aspect of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses; (v) their right to exclude themselves from the Settlement Class; and (vi) their right to appear at the Settlement Hearing; (d) constituted due, adequate, and sufficient notice to all persons and entities entitled to receive notice of the proposed Settlement; and (e) satisfied the requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the United States Constitution

(including the Due Process Clause), the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, 15 U.S.C. §§ 77z-1, 78u-4, as amended, and all other applicable law and rules.

- 6. Defendants have complied with the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA"), 28 U.S.C. §1715, et seq. Defendants timely mailed notice of the Settlement pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1715(b), including notices to the Attorney General of the United States of America, and the Attorneys General of each State. The CAFA notice contains the documents and information required by 28 U.S.C. §1715(b)(1)-(8). The Court finds that Defendants have complied in all respects with the requirements of 28 U.S.C. §1715.
- 7. Final Settlement Approval and Dismissal of Claims – Pursuant to, and in accordance with, Rule 23(e)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, this Court hereby fully and finally approves the Settlement set forth in the Stipulation in all respects (including, without limitation: the amount of the Settlement; the Releases provided for therein; and the dismissal with prejudice of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action), and finds that the Settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Settlement Class. Specifically, the Court finds that: (a) Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have adequately represented the Settlement Class; (b) the Settlement was negotiated by the Parties at arm's length; (c) the relief provided for the Settlement Class under the Settlement is adequate taking into account the costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal; the proposed means of distributing the Settlement Fund to the Settlement Class; and the proposed attorneys' fee award; and (d) the Settlement treats members of the Settlement Class equitably relative to each other. There was one objection to the Settlement, filed by Benjamin Brown. The Court has considered the objection filed by Mr. Brown and it is denied. The Parties are directed to implement, perform, and consummate the Settlement in accordance with the terms and provisions contained in the Stipulation.

- 8. The Action and all of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action by Lead Plaintiffs and the other Settlement Class Members are hereby dismissed with prejudice. The Parties shall bear their own costs and expenses, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Stipulation.
- 9. <u>Binding Effect</u> The terms of the Stipulation and of this Judgment shall be forever binding on Defendants, Lead Plaintiffs, and all other Settlement Class Members (regardless of whether or not any individual Settlement Class Member submits a Claim Form or seeks or obtains a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund), as well as their respective successors and assigns. The persons and entities listed on Exhibit 1 hereto are excluded from the Settlement Class pursuant to request and are not bound by the terms of the Stipulation or this Judgment.
- 10. <u>Releases</u> The Releases set forth in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Stipulation, together with the definitions contained in paragraph 1 of the Stipulation relating thereto, are expressly incorporated herein in all respects. The Releases are effective as of the Effective Date. Accordingly, this Court orders that:
- (a) Without further action by anyone, and subject to paragraph 11 below, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs and each of the other Settlement Class Members, on behalf of themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns in their capacities as such, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Plaintiffs' Claim (including, without limitation, Unknown Claims) against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims (including, without limitation, Unknown Claims) against any of the Defendants'

Releasees. This Release shall not apply to the Excluded Plaintiffs' Claims (as that term is defined in paragraph 1(00) of the Stipulation).

- (b) Without further action by anyone, and subject to paragraph 11 below, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Defendants, on behalf of themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns in their capacities as such, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Defendants' Claim (including, without limitation, Unknown Claims) against Lead Plaintiffs and the other Plaintiffs' Releasees, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Defendants' Claims (including, without limitation, Unknown Claims) against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees. This Release shall not apply to the Excluded Defendants' Claims (as that term is defined in paragraph 1(nn) of the Stipulation).
- 11. Notwithstanding paragraphs 10(a) (b) above, nothing in this Judgment shall bar any action by any of the Parties to enforce or effectuate the terms of the Stipulation or this Judgment.
- 12. Rule 11 Findings The Court finds and concludes that the Parties and their respective counsel have complied in all respects with the requirements of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in connection with the institution, prosecution, defense, and settlement of the Action.
- 13. <u>No Admissions</u> Neither this Judgment, the Term Sheet, the Stipulation (whether or not consummated), including the exhibits thereto and the Plan of Allocation contained therein (or any other plan of allocation that may be approved by the Court), the negotiations leading to the execution of the Term Sheet and the Stipulation, nor any proceedings taken pursuant to or in

connection with the Term Sheet, the Stipulation, and/or approval of the Settlement (including any arguments proffered in connection therewith):

- (a) shall be offered against any of the Defendants' Releasees as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Defendants' Releasees with respect to the truth of any fact alleged by Lead Plaintiffs or the validity of any claim that was or could have been asserted or the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in this Action or in any other litigation, or of any liability, negligence, fault, or other wrongdoing of any kind of any of the Defendants' Releasees or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Defendants' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Stipulation;
- (b) shall be offered against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees, as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees that any of their claims are without merit, that any of the Defendants' Releasees had meritorious defenses, or that damages recoverable under the Complaint would not have exceeded the Settlement Amount or with respect to any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind, or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Plaintiffs' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Stipulation;
- (c) shall be construed against any of the Releasees as an admission, concession, or presumption that the consideration to be given hereunder represents the amount which could be or would have been recovered after trial; or

- (d) shall be deemed to be, and shall not be argued to be or offered or received as evidence of, or construed as evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission that class certification is appropriate in this Action, except for purposes of this Settlement, *provided*, *however*, that the Parties and the Releasees and their respective counsel may refer to this Judgment and the Stipulation to effectuate the protections from liability granted hereunder and thereunder or otherwise to enforce the terms of the Settlement.
- 14. <u>Finality of Judgment</u> Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the Defendants' Releasees and their respective counsel may refer to or file the Stipulation and/or this Judgment in any action that may be brought against them in order to support a defense, claim, or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim or otherwise to enforce the terms of the Settlement.
- 15. **Retention of Jurisdiction** Without affecting the finality of this Judgment in any way, this Court retains continuing and exclusive jurisdiction over: (a) the Parties for purposes of the administration, interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of the Settlement; (b) the disposition of the Settlement Fund; (c) any motion for an award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses by Lead Counsel in the Action that will be paid from the Settlement Fund; (d) any motion to approve the Plan of Allocation; (e) any motion to approve the Class Distribution Order; and (f) the Settlement Class Members for all matters relating to the Action.
- 16. Separate orders shall be entered regarding approval of a plan of allocation and the motion of Lead Counsel for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses. Such orders shall in no way affect or delay the finality of this Judgment and shall not affect or delay the Effective Date of the Settlement.

- 17. <u>Modification of the Agreement of Settlement</u> Without further approval from the Court, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants are hereby authorized to agree to and adopt such amendments or modifications of the Stipulation or any exhibits attached thereto to effectuate the Settlement that: (a) are not materially inconsistent with this Judgment; and (b) do not materially limit the rights of Settlement Class Members in connection with the Settlement. Without further order of the Court, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants may agree to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any provisions of the Settlement.
- 18. Termination of Settlement If the Settlement is terminated as provided in the Stipulation or the Effective Date of the Settlement otherwise fails to occur, this Judgment shall be vacated, rendered null and void and be of no further force and effect, except as otherwise provided by the Stipulation, and this Judgment shall be without prejudice to the rights of Lead Plaintiffs, the other Settlement Class Members, and Defendants, and the Parties shall revert to their respective positions in the Action as of immediately prior to the execution of the Term Sheet on December 6, 2018, as provided in the Stipulation.
- 19. **Entry of Final Judgment** There is no just reason to delay the entry of this Judgment as a final judgment in this Action. Accordingly, the Clerk of the Court is expressly directed to immediately enter this final judgment in this Action.

20. <u>Satisfaction of Judgment</u> – The Court finds that Defendants have satisfied their financial obligations under the Stipulation by paying or causing to be paid \$45,000,000.00 in cash to the Settlement Fund.

SO ORDERED this 12th day of August, 2019.

The Honorable Andrea R. Wood United States District Judge

#### Exhibit 1

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

- 1. Rex A. Sipplett and Sue E. Shipplett West Lafayette, IN
- 2. Louise S. Soucy Watertown, MA
- 3. Ole Steffen Singapore
- 4. Joyce E. Cialkowski South Holland, IL
- 5. Rei R. Noguchi Northridge, CA
- 6. HealthCor Offshore Master Fund, L.P. HealthCor Sanatate Offshore Master Fund, L.P.
- The Alger Funds 7. The Alger Funds II The Alger Institutional Funds The Alger Portfolios Alger SICAV Alger Collective Trust Capital **Appreciation Series** Alger Associates, Inc. Alger Dynamic Return Fund, LLC Alger Spectra Fund Alger Mid Cap Focus Fund Alger Dynamic Opportunities Fund Alger Mid Cap Growth Institutional Fund Alger Focus Equity Fund Alger Capital Appreciation **Institutional Fund** Alger Capital Appreciation Fund Alger Mid Cap Growth Fund Alger International Focus Fund Alger Large Cap Growth Portfolio Alger Midcap Growth Portfolios Alger Capital Appreciation Portfolio Alger Balanced-Equity Portfolio Alger American Asset Growth Fund Alger Dynamic Opportunities Fund AAI Focus Equity SMA Wrap Seed
- 8. Donna Fantozzi Chicago, IL

New York, NY