Schraner v. Northeast Revenue Service, LLC Settlement Administrator P.O. Box 2973 Portland OR 97208-2973

## Court of Common Pleas of Lackawanna County

## $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS} \\ \underline{\textbf{SETTLEMENT}} \end{array}$

If you paid Northeast Revenue Services, LLC for Penalties, Interest or Costs over the Face Amount for delinquent Refuse Fees, a proposed class action settlement may affect your rights and entitle you to cash compensation.

This is not a lawyer solicitation.

A \$2.5 million proposed Settlement was reached in a class action lawsuit filed by Plaintiffs against Northeast Revenue Service, LLC ("NERS") as the Refuse Fee debt collector for the City of Scranton, Pennsylvania ("Scranton") in Lackawanna Court of Common Pleas (the "Court"). The lawsuit alleged NERS imposed and collected Penalties, Interest, and Costs over the Face Amount of the Refuse Fee that violated the Municipal Claims and Tax Liens Law, 53 P.S. § 7101, et seq. The Court has not decided who is right or wrong. Rather, to avoid the time, expense, and uncertainty of going forward with the case, the parties have agreed to settle. The Settlement has been preliminarily approved by the Court.

- (1) <u>Damages Class Relief:</u> As a member of the Damages Class, you may receive a *pro rata* payment from the Settlement Fund for a percentage of the Refuse Fee Penalties, Interest, and Costs you paid that was more than the Face Amount of the Refuse Fee you owed. The gross Settlement Fund represents over 70% of the overpayments allegedly made by the Damages Class.
- (2) Declaratory Relief Class Relief: As a member of the Declaratory Relief Class, your unpaid delinquent Refuse Fee Penalties, Interest and/or Costs will be forgiven and forever discharged pursuant to the Scranton Lien Forgiveness Program. It is estimated that the Scranton Lien Forgiveness Program will eliminate over \$7.5 million in unpaid Penalties, Interest and Costsover the Face Amount of the Refuse Fees owed by the Declaratory Relief Class. The Declaratory Relief Class did not pay the delinquent Refuse Fee Penalties, Interest and/or Costs alleged to be unlawful, so the Declaratory Relief Class will not receive a payment from the Settlement Fund.

<u>To Opt-Out:</u> If you do not wish to participate in the proposed Settlement, you must exclude yourself on or before July 5, 2023.

To Object: If you wish to object to the proposed Settlement, you must take specific steps on or before July 5, 2023.

The Court will hold a hearing on August 24, 2023 to consider whether to approve the Settlement and Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees up to one-third of the \$2.5 million Settlement Fund, plus litigation expenses, which will be paid from the Settlement Fund. The Court will also consider a Service Award of up to \$2,500.00 for each Class Representative. You can appear at the hearing, but you do not have to. If you want to, you can hire your own attorney, at your own expense, to appear for you at the hearing. If the Court approves the proposed Settlement, which excludes claims for personal injury and property damage, you will not be able to sue for similar claims if you remain in the Class.

For more information, visit www.ScrantonFeesClassAction.com or call toll-free 1-888-497-4384.

Para una notificación en Español, visitar www.ScrantonFeesClassAction.com.