SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Agreement is entered into by and between: (1) the proposed Settlement Class Representatives, for themselves and on behalf of the Settlement Class; and (2) Defendant. (All capitalized terms used herein are as defined in Section 2.)

#### 1. RECITALS

- 1.1 The Settlement Class Representatives believe that the Settled Claims have merit. However, the Settlement Class Representatives and Settlement Class Counsel recognize and acknowledge the expense and length of continued proceedings necessary to prosecute the claims through trial, appeals, and ancillary actions. They also have taken into account the uncertain outcome and the risk of any litigation, as well as the difficulties and delays inherent in such litigation. They believe that the settlement set forth in this Agreement confers substantial benefits upon the Settlement Class. Based upon their evaluation, they have determined that the settlement set forth in this Agreement is in the best interest of the Settlement Class.
- 1.2 Defendant has denied and continues to deny all liability with respect to any and all of the Settled Claims or the facts alleged in support thereof and has denied and continues to deny all charges of wrongdoing or liability against it arising out of or relating to any conduct, acts, or omissions alleged or that could have been alleged in the Action. Defendant's willingness to resolve the Settled Claims on the terms and conditions embodied in this Agreement is based on, among other things: (1) the time and expense associated with litigating the Settled Claims through trials and any appeals; (2) the benefits of resolving the Settled Claims, including limiting further expense, inconvenience, and distraction, disposing of burdensome litigation, and permitting Defendant to conduct its business unhampered by the distractions of continued litigation; and (3) the uncertainty and risks inherent in any litigation.
- 1.3 This Agreement is the product of extensive, arm's-length, and vigorously-contested settlement discussions. Before and during these settlement discussions, the Parties had an arm's-length exchange of sufficient information to permit the Settlement Class Representatives and Settlement Class Counsel to evaluate the claims and potential defenses and to meaningfully conduct informed settlement discussions.

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Based upon the discovery and investigation to date and an evaluation of the facts

1.5 NOW THEREFORE, subject to Court approval, as hereinafter provided, it is hereby stipulated and agreed by the Parties that, in consideration of the promises and covenants set forth in this Agreement, this Action shall be settled and compromised upon the terms and conditions contained herein.

#### 2. **DEFINITIONS**

The definitions contained herein shall apply only to this Agreement and shall not apply to any other agreement, including, without limitation, any other settlement agreement, nor shall they be used as evidence, except with respect to this Agreement, of the meaning of any term.

Furthermore, each defined term stated in a singular form shall include the plural form, and each defined term stated in a plural form shall include the singular form. As used in this Agreement, in addition to any definitions elsewhere in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

- 2.1 "Action" means and refers to the proposed class action lawsuit filed by Brian Nowe and Mary Allen Wilson Tondee against Essex Technology Group, LLC (dba Bargain Hunt) in Muscogee County State Court.
  - **2.2** "Agreement" means and refers to this settlement agreement.

- **2.3** "Claim Form" means and refers to the claim form substantially in the form of Exhibit 1 hereto and approved by the Court.
- 2.4 "Claims Period" means and refers to the 90-day time period during which Settlement Class members may submit a completed Claim Form, which period shall be for 90 consecutive days and conclude not more than 30 days after the final approval hearing. If the Claims Period ends on a weekend or holiday, the Claims Period shall extend to the next business day. The Claims Period shall be set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order.
  - **2.5** "Court" means and refers to the Muscogee County State Court.
- 2.6 "Defendant" means and refers to Essex Technology Group, LLC (dba BargainHunt).
- **2.7** "Email Notice" means and refers to the email notice substantially in the form of Exhibit 2 hereto and approved by the Court.
- **2.8** "Final Approval Order" means and refers to the Court's judgment and order(s) granting final approval of the settlement and awarding attorneys' fees and costs/expenses. A proposed Final Approval Order is attached as Exhibit 5 hereto.
- 2.9 "Final Effective Date" means and refers to the latest of the following: (1) the date of final affirmance of the Final Approval Order following any and all appeals of such Order; (2) the date of final dismissal with prejudice of any and all appeals from the Final Approval Order; and (3) if no appeal is filed, the expiration date of the time for filing or noticing any valid appeal from the Final Approval Order.
- **2.10** "Long Form Notice" means and refers to the full notice substantially in the form of Exhibit 3 hereto and approved by the Court.
  - **2.11** "Mail Notice" means and refers to the postcard notice approved by the Court.
- 2.12 "Net Settlement Proceeds" means and refers to the maximum settlement amount (\$2,000,000) less the following amounts: (1) the awarded Settlement Class Counsel attorneys' fees and costs/expenses; (2) the awarded Settlement Class Representatives' incentive payments; and (3) the Settlement Administrator costs.
  - 2.13 "Notice Program" means and refers to the notice procedures set forth in Section 6.

- **2.14 "Opt Out Period"** means and refers to the 45-day period of time during which Settlement Class members may exercise the right to opt out of the Settlement Class pursuant to the provisions of Section 7. The Opt Out Period shall be set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order.
- 2.15 "Participating Claimants" means and refers to members of the Settlement Class who submit complete Claim Forms during the Claims Period and who are eligible for benefits under this Agreement.
  - **2.16** "Parties" means and refers to Defendant and the Settlement Class.
- **2.17** "**Person**" means and refers to any individual, proprietorship, corporation, partnership, association, trustee, unincorporated association, or any other type of legal entity.
- **2.18 "Preliminary Approval Order"** means and refers to the Court's order granting preliminary approval of this Agreement following the motion referenced in Section 5.1. A proposed Preliminary Approval Order is attached as Exhibit 4 hereto.
- **2.19 "Releasing Parties"** means and refers to the Settlement Class and its members, and any other Persons or entities claiming by or through the Settlement Class, including agents, attorneys, partners, joint venturers, affiliates, predecessors, successors, spouses, heirs, assigns, insurers, in their capacities as such.
  - **2.20** "Released Parties" means and refers to Defendant and all other Persons.
- **2.21 "Settlement Administrator(s)"** means and refers to the administrator approved by the Parties and the Court to implement the Notice Program and administer the settlement.
- 2.22 "Settled Claims" means and refers to any claim, liability, right, demand, suit, matter, obligation, lien, damage, punitive damage, exemplary damage, penalty, loss, cost, expense, debt, action, or cause of action, of every kind and/or nature whatsoever whether now known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, asserted or unasserted, latent or patent, which any Releasing Party now has, or at any time ever had, regardless of legal theory or type or amount of relief or damages claimed, which: (1) in any way arises out of or is based on a Bargain Hunt store printing more than the last 5 digits of a credit card or debit card number upon any receipt provided to the cardholder at the point of sale or transaction between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 and/or (2) is asserted in and based on the factual allegations in the Complaint filed in this Action.

- 2.23 "Settlement Class" means and refers to all consumers who, at any time between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, were provided an electronically-printed receipt with more than the last 5 digits of a credit card or debit card number at the point of a sale or transaction at any Bargain Hunt store. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (1) all Persons who properly and timely opt out pursuant to this Agreement; and (2) the judge to whom this Action is assigned and any member of his or her immediate family.
- **2.24 "Settlement Class Counsel"** means and refers to Charles Austin Gower, Jr. and Shaun Patrick O'Hara of Charles A. Gower PC, Chant Yedalian of Chant & Company A Professional Law Corporation, and William Dixon James of Wm. Dixon James, P.C.
- **2.25 "Settlement Class Representatives"** mean and refer to Brian Nowe and Mary Allen Wilson Tondee.
- **2.26** "Settlement Fund" means and refers to the proceeds that are provided to the Settlement Administrator to pay for the monetary obligations under this Agreement.
- 2.27 "Settlement Orders" mean and refer to the orders entered to implement the terms of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, the Preliminary Approval Order and the Final Approval Order.

#### 3. SETTLEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

- **3.1 General.** This Agreement is for settlement purposes only.
- anything else related to this Agreement, its implementation, or its judicial approval (as well as the fact of this settlement and any acts or documents related to the settlement or its implementation) shall not be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of, any admission or concession by any of the Parties regarding the claims in dispute. By entering into this Agreement, it is understood that the Released Persons do not admit and expressly deny that they have breached any duty, obligation, or agreement; deny that they have engaged in any illegal, tortious, or wrongful activity; deny that they are liable to any member of the Settlement Class or any other Person; and/or deny that any damages have been sustained by any member of the Settlement Class or by any other Person in any way arising out of or relating to Defendant's conduct. Except as provided in this Agreement,

this Agreement, any negotiations, proceedings, documents, or anything else related to this Agreement, its implementation, or its judicial approval (as well as the fact of this settlement and any acts or documents related to the settlement or its implementation) shall not be construed as, or deemed to be evidence of, any admission or concession by any of the parties or any other Person regarding any matter, including, without limitation, the absence or presence of liability, the absence or presence of damage, or the propriety or impropriety of class treatment.

Agreement, any negotiations, proceedings, or documents related to the Agreement, its implementation, or its judicial approval (as well as the fact of this Agreement and any acts or documents related to the Agreement or its implementation) cannot be asserted or used by any Person to support a contention that class certification is proper or improper or that liability does or does not exist, or for any other reason, in the Action or in any other proceedings; provided, however, that Settlement Class members, Settlement Class Counsel, Defendant, other Released Persons, and any Person who is the beneficiary of a release set forth herein, may reference and file this Agreement, and any resulting Order or Judgment, with the Court, or any other tribunal or proceeding, in connection with the implementation or enforcement of its terms (including but not limited to the releases granted therein, or any dispute related thereto).

#### 4. **JURISDICTION**

4.1 Continuing Jurisdiction. The Parties agree that the Court has, and shall continue to have, jurisdiction to make any orders as may be appropriate to effectuate, consummate, and enforce the terms of this Agreement, to approve awards of attorneys' fees and costs pursuant hereto, and to supervise the administration of this Agreement. Except for those matters specifically identified in this Agreement as being subjects for decision by the Settlement Administrator, and any other claims-related matters which Settlement Class Counsel and Defendant later agree in writing to refer to the Settlement Administrator, any dispute or question relating to or concerning the interpretation, enforcement, or application of this Agreement shall be presented to the Court for resolution.

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#### 5. COURT APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT

5.1 Preliminary Approval. Promptly after the execution of this Agreement,
Settlement Class Counsel shall move the Court for an order granting preliminary approval of this
Agreement and approval of the Notice Program. In connection therewith, Settlement Class
Counsel shall submit to the Court a mutually-acceptable proposed Preliminary Approval Order.

5.2 **Objection Period.** Subject to Court approval, Settlement Class members shall have 45 days following the commencement of the Notice Program to submit objections to this Agreement. Any Settlement Class member, on his or her own, or through an attorney hired at his or her own expense, may object to the terms of the settlement. To be effective, any such objection must be in writing, mailed to the Settlement Administrator with a timely postmark, and include: (1) a reference at the beginning to this matter, Nowe, et al. v. Essex Technology Group, LLC; (2) the objector's full name, address, and telephone number, and, if available, email address; (3) proof of Settlement Class membership consisting of the original or a copy of either (i) a customer receipt containing more than the last 5 digits of his or her credit or debit card showing that he or she made a transaction at a Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, or (ii) a credit or debit card statement showing that he or she made a transaction at a Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017; (4) a written statement of all grounds for the objection, accompanied by any legal support for such objection; (5) copies of any papers, briefs, or other documents upon which the objection is based; (6) a list of all persons who will be called to testify in support of the objection; (7) a statement of whether the objector intends to appear at the fairness hearing; if the objector intends to appear at the fairness hearing through counsel, the objection must also state the identity of all attorneys representing the objector who will appear at the fairness hearing; (8) regarding any counsel who represents the objector or has a financial interest in the objection: (i) a list of cases in which the objector's counsel and/or counsel's law firm have objected to a class action settlement within the preceding five years, and (ii) a copy of any orders concerning a ruling upon counsel's or the firm's prior objections that were issued by the trial and/or appellate courts in each listed case; (9) a statement by the objector under oath that: (i) he or she has read the objection in its entirety, (ii) he or she is a member of the Settlement Class, (iii)

states the number of times in which the objector has objected to a class action settlement within the five years preceding the date that the objector submitted the objection, (iv) identifies the caption of each case in which the objector has made such objection, and (v) authenticates any orders concerning a ruling upon the objector's prior such objections that were issued by the trial and/or appellate courts in each listed case, attaching such orders to the statement. Any Settlement Class member who fails to timely submit a written objection containing all of the information listed in the items (1) through (9) of this paragraph, including notice of his/her intent to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, shall not be permitted to object to the settlement and shall be foreclosed from seeking any review of the settlement or the terms of the Agreement by any means, including, but not limited to, an appeal. Any Settlement Class member who submits a timely written objection shall consent to deposition at the request of Settlement Class Counsel or Defendant's counsel, to occur at least 5 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing.

5.3 Opt Out Period. Subject to Court approval, Settlement Class members shall have 45 days following the commencement of the Notice Program to opt out of the Settlement Class and this Agreement. If a Settlement Class member submits both a Claim Form and an opt-out request, the Claim Form shall take precedence and shall be considered valid and binding, and the opt-out request shall be deemed to have been sent by mistake and rejected. So-called "mass" or "class" opt-outs shall not be allowed. The Class Representatives affirmatively support this settlement and agree not to opt-out of this Settlement. None of Settlement Class Counsel, Settlement Class Representatives, or Defendant shall in any way encourage any Settlement Class member to opt-out or discourage any Settlement Class member from participating in this Settlement.

- **5.4 Final Approval.** After the expiration of the Opt Out Period, if the Agreement has not been terminated in accordance with Section 8, Settlement Class Counsel shall move the Court for final approval of this Agreement. In connection therewith, Settlement Class Counsel shall submit to the Court a mutually-acceptable proposed Final Approval Order.
- **5.5 Intervening Changes.** The Parties agree that this Agreement is fair, adequate, and reasonable based on the status of the law as of the date of execution and that they will support

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approval. The Parties agree that the validity, fairness, and enforceability this Agreement shall not be affected by any future change, modification, reversal, or clarification of the law or by any ruling in any other matter (including, but not limited to, any decision by the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit in *Muransky v. Godiva Chocolatier, Inc.*, No. 16-16486 (11th Cir.)), nor shall any such change, modification, reversal, clarification, or ruling provide either of the Parties with grounds to terminate this settlement or to oppose preliminary or final approval of the Settlement.

#### 6. CLASS NOTICE PROCEDURES

**Long Form Notice.** The Long Form Notice shall: (1) inform the Settlement Class 6.1 members that, if they do not opt out from the settlement, they may be eligible to receive a monetary benefit; (2) contain a short, plain statement of the background of this Action, the proposed settlement, and the certification of the Settlement Class for settlement purposes; (3) describe the proposed settlement relief outlined in this Agreement; (4) state that the proposed settlement benefits are contingent on the Court's entry of the Final Approval Order; (5) inform Settlement Class members that they may opt out or exclude themselves from the Settlement Class by submitting a written exclusion request no later than 45 days after the commencement of the Notice Program; (6) inform Settlement Class members that, if they do not opt out, they may, if they desire, object to the proposed settlement by filing and serving a written statement of objections no later than 45 days after the commencement of the Notice Program; (7) inform Settlement Class members that they may appear at the Final Approval Hearing; (8) inform Settlement Class members that any judgment entered in this Action, whether favorable or unfavorable to the Settlement Class, will be binding on all Settlement Class members who have not excluded themselves from the Settlement Class, even if they have objected to the proposed settlement and even if they have any other claim, lawsuit, or proceeding pending against any of the Released Parties; and (9) explain that Settlement Class members who have not timely submitted a written opt out request may submit a Claim Form seeking a monetary benefit during the Claims Period.

- Approval Order, Defendant shall submit to the Settlement Administrator the name, email address, and mailing address of each known potential Settlement Class member. Within 10 days after receipt of this information, the Settlement Administrator and/or its designee shall run a national change of address update on the mailing addresses. The Settlement Administrator shall then send the Email Notice to each known potential Settlement Class member with an available email address. The Settlement Administrator shall send the Mail Notice to potential Settlement Class members whose Email address is unavailable or whose Email Notice is returned as undeliverable, but only if the Settlement Administrator is able to locate a current postal address for any such potential Settlement Class members.
- **6.3 Publication Notice.** As close as reasonably practicable to the initiation of the Email Notice, the Settlement Administrator or its designee shall commence publishing a summary notice approved by the Court in one or more newspapers approved by the Court.
- **6.4 Internet Notice.** As close as reasonably practicable to the initiation of the Email Notice, the Settlement Administrator will implement a digital notice campaign that is designed by the Settlement Administrator and approved by the Court.
- 6.5 Settlement Website. Prior to the commencement of the Email, Postcard, publication, and Internet Notice, the Settlement Administrator shall establish a settlement website capable of providing generalized information, including this Agreement, applicable deadlines, the identity of Settlement Class Counsel, the Long Form Notice, the Preliminary Approval Order, FAQs, and the Claim Form. The website shall be maintained by the Settlement Administrator until 60 days after the distribution of the monetary benefits to Participating Claimants.
- 6.6 Settlement Hotline. The Settlement Administrator shall maintain a call center with a voice recorded interactive voice response system providing straightforward and user-friendly answers to frequently asked questions about class action settlements generally and information about the Action, the settlement, and relevant documents. The hotline shall be maintained by the Settlement Administrator until 60 days after the distribution of the monetary benefits to Participating Claimants.

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#### RIGHT OF EXCLUSION

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6.7 **Costs Of The Notice Program.** The cost of the Notice Program shall be paid from the settlement proceeds.

**6.8 Records Of The Notice Program.** The Settlement Administrator shall keep records of all notices and the costs thereof.

#### 7.

7.1 Procedure. Settlement Class members may opt out of the Settlement Class at any time during the Opt Out Period. To exercise the opt out right set forth in this Section, a Settlement Class member must send to the Settlement Administrator a written request for exclusion, which request should contain the Settlement Class member's name, address, and telephone number. Such request for exclusion must be postmarked before the end of the Opt Out Period. All Settlement Class members who do not opt out in accordance with this Agreement during the Opt Out Period will be deemed Settlement Class members for all purposes under this Agreement. Any Person who timely opts out shall no longer be a Settlement Class member, is not entitled to object to the approval of this Agreement, and is not entitled to any relief under and is not affected by this Agreement.

7.2 Withdrawal Of Election To Opt Out. Prior to the entry of the Final Approval Order, any Person who has elected to opt out may withdraw that election by notifying the Settlement Administrator in writing that he/she/it wants to be a member of the Settlement Class. The Settlement Administrator shall maintain records of all withdrawn opt outs, and shall provide such information to the Parties and to the Court. At any time after the entry of the Final Approval Order, any Person who has elected to opt out of this Agreement may withdraw that election only upon receiving the written consent of Defendant and Court approval.

#### SETTLEMENT TERMINATION

8.1 **Prior To The Final Effective Date.** If any court does not approve and/or does not honor this Agreement and/or denies the Parties' motion to enter any or all of the Settlement Orders in a form that limits the release or increases the cost of the Settlement to Defendant, Settlement Class Counsel and/or Defendant shall have the right to terminate this Agreement as set forth in Section 8.4.

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- 8.3 **Termination After Appeal.** If a court declares unenforceable, reverses, vacates, or modifies on appeal in a material way any aspect of this Agreement (other than the amount of Settlement Class Counsel attorneys' fees and/or costs/expenses or Settlement Class Representatives' incentive payments) Settlement Class Counsel and/or Defendant may terminate this Agreement as set forth in Section 8.4.
- 8.4 **Termination Procedure And Effect.** Any Party who seeks to terminate this Agreement pursuant to Sections 8.1, 8.2, or 8.3 shall give written notice of such intention to the other Party's counsel and to the Settlement Administrator. Notice of intent to terminate pursuant to Sections 8.1 or 8.3 must be given prior to the Final Effective Date. Notice of intent to terminate pursuant to Section 8.2 must be given within 60 days after the expiration of the Opt Out Period, or prior to the Final Approval hearing, whichever is earlier. Within 30 days after notice of an intent to terminate, the Parties' counsel shall confer in good faith to try to resolve the potential basis for termination. In the event that the good faith efforts are unsuccessful, the Party who received the notice of intent to terminate may provide written notice to the other Party within 45 days after receipt of such notice that it disputes whether there is a proper basis for termination. In the event that a written dispute is served, the Parties hereby agree that the Honorable Peter D. Lichtman (Ret.) shall mediate the dispute and, if necessary, shall resolve the dispute and issue a final, binding, and non-appealable decision as to whether any Party is entitled to terminate this Agreement. In the event that Judge Lichtman is unavailable, and the Parties are unable to agree on a substitute, a substitute neutral shall be selected using the then-applicable JAMS process for selecting a neutral. The neutral's fees shall be paid from the Settlement Fund. Settlement Class Counsel and Defendant may agree in writing to extend any of the foregoing deadlines. The termination of this Agreement for any of the foregoing reasons shall void all of the rights, obligations, and releases under this Agreement, except for Sections 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, and those provisions of this Agreement that are necessary to effectuate the termination. Within 30 days after

termination, the Settlement Administrator shall return any and all unexpended settlement payments made pursuant to this Agreement.

#### 9. SETTLEMENT FUNDING AND DISTRIBUTION

- 9.1 Funding For Initial Costs Of Notice And Administration Upon Preliminary Approval. Within 20 calendar days after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, Defendant shall wire to the Settlement Administrator funds that are sufficient to cover the initial notice and administration expenses that are likely to be incurred. This deadline may be extended by mutual consent of the Parties.
- 9.2 Funding For Payment Of Attorneys' Fees, Costs/Expenses, And Incentive Award. Defendant shall wire to the Settlement Administrator the sums necessary to timely make the payments of attorneys' fees, costs/expenses, and incentive awards in accordance with Section 12. The deadlines may be extended by mutual consent of the Parties.
- 9.3 Funding For Distribution Of Class Benefits And Additional Administration Costs. Within 20 days after the resolution of any objections pursuant to Section 10.11 Defendant shall wire to the Settlement Administrator the sum necessary to pay the class benefits pursuant to Section 10.12. Within 30 days after the receipt of an invoice from the Settlement Administrator for additional administration costs, Defendant shall wire to the Settlement Administrator the sum necessary to pay such invoice.
- 9.4 Interest On The Settlement Fund. All interest generated by the monies in the Settlement Fund shall be deemed and credited as a payment by Defendant.
- 9.5 Maximum Funding. The maximum funding obligation under this Agreement is \$2,000,000, and all payments made pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed and credited as a payment by Defendant toward this maximum amount.
- 9.6 Cy Pres. In the event the total monetary benefits awarded to Participating Claimants is less than \$200,000, the remainder (less any amount of Settlement Administrator costs in excess of \$185,000) shall be distributed to one or more non-profit organizations approved by the Court. In the event that the total amount of the Settlement Administrator costs are less than \$185,000, the remainder shall be added to the \$200,000 floor referenced in this paragraph. For

illustration purposes, if \$180,000 is awarded to Participating Claimants and the total Settlement 1 2 Administrator costs are \$190,000, then \$15,000 (i.e., \$20,000 remainder less \$5,000 excess) shall 3 be distributed. If \$190,000 is awarded to Participating Claimants and the total Settlement 4 Administrator costs are \$180,000, then \$15,000 shall be distributed. 5 **10. MONETARY BENEFITS** 6 **Settlement Administrator.** Subject to Court approval, Heffler Claims Group shall 10.1 be the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall have the sole authority to 7 8 administer the settlement. The Settlement Administrator shall carry out its duties in strict 9 accordance with the procedures set forth in this Agreement, and any Party may move the Court to 10 compel such compliance. 11 10.2 Maintenance Of Records. The Settlement Administrator shall maintain complete, 12 accurate, and detailed records regarding the administration of the Settlement Fund. 13 10.3 **Settlement Fund Costs.** All reasonable and necessary costs of administering the 14 settlement shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund. 15 10.4 **Submission Of Claims.** At any time prior to the expiration of the Claims Period, 16 members of the Settlement Class may submit a Claim Form to the Settlement Administrator by 17 mail or online pursuant to the directions on the Claim Form. 18 10.5 Collection Of Claims. The Settlement Administrator shall collect and log the 19 Claim Forms postmarked before expiration of the Claims Period. 20 10.6 **Evaluation Of Claims.** Within 20 days after the Final Effective Date, the 21 Settlement Administrator shall determine whether each collected Claim Form submitted during the 22 Claims Period is properly completed. If a Claim Form is not complete, the Settlement 23 Administrator shall provide a written notice to the claimant. The Settlement Administrator may 24 request additional information from the claimant to validate the claim, including, but not limited 25 to, questions regarding the validity or legitimacy of the physical or e-signature or the proof of 26 eligibility. 27 Any submission in response to a request from the Settlement Administrator shall be 10.7

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submitted within 30 calendar days of the date of the notice from the Settlement Administrator. To

avoid unreasonable delays for those who submit fully complete and valid Claim Forms with the required proof of eligibility, the Settlement Administrator shall deny any claims that are not fully cured during this 30-day period.

10.8 Determination Of Benefits For Claims. Promptly after the completion of the evaluation described in Section 10.6 (including evaluation of attempts to cure deficiencies), the Settlement Administrator shall determine the proposed monetary benefits as follows:

10.8.1 A single benefit of \$100 (unless that amount is reduced pursuant to Section 10.8.4) will be awarded to each Settlement Class member who submits a timely and complete Claim Form and either: (1) the original or copy of a qualifying receipt for a purchase from Bargain Hunt between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 that shows more than the last 5 digits of his or her credit card or debit card; or (2) the original or copy of a credit card or debit card statement that shows the Participating Claimant's first and last name and a purchase from Bargain Hunt between August 1, 2016, and June 30, 2017.

10.8.2 The maximum monetary benefit per Person is \$100, regardless of the number of Claim Forms submitted and regardless of the number of transactions during the class period.

10.8.3 To prevent the payment of fraudulent claims and to pay only valid claims, the Settlement Administrator will use adequate and customary procedures and standards, including, without limitation: (1) tracking claim forms with unique security identifiers or control numbers issued to persons who seek to file a Claim Form; (2) screening that each Claim Form has a valid security code or control number; (3) screening for duplicate claims or Settlement Class members seeking more than one cash payment; (4) ensuring that each Settlement Class member has provided complete, truthful, and accurate information on the initial submission of the Claim Form; and (5) reviewing claims for evidence of fraud. Claim Forms must not be submitted en masse, by a third-party or with the Claim Forms of any other Settlement Class Member or other natural person or entity. The Settlement Administrator and the Parties shall have the right to audit claims and the Settlement Administrator may request additional information from claimants, including by cross-examination, necessary to validate claims and/or reject a Claim Form where—

in the Settlement Administrator's sole discretion and judgment—there is evidence or suspicion of 1 2 fraud. If any fraud is detected or reasonably suspected, the Settlement Administrator and the 3 Parties can require information from the Settlement Class Members (including by cross-4 examination) or deny claims, subject to the supervision of the Parties and ultimate oversight by the 5 Court. The Settlement Administrator shall approve or deny all Claims, and its decision shall be 6 final and binding, except that Plaintiffs' counsel and Defendants shall have the right to audit 7 claims and to challenge the Settlement Administrator's decision by motion to the Court. 8 Defendant's choice not to audit the validity of any one or more Claim Forms shall not constitute or 9 be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any audit or other rights as to any other Claim Form, 10 individually or as a group, and similarly shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment by 11 the Party as to any of its audit and other rights under this Agreement. 12 **10.8.4** In the event that the total monetary benefits determined under Section 13 10.8.1 would exceed the Net Settlement Proceeds, the monetary benefit for each eligible 14 Participating Claimant shall be reduced pro rata so that the total monetary benefits equals the Net 15 Settlement Proceeds. 16 10.8.5 Nothing in this Agreement or claims process creates a claim by any Person 17 against Settlement Class Counsel, Settlement Class Representatives, Defendant, Defendant's 18 counsel, the Settlement Administrator, or any other Person based on any determination of benefits, 19 validity, eligibility, distributions, or awards made in accordance with this Agreement and the 20 Exhibits hereto, and all relief shall be solely as provided in this Agreement and by its claims 21 process. Neither Settlement Class Counsel, Settlement Class Representatives, Defendant, 22 Defendant's counsel, nor any other Person shall have any liability whatsoever for any act or 23 omission of the Settlement Administrator. 24

10.9 Notification Of Proposed Benefits. The Settlement Administrator shall promptly report its determination of the number of Participating Claimants and the calculation of the proposed monetary benefits pursuant to Section 10.8 to Settlement Class Counsel and to Defendant.

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10.10 Objections To The Proposed Benefits. Settlement Class Counsel and Defendant shall have 15 calendar days from receipt of the report referenced in Section 10.9 to notify the Settlement Administrator in writing of any errors in the determination and/or calculation of the proposed benefits.

**10.11 Resolutions Of Objections.** If the Settlement Administrator receives timely objections to any proposed benefit, the Settlement Administrator shall consider the objections and attempt to resolve the objections between the Parties.

10.12 Distribution Of Monetary Benefits To Participating Claimants. If no objections are timely made, or when such objections are resolved, the Participating Claimants shall receive a check or digital payment from the Settlement Administrator. All benefit checks shall be subject to a 120-day void period, after which the checks shall no longer be negotiable. If a benefit check is not negotiated during this time period, the recipient shall not be entitled to any further payment under this Agreement. If the benefit check is returned as undeliverable, the Settlement Administrator shall send an email to the claimant, if an email address was provided on the Claim Form, to attempt to obtain a better address, and, if obtained, shall mail the benefit check to the new address, but shall have no other obligation to skip-trace or obtain an updated address. If such claimant did not provide an email address on the Claim Form, the Settlement Administrator shall perform skip-tracing and re-mail the benefit check to the best new address (in the Settlement Administrator's discretion) discovered through the skip-tracing process. The return or failure to cash checks or, for those Settlement Class Members that elected to receive electronic payment, to provide the information required to issue a payment, shall have no effect on a Settlement Class member's release of claims, obligations, representations, or warranties as provided herein, which shall remain in full effect.

**10.13** Maintenance Of Records. The Settlement Administrator shall maintain complete, accurate, and detailed records regarding the administration of the Settlement Fund, including but not limited to: all Claim Forms submitted (including receipts and credit card/debit card statements); any objection to proposed benefits and the resolution thereof; and any and all receipts by and disbursements from the Settlement Fund. The Settlement Administrator shall make such

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records available to counsel for the Parties or to their designee upon reasonable request and at reasonable times; provided, however, that Settlement Class Counsel shall not receive identifying information for any Settlement Class members (except those who opt out or object), without written consent of Defendant or an order of the Court.

#### 11. NON-MONETARY BENEFITS

- 11.1 Following and as a result of the claims asserted by the Settlement Class Representatives, all Bargain Hunt stores stopped printing more than the last five digits of the credit card or debit card number on printed receipts issued to its customers by approximately June 30, 2017.
- 11.2 Prior to the Final Effective Date, Defendant will implement appropriate steps, practices, and a written company policy to ensure that all Bargain Hunt stories will remain in compliance with the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act in the future.

#### 12. ATTORNEYS' FEES AND INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

- approval, and prior to the end of the Opt Out Period, Settlement Class Counsel shall submit a request for approval of an award of attorneys' fees of up to \$666,667 and an award of costs/expenses of up to \$15,000 in connection with their work on behalf of the Settlement Class. Settlement Class Counsel agree they will not seek (or accept) attorneys' fees and costs/expenses in excess of these sums. The Settlement Administrator shall wire to Settlement Class Counsel the amount awarded for attorneys' fees and costs/expenses (up to the aggregate amount set forth in this Section) 10 days after the Final Effective Date using the wire instructions provided by Settlement Class Counsel. Defendant will not oppose the appointment of Settlement Class Counsel for settlement purposes and will not oppose a request for attorneys' fees and costs that does not exceed the respective amounts set forth in this paragraph.
- 12.2 Incentive Payment To Settlement Class Representatives. In connection with the motion for final approval, Settlement Class Counsel shall submit a request to the Court seeking approval for an award of an incentive payment to the Settlement Class Representatives of up to \$5,000 each. The Settlement Administrator shall send to the Settlement Class Representatives the

Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP

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12.3 Miscellaneous. If the Court denies, in whole or part, the motion for an award of Settlement Class Counsel attorneys' fees and/or costs/expenses and/or Settlement Class Representatives' incentive payments, or if any such award is the subject of any appeal, the remainder of the terms of this Agreement shall remain in effect. In addition, no interest will accrue on such amounts at any time. Except as provided herein, each Settlement Class member shall bear his/her/its own attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses incurred in connection with any claim in the Action.

#### 13. RELEASE

- 13.1 Class Release. Except for the obligations and rights created by this Agreement, the Releasing Parties hereby release and absolutely and forever discharge Defendant and all Released Parties from any and all Settled Claims. The Final Approval Order shall include this release.
- Release Of The Settlement Class And Settlement Class Counsel. Except for the 13.2 obligations and rights created by this Agreement, Defendant hereby releases and absolutely and forever discharges the members of the Settlement Class and Settlement Class Counsel of and from any and all claims relating to the commencement or prosecution of this Action.

#### 14. NOTICES

**Designated Recipients.** Unless otherwise specified in this Agreement or agreed to in writing by the party receiving such communication, all notices, requests, or other required communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be sent by email with a request for acknowledgment of receipt. If the recipient does not acknowledge receipt within two business days, the communication shall then be sent using one of the following methods: (i) by registered or certified, first class mail, postage prepaid; or (ii) by personal delivery (including by Federal

1	Express or other courier service). All such communications shall be sent to the undersigned			
2	persons at their respective addresses as set forth herein.			
3	Settlement Class Counsel:			
4	Charles Austin Gower, Jr. Shaun Patrick O'Hara			
5	CHARLES A. GOWER PC			
	1425 Wynnton Road P.O. Box 5509			
6	Columbus, GA 31906			
7	Email: shaun@cagower.com			
8	Chant Yedalian			
9	CHANT & COMPANY			
10	A Professional Law Corporation 1010 N. Central Avenue			
10	Glendale, CA 91202			
11	Email: chant@chant.mobi			
12	Defendant:			
13	Kevin B. Huff			
	Jeremy S. B. Newman KELLOGG, HANSEN, TODD, FIGEL &			
14	FREDERICK, P.L.L.C.			
15	Sumner Square			
16	1615 M Street, N.W., Suite 400			
	Washington D.C. 20036 Email: khuff@kellogghansen.com			
17	Eman. knumækenoggnansen.com			
18	Jeffrey L. Richardson			
19	MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP 2049 Century Park East, 18 <sup>th</sup> Floor			
20	Los Angeles, California 90067			
	Email: jlr@msk.com			
21	Bargain Hunt			
22	Attn: David Wachsman 455 Industrial Blvd, Suite C			
23	La Vergne, TN 37086			
24	Email: dwachsman@bargainhunt.com			
25				
26	Notice shall be deemed effective when signed for or when delivery is refused.			
27	14.2 Changes In Designated Recipients. Any Party may re-designate the Person to			
	receive notices, requests, demands, or other communications required or permitted by this			
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Agreement by providing written notice to the other Party, the Settlement Administrator, and the Court.

#### 15. MISCELLANEOUS

- 15.1 Entire Agreement. This Agreement supersedes and replaces any and all other prior agreements and all negotiations leading up to the execution of this Agreement, whether oral or in writing, between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. The Parties acknowledge that no representations, inducements, promises, or statements, oral or otherwise, have been made or relied upon by any of the Parties or by anyone acting on behalf of the Parties which are not embodied or incorporated by reference herein, and further agree that no other covenant, representation, inducement, promise, or statement not set forth in writing in this Agreement shall be valid or binding.
- **15.2 Modification Or Amendment.** This Agreement may not be modified or amended except in a writing signed by the Settlement Class Representatives, Settlement Class Counsel and Defendant, and, if after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, the written modification must also be approved by the Court.
- **15.3 Execution In Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, including by facsimile or PDF, any of which shall be deemed an original.
- **15.4 Authority Of Counsel.** Settlement Class Counsel is authorized by the members of the Settlement Class, and by the Court, to take all appropriate action required and permitted to be taken by the Settlement Class pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms.
- 15.5 Headings. The headings of the sections, paragraphs, and subparagraphs of this Agreement are included for convenience only and shall not be deemed to constitute part of this Agreement or to affect its construction.
- 15.6 Liens. The Released Parties shall have no obligation to pay or otherwise resolve any liens that are or may be asserted against settlement payments to Settlement Class members pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

- 15.7 Further Acts. The Parties shall perform such further acts and execute such further documents as may be reasonably necessary or appropriate to effectuate the terms and purposes of this Agreement.
- **15.8 Heirs, Successors, And Assignees.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties' heirs, successors, and assignees.
- 15.9 Choice Of Law. This Agreement in all respects shall be interpreted, enforced, and governed by and under the laws of the State of Georgia applicable to instruments, persons, and transactions which have legal connections and relationships solely within the State of Georgia.

  Any action pertaining to the terms of this Agreement shall be filed in the Muscogee County State Court.
- 15.10 Stay Pending Court Approval. After Settlement Class Counsel file the Complaint in this Action, Settlement Class Counsel and Defendants' counsel agree to stay all proceedings in the Action, other than those proceedings necessary to carry out or enforce the terms and conditions of this settlement, until the Final Effective Date. If, despite the Parties' best efforts, this Agreement should fail to become effective, the Parties will return to their prior positions in the Action, in accordance with Section 8.4. Defendant also agrees to use its best efforts to seek the stay and dismissal of, and to oppose entry of any interim or final relief in favor of any Settlement Class member in, any other proceedings against any of the Released Parties that challenge the settlement or otherwise assert or involve, directly or indirectly, a Released Claim.
- 15.11 Warranty Re Advice. Settlement Class Counsel warrants that the Settlement Class Representatives have been fully advised of and agree to the terms of this Agreement. The Parties hereby acknowledge that they have been represented by independent legal counsel throughout all negotiations which preceded the execution of this Agreement, and that this Agreement has been executed with the consent and on the advice of said counsel.
- 15.12 No Tax Advice. The Parties do not purport to provide legal advice on tax matters to each other or Settlement Class members, and nothing in this Agreement consists of any tax advice, nor shall anything in this Agreement be construed as tax advice.

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1	AGREED TO AND ACCEPTED.	
1	AURCED TO AND ACCEPTED.	
2	Dated: 6 · 11 · 20	By: Brian Nowe
3		Brian Nowe Settlement Class Representative
4		
5	Dated:	By: Mary Allen Wilson Tondee
6	4	Mary Allen Wilson Tondee Settlement Class Representative
7		
8		ESSEX TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC
9	Dated: 6/10/2020	By David Wachsman Name: David Wachsman
10		Name: David Wachsman Title: CEO
11		
12	APPROVED AS TO FORM	
13	Dated:	CHARLES A. GOWER PC
14		By:
15		By: Charles Austin Gower, Jr. Shaun Patrick O'Hara
16		Attorneys For Settlement Class
17		
18		CHANT & COMPANY A Professional Law Corporation
19		
20		By: Chant Yedalian
21		Attorneys For Settlement Class
22	Dated: 10/2020	MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP
23		11100001
24		By: Jack Wichardson / MMC
25		Attorneys for Defendant ESSEX TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC
26		,
27		
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Knupp LLP 12222394.1

1	AGREED TO AND ACCEPTED.	
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3	Dated:	By:Brian Nowe
4		Settlement Class Representative
5	Dated: 6/11/2020	Ma. 100. 101- Mandes
6	Dated: 6/11/2028	Mary Allen Wilson Tondee
7		Settlement Class Representative
8		FOREV TROUNGLOOV CROID II C
9	Dated: 6/10/2020	ESSEXATEGANOLOGY GROUP, LLC  By David Wadisman
10	Dated: 471072020	Name: David Wachsman
11		Title: CEO
12	APPROVED AS TO FORM	•
13	Dated: 4/1/2000	CHARLES A. GOWER PC
14		By: She OA
15	9	Charles Austin Gower, Jr. Shaun Patrick O'Hara
16		Attorneys For Settlement Class
17		
18		CHANT & COMPANY A Professional Law Corporation
19		105/11.
20		By: Chant Yedalian
21		Attorneys For Settlement Class
22	Dated: 6/10/2020	MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP
23	7	1110000
24		By: Well Richardson / MMC
25		Attorneys for Defendant ESSEX TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC
26		
27		
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CLASS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT



#### **CLAIM FORM**

#### **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

To make a claim under the settlement, you must complete this form and submit it online or mail it to the address at the bottom of this form. Your Claim Form must be submitted online by 11:59 p.m. Central Time on [claims deadline date] or postmarked by [claims deadline date]. The information will not be disclosed to anyone other than the Court, the Settlement Administrator, and the Parties in this case, and will be used only for purposes of administering this settlement.

You can submit a Claim for a benefit under this settlement if you used your credit card or debit card to make a purchase or other transaction at any Bargain Hunt stores between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 and you were provided an electronically-printed customer receipt with more than the last 5 digits of your credit card or debit card number.

You will need to establish Settlement Class membership, which you can do by either: (1) providing the original or copy of a customer receipt for your purchase from any Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 that shows more than the last 5 digits of your credit card or debit card; **OR** (2) providing the original or copy of a your credit card or debit card statement that shows your first and last name and a purchase from any Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.

Participating Claimants who seek payment from the settlement must complete and return this Claim Form. Completed Claim Forms must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_- or can be submitted via the Settlement Website, www.\_\_\_\_\_\_.com. Claim Forms must be POSTMARKED by [claims deadline date or SUBMITTED ONLINE NO LATER THAN [claims deadline date] at 11:59 p.m., Central Time.

Participating Claimant Information	
Claimant Name: First Name	MI Last Name
Street Address:	
Street Address2:	
City:	
Daytime Phone Number: (	
Evening Phone Number: (	
E-mail Address:	
Unique Class Member ID: [If You Did Not Receive an Email w	vith a Unique ID, leave this blank]
Proof of Settlement Class Membership	
and June 30, 2017 that shows more than the last 5 digits of your	ceipt for a purchase from any Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 201 credit card or debit card; OR (2) the original or copy of your credit card purchase from any Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 1, 2016 and June 2, 2016 and
By signing below, you are submitting to the jurisdiction of the Mus	scogee County State Court, State of Georgia.
Certification	
hereby certify that:	
<ol> <li>The information provided in this Claim Form is accurate a</li> <li>I am a member of the Settlement Class and did not request</li> </ol>	and complete to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief; st to Opt-Out from the Settlement Class;
3. I have not already entered into a Settlement for any of the 4. I have not submitted any other Claim for the same transact.	e claims set forth in this Claim Form; tion and have not authorized any other Person or entity to do so, and kno
of no other Person or entity having done so on my behalf;	
5. I understand that Claim Forms that are not valid and/or ille	egiole call de rejected.
Signature:	Dated: / /
	Dated: / /

# **EXHIBIT 2**

# If you received a receipt at a Bargain Hunt store with more than the last 5 digits of your card number between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, a class action settlement may affect your rights.

A proposed class action settlement has been reached concerning Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act claims against Defendant Essex Technology Group, LLC, d/b/a Bargain Hunt. The case is known as *Nowe*, et al. v. Essex Technology Group, LLC, Case No. \_\_\_\_\_\_, and it has been filed in the Muscogee County State Court, State of Georgia.

This is a summary notice only. More details are available in a Long Form Notice which you may view at [Settlement Website address www.[]]

#### What is this about?

The lawsuit alleges that customers who used a credit card or debit card to make a purchase or other transaction at Bargain Hunt stores were provided with electronically-printed customer receipts which had more than the last five digits of their credit card number or debit card number printed on the receipt.

#### Am I a Settlement Class member?

You may be an eligible Settlement Class member if, between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, you were provided at the point of sale or transaction at any Bargain Hunt store an electronically-printed customer receipt with more than the last 5 digits of your credit card or debit card number.

#### What are the Benefits?

If you are a Settlement Class member and you submit a timely and complete Claim Form, you may receive up to \$100. The Claim Form must be accompanied by either: (1) the original or copy of a receipt for a purchase from any Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 that shows more than the last 5 digits of your credit card or debit card number; or (2) the original or copy of your credit card or debit card statement that shows your first and last name and a purchase from any Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.

Please refer to the Long Form Notice for a complete listing and explanation of benefits available through this settlement. Defendant denies any wrongdoing.

#### Who represents me in the case?

The Court has appointed Charles Austin Gower, Jr. and Shaun Patrick O'Hara of Charles A. Gower PC, Chant Yedalian of Chant & Company A Professional Law Corporation, and William Dixon James of Wm. Dixon James, P.C. as Settlement Class Counsel.

#### What are my rights?

You have a right to make a Claim, submit an objection to the settlement, Opt-Out from the Settlement, or do nothing.

To receive a payment, you must sub-	mit a Clain	n, either onl	ine or by ma	il to the	Settlement
Administrator by accessing the Claim	n Form by	using your	unique class	member	identifier,
The Claims Period will begin	n on	[] and v	will extend un	til	, 2020.

You can also Opt-Out of or object to the settlement. If you Opt-Out of the settlement, you preserve your right to pursue a separate individual lawsuit against the Defendant about the claims released by this settlement, but you will receive no payment from this settlement. Your Opt-Out request must be received by [45 days after the notice commences], 2020. Unless you Opt-Out, you will be bound by the Final Approval Order and final judgment and enjoined from filing, commencing, prosecuting, or maintaining any other lawsuit concerning released claims.

Finally, you may file an Objection to the settlement writing that complies with the requirements wwwcom. Your Objection must be	in the Settle	ement Notice available at
before [45 days after the notice commences], 2020.		
The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing in the		before the Honorable Judge
		[ ].m., to decide whether
to approve the settlement and to award attorneys	s' fees and exp	enses, plus Settlement Class
Representative incentive awards. Applicable plead	ings will be post	ed on the website below after
they are filed. You may attend this hearing, but you	don't have to.	
Benefit payments will be issued to Participating settlement, no appellate courts have modified or rejeappeals has expired. Please be patient and do not calfinal, the litigation will continue.	ected the settlem	ent and the time period for all
For more information, please visit www	com, or call	the Settlement Administrator
at (xxx) xxx-xxxx or write to	Please do not ca	ll the Court.



#### MUSCOGEE COUNTY STATE COURT FOR THE STATE OF GEORGIA

# If you received a credit card or debit card receipt at a Bargain Hunt Store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, that included more than the last 5 digits of your card number, you could get up to \$100 from a class action settlement

A court authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- A settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit regarding credit card and debit card receipts provided to consumers.
- In the lawsuit, Plaintiffs alleged that Defendant, Essex Technology Group, LLC (dba Bargain Hunt) printed more than the last 5 digits on credit card and debit card receipts at Bargain Hunt stores. The parties reached an agreement in order to avoid the time and expense associated with litigation.
- The claims are strongly disputed. The Court has not ruled, one way or the other, on Plaintiffs' claims.
- Your legal rights are affected whether you act or do not act. Read this notice carefully.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT:			
SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM	The only way to receive a monetary benefit of up to \$100.		
EXCLUDE YOURSELF	Receive no monetary benefit. This is the only option that allows you to ever be part of any other lawsuit against the Defendant or anyone else about the legal claims in this case.		
Овјест	Write to the Court about why you do not like the settlement.		
GO TO A HEARING	Ask to speak in Court about the fairness of the settlement.		
Do Nothing	If you do nothing, you still benefit from the change in business practice, but you will not receive a monetary benefit.		

- These rights and options and the deadlines to exercise them are explained in this notice.
- The Court in charge of this case still has to decide whether to approve the settlement. Benefits will be awarded if the Court approves the settlement and after appeals are resolved. Please be patient.
- Any questions? Read on and visit www.tbd.com.

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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

### 1. Why should I read this notice?

If you received a credit card or debit card receipt from a Bargain Hunt Store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 that had more than the last 5 digits of your card number, you have a right to know about a proposed settlement of a class action lawsuit and your options. The Muscogee County State Court of the State of Georgia has preliminarily approved the proposed settlement.

If the Court grants final approval to the settlement, and after any appeals are resolved, an administrator appointed by the Court will determine the benefits under the settlement. The settlement website will provide updates regarding the progress of the settlement.

This notice explains the lawsuit, the settlement, your legal rights, what benefits are available, who is eligible for them, and how to get them.

The case is known as *Nowe, et al. v. Essex Technology Group, LLC*, Case No. \_\_\_\_\_\_. The persons who sued, Brian Nowe and Mary Allen Wilson Tondee, are called the Plaintiffs, and the company they sued, Essex Technology Group, LLC (dba Bargain Hunt), is called the Defendant.

#### 2. What is this lawsuit about?

This lawsuit alleges that customers who used a credit card or debit card to make a purchase or other transaction at Bargain Hunt stores were provided with electronically-printed customer receipts which had more than the last five digits of their credit card number or debit card number printed on the receipt. The parties reached an agreement to avoid the time and expense associated with further litigation.

#### 3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, one or more people called a class representative (in this case Brian Nowe and Mary Allen Wilson Tondee) sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a class or class members. One court resolves the issues for all class members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class. A judge in the Muscogee County State Court in Georgia is overseeing this class action.

## 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide in favor of Plaintiffs or Defendant. Instead, both sides agreed to a settlement. That way, they avoid the time and expense of going to trial. The settlement class representatives and their attorneys think the settlement is best for everyone because it provides an appropriate recovery now while avoiding the risk, expense, and delay of pursuing the case through trial and any appeals.

#### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT

#### 5. How do I know if I am part of the settlement?

The Court preliminarily decided that everyone who fits the following description is a settlement class member:

All consumers who, at any time between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, were provided an electronically-printed receipt with more than the last 5 digits of a credit card or debit card at the point of

a sale or transaction at any Bargain Hunt store. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (1) all Persons who properly and timely opt out pursuant to the Settlement Agreement; and (2) the judge to whom this Action is assigned and any member of his or her immediate family.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS - WHAT YOU GET

#### 6. What does the settlement provide?

If approved, the proposed settlement will provide for a change of conduct by Defendant as well as up to \$2,000,000 for notice/administration costs, class representative payments, monetary benefits to settlement class members who submit a timely and valid claim, and fees and costs for the lawyers who represented the settlement class. More specifically:

- A Court-appointed administrator will receive compensation to implement a class notice program and to assist in the processing of claims submitted by class members.
- Class members who submit timely and complete claim forms will receive a monetary benefit of up to \$100 based on the number of approved claims.
- In the event the total monetary benefits awarded to class members who submit valid and timely claims is less than \$200,000, the remainder (less any amount of settlement administrator costs in excess of \$185,000) shall be distributed to one or more non-profit organizations approved by the Court. In the event that the total amount of the settlement administrator costs are less than \$185,000, the remainder shall be added to the \$200,000 floor referenced in this paragraph.
- Subject to Court approval, the class representatives may receive service payments of up to \$5,000 each for their time and effort acting as class representatives and for their willingness to bring this litigation on behalf of other consumers.
- Subject to Court approval, the Court may award fees and costs for the lawyers who represented the settlement class as explained further in response to question number 14, below. Defendant has stopped printing more than the last 5 digits of the credit card and debit card on receipts and has implemented or will implement appropriate steps, practices, and a written company policy to ensure that all Bargain Hunt stories will remain in compliance with the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act in the future.

#### HOW YOU GET BENEFITS - SUBMITTING A CLAIM FORM

# 7. How can I get a monetary benefit? To qualify for a monetary benefit of up to \$100 under the settlement, you must submit a claim form. You can obtain a claim form on the Internet at www.tbd.com. Read the instructions carefully and submit the claim form no later than , 2020. Please check www.tbd.com for updates. 8. When will I receive my payment? , 2020, to decide whether to approve the settlement. If the The Court will hold a hearing on Court approves the settlement, there may be appeals. It is always uncertain whether these appeals can be resolved, and resolving them can take one year or more. The settlement website will keep you informed

of the progress of the settlement. Please be patient. If total costs of the settlement would exceed \$2,000,000, the monetary benefits to approved claimants shall be reduced pro rata.

#### 9. What am I giving up if I stay in the settlement class?

Unless you exclude yourself, you will remain a class member. This means that you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against the Defendant (see question no. 11 below) or anyone else about the legal issues in this case. If you stay in the settlement class, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and legally bind you. The entirety of the release as set forth in the settlement agreement is as follows: Except for the obligations and rights created by the settlement agreement, the Releasing Parties hereby release and absolutely and forever discharge Defendant and all Released Parties from any and all Settled Claims. "Releasing Parties" means and refers to the Settlement Class and its members, and any other Persons or entities claiming by or through the Settlement Class, including agents, attorneys, partners, joint venturers, affiliates, predecessors, successors, spouses, heirs, assigns, insurers, in their capacities as such. "Released Parties" means and refers to Defendant and all other Persons. "Persons" means and refers to any individual, proprietorship, corporation, partnership, association, trustee, unincorporated association, or any other type of legal entity. "Settled Claims" means and refers to any claim, liability, right, demand, suit, matter, obligation, lien, damage, punitive damage, exemplary damage, penalty, loss, cost, expense, debt, action, or cause of action, of every kind and/or nature whatsoever whether now known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, asserted or unasserted, latent or patent, which any Releasing Party now has, or at any time ever had, regardless of legal theory or type or amount of relief or damages claimed, which: (1) in any way arises out of or is based on a Bargain Hunt store printing more than the last 5 digits of a credit card or debit card number upon any receipt provided to the cardholder at the point of sale or transaction between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 and/or (2) is asserted in and based on the factual allegations in the Complaint filed in this Action.

#### **EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT**

If you do not want any benefits from this settlement, but you want keep the right to sue or continue to sue the Defendant or anyone else on your own about the legal issues in this case, then you must take steps to get out. This is called "excluding" yourself – or is sometimes referred to as "opting out" of the settlement class. Defendant may withdraw from and terminate the settlement if a certain number of putative class members exclude themselves.

10.	How do	I exclu	ıde myself fr	om the	e sett	lement?						
To exc	lude yours	elf fro	m the settler	nent, y	ou m	ust subm	it a l	etter	by n	nail sayi	ng that you v	vant to be
exclude	ed from	the	settlement	class	in	Nowe,	et	al.	v.	Essex	Technology	Group,
LLC				, -	-Case	e No.		. В	e sur	e to incl	ude your name	e, address,
telepho	ne numbei	r, and y	our signatur	e. You	mus	t mail yo	ır ex	clusic	n rec	uest so	that it is posti	narked no
later th	an		, <b>2020</b> , to:			-				-	-	
					Now	e Settlem	ent					
				[Add A	Admi	nistrator	Addr	ess				

You cannot exclude yourself by phone or by e-mail. If you mail an exclusion request by the deadline, you will not be able to request a settlement payment and you cannot object to the settlement. You will not be legally bound by anything that happens in this lawsuit. You may be able to sue (or continue to sue) the Defendant in the future.

#### 11. If I do not exclude myself, can I sue the Defendant or anyone else for the same thing later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up the right to sue the Defendant or anyone else for the claims resolved by this settlement.

You must exclude yourself from the settlement class to participate in any litigation against the Defendant or anyone else regarding the claims resolved by this settlement. Remember, the exclusion deadline is \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

#### 12. If I exclude myself, can I get benefits from this settlement?

No. If you exclude yourself, do not send in a claim form to ask for any benefits. But, you may sue, continue to sue, or be part of a different lawsuit.

#### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

#### 13. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

Charles Austin Gower, Jr. and Shaun Patrick O'Hara of Charles A. Gower PC, Chant Yedalian of Chant & Company A Professional Law Corporation, and William Dixon James of Wm. Dixon James, P.C. represent you and other class members. The lawyers are called "Settlement Class Counsel." You will not be charged for these lawyers. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

#### 14. How will the lawyers be paid?

Settlement Class Counsel will ask the Court for an award of attorneys' fees of up to \$666,667 and costs up to \$15,000. The Court may award less than these amounts.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

You can tell the Court that you do not agree with the settlement or some part of it.

#### 15. How do I tell the Court that I do not like the settlement?

If you are a class member, you can object to the settlement if you do not like any part of it. You can give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it. The Court will consider your views.

To be effective, any such objection must be in writing, mailed to the settlement administrator with a timely postmark, and include: (1) a reference at the beginning to this matter, *Nowe*, et al. v. Essex Technology Group, LLC, Case No. \_\_\_\_\_\_; (2) the objector's full name, address, and telephone number, and, if available, email address; (3) proof of settlement class membership consisting of the original or a copy of either (i) a customer receipt containing more than the last 5 digits of his or her credit or debit card showing that he or she made a transaction at a Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, or (ii) a credit or debit card statement showing that he or she made a transaction at a Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017; (4) a written statement of all grounds for the objection, accompanied by any legal support for such objection; (5) copies of any papers, briefs, or other documents upon which the objection is based; (6) a list of all persons who will be called to testify in support of the

objection; (7) a statement of whether the objector intends to appear at the fairness hearing; if the objector intends to appear at the fairness hearing through counsel, the objection must also state the identity of all attorneys representing the objector who will appear at the fairness hearing; (8) regarding any counsel who represents the objector or has a financial interest in the objection: (i) a list of cases in which the objector's counsel and/or counsel's law firm have objected to a class action settlement within the preceding five years, and (ii) a copy of any orders concerning a ruling upon counsel's or the firm's prior objections that were issued by the trial and/or appellate courts in each listed case; (9) a statement by the objector under oath that: (i) he or she has read the objection in its entirety, (ii) he or she is a member of the settlement class, (iii) states the number of times in which the objector has objected to a class action settlement within the five years preceding the date that the objector files the objection, (iv) identifies the caption of each case in which the objector has made such objection, and (v) authenticates any orders concerning a ruling upon the objector's prior such objections that were issued by the trial and/or appellate courts in each listed case, attaching such orders to the statement. Any class member who fails to timely file and serve a written objection containing all of the information listed in the items (1) through (9) of this paragraph, including notice of his/her intent to appear at the Final Approval Hearing (fairness hearing), shall not be permitted to object to the settlement and shall be foreclosed from seeking any review of the settlement or the terms of the settlement agreement by any means, including, but not limited to, an appeal. Any class member who submits a timely written objection shall consent to deposition at the request of Settlement Class Counsel or Defendant's counsel, to occur at least 5 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing (fairness hearing). To be timely, objections must be mailed to the settlement administrator by no later than , 2020, at the address provided in this notice.

#### 16. What is the difference between objecting and excluding?

Do I have to come to the hearing?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you do not like something about the settlement. You can object only if you stay in the settlement class. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the settlement class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you.

#### THE COURT'S FAIRNESS HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to approve the settlement. You may attend and you may ask to speak, but you do not have to.

# The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing (fairness hearing) at \_\_\_\_\_a.m. on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020, in Department \_\_ at the Muscogee County State Court located at \_\_\_\_\_\_. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing. The Court may also decide how much to pay Settlement Class Counsel and the class representatives. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the settlement. We do not know how long these decisions will take.

No. Settlement Class Counsel will answer any questions from the Court regarding the settlement. However, you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you send an objection, you do not have to

come to Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary.

#### 19. May I speak at the hearing?

You may ask the Court for permission for you or your lawyer to speak at the fairness hearing. To do so, you must send a letter saying that it is your "Notice of Intention to Appear in *Nowe, et al. v. Essex Technology Group, LLC*, Case No. \_\_\_\_\_\_." Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, and your signature. If your lawyer intends to speak at the fairness hearing, your letter must also include the name, address, and telephone number of your lawyer. Your Notice of Intention to Appear must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator and postmarked no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020 to:

Bargain Hunt Settlement [Add]

You cannot speak at the fairness hearing if you excluded yourself.

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

#### 20. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you do nothing, you will not receive a monetary benefit from this settlement. But, unless you exclude yourself, you will not be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit about the legal issues in this case for any of the released claims described above. You will also be bound by all of the Court's orders and judgment in this lawsuit.

#### GETTING MORE INFORMATION

#### 21. Are there more details about the settlement?

This notice summarizes the proposed settlement. More details are in the settlement agreement. You can get a copy of the settlement agreement from the settlement website or by writing to the settlement administrator at:

Bargain Hunt Settlement [Add]

#### 22. How do I get more information?

You can visit the settlement website at www.tbd.com, where you will find answers to common questions about the settlement, a claim form, plus other information. You may also call 1-800-XXX-XXXX or call or write Settlement Class Counsel at [add].

, 2020 The Honorable , Muscogee County State Court
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## IN THE STATE COURT OF MUSCOGEE COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

BRIAN NOWE and MARY ALLEN WILSON TONDEE, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

Civil Action No.

v.

ESSEX TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC (d/b/a Bargain Hunt),

Defendants.

# [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING SETTLEMENT CLASS REPRESENTATIVES' UNCONTESTED MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Settlement Class Representatives Brian Nowe and Mary Allen Wilson Tondee ("Settlement Class Representatives") have moved the Court for preliminary approval of a proposed class action settlement with Essex Technology Group, LLC, d/b/a Bargain Hunt ("Essex" or "Defendant"), the terms and conditions of which are set forth in the Settlement Agreement filed with the Court ("Agreement").

Settlement Class Representatives contend that, by providing electronically-printed receipts with more than the last five digits of a credit card number or debit card number at the point of a sale or transaction, Defendant committed violations of state and federal law, including but not limited to the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act ("FACTA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq. Settlement Class Representatives seek to recover, on behalf of a class of all consumers who, at any time between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, were provided an electronically-printed receipt

with more than the last 5 digits of a credit card or debit card number at the point of a sale or transaction at any Bargain Hunt store.

Defendant denies that there is any factual or legal basis for Settlement Class Representatives' allegations. Defendant denies any liability and that Settlement Class Representatives or any other members of the Settlement Class have suffered injury or are entitled to monetary or other relief. Defendant finally denies that this case should be certified as a class action, except for purposes of settlement. In that regard, Defendant specifically denies that there are questions of fact or law common to the class, that the Settlement Class Representatives are typical of consumers in the United States, and that a settlement class is an appropriate method for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the controversy; however, in the interest of settling, Defendant does not oppose Settlement Class Representatives' request to certify the Settlement Class.

Settlement Class Representatives have moved the Court for preliminary approval of a proposed class action settlement with Defendant, the terms and conditions of which are set forth in the Agreement.

The terms of the proposed notice program ("Notice Program") to Settlement Class members are outlined in the motion for preliminary approval.

As a result of the claims asserted by the Settlement Class Representatives, Defendant stopped printing more than the last five digits of the credit card or debit card number on receipts issued to customers and has taken steps to ensure all Bargain Hunt stores remain in compliance with FACTA.

In addition, Participating Claimants who submit a timely and complete Claim Form along with either: (1) the original or copy of a qualifying receipt for a purchase from Bargain Hunt during

the class period that shows more than the last 5 digits of his or her credit card or debit card number; or (2) the original or copy of a credit card or debit card statement that shows the Participating Claimant's first and last name and a purchase from Bargain Hunt during the class period, shall be awarded a single benefit of up to \$100. The maximum monetary benefit per Person is \$100, regardless of the number of Claim Forms submitted and regardless of the number of transactions during the class period.

If the total cost of the settlement would exceed the settlement cap of two million dollars and zero cents (\$2,000,000.00), then the benefit payable to each Participating Claimant shall be proportionately reduced, such that the total cost of the settlement would not exceed the settlement cap. In the event the total monetary benefits awarded to Participating Claimants is less than \$200,000, the remainder (less any amount of Settlement Administrator costs in excess of \$185,000) shall be distributed to one or more non-profit organizations approved by this Court. In the event that the total cost of notice and administration is less than \$185,000, the surplus shall be added to the \$200,000 floor referenced in this paragraph.

As part of the Agreement, Settlement Class Representatives' attorneys may apply to this Court to award them up to six-hundred-sixty-six-thousand-six-hundred-sixty-seven dollars and zero cents (\$666,667.00) to pay their attorneys' fees, and an award of costs (including court costs), expenses of up to fifteen-thousand dollars and zero cents (\$15,000). Settlement Class Representatives attorneys may also apply to this Court for payments to the Settlement Class Representatives for up to five-thousand dollars and zero cents (\$5,000.00) for each Settlement Class Representative. Such amounts must be approved by the Court, and the Court will defer any ruling on the appropriateness of such awards until the Final Approval Hearing.

Having considered all matters submitted to it at the hearing on the motion and otherwise,

including the complete record of this action, and good cause appearing therefore, the Court grants preliminary approval and hereby finds and concludes as follows:

- 1. The capitalized terms used in this Order shall have the same meaning as defined in the Agreement except as otherwise expressly provided.
- 2. The Court preliminarily approves the settlement as within the range of possible final approval and as meriting submission to the Settlement Class for its consideration. The Parties' Agreement was reached as a result of extensive arm's length negotiations between the Parties and their counsel. Thus, Settlement Class Representatives and their counsel had sufficient information to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the case and to conduct informed settlement discussions.
- 3. For purposes of the settlement only, the Court provisionally certifies the Settlement Class, which consists of all consumers who, at any time between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, were provided an electronically-printed receipt with more than the last 5 digits of a credit card or debit card number at the point of a sale or transaction at any Bargain Hunt store. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (1) all Persons who properly and timely opt out pursuant to the Agreement; and (2) the judge to whom this Action is assigned and any member of his or her immediate family.
- 4. The Court preliminarily finds and concludes, solely for purposes of considering this Agreement, that the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23 are conditionally satisfied for certification of the Settlement Class. Solely for the purpose of considering this Agreement, the Court finds Settlement Class Representatives have met the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23 for the reasons set forth in Settlement Class Representatives' Unopposed Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, as well as for the reasons that follow.

- a. The Settlement Class members are too numerous to be joined in a single action;
- There are questions of fact or law common to the class, and the common questions predominate over any questions affecting only individual members;
- c. The Settlement Class Representatives are typical of consumers around the country in that they were all exposed to the identical risk, and, thus, their claims for violations of the FACTA statute are such that they will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class; and
- d. A settlement class is an appropriate method for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the controversy and is superior to alternative means of resolving the claims and disputes at issue in this litigation.
- 5. The Court further notes that the complaint which the Settlement Class Representatives filed with this Court sets forth causes of action for a nationwide class; that Defendant does not oppose Settlement Class Representatives' request to certify a nationwide Settlement Class for the purpose of this settlement; and that, in the event final approval of the settlement is denied, or a mandate is issued reversing an award of final approval, or the settlement is otherwise terminated, the certification of the Settlement Class will be void; and that, in such event, Defendant does not waive, and instead expressly reserves, all rights to defend this Action and any other action and shall not be precluded from challenging class certification in further proceedings in the Action or in any other action.

- 6. The Court conditionally designates the law firms of Charles A. Gower PC, Chant & Company A Professional Law Corporation, and Wm. Dixon James, P.C. as Settlement Class Counsel and Brian Nowe and Mary Allen Wilson Tondee as Settlement Class Representatives for purposes of this settlement. The Court preliminarily finds that the Settlement Class Representatives and Settlement Class Counsel fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the absent Settlement Class members. The Court designates, and approves, Heffler Claims Group to serve as Settlement Administrator.
- 7. Because the settlement is within the range of reasonableness and possible final approval, notice shall be provided to the Settlement Class as described in Section 6 of the Agreement.
  - a. The Notice Program consists of: (1) a Long Form Notice; (2) Email Notice; (3) Publication and Internet Notice; (4) Settlement Website; and a (5) Settlement Hotline.
  - b. Prior to the date notice commences, the Settlement Administrator will establish the Settlement Website, which shall contain the Long Form Notice; answers to frequently asked questions; the address for the Settlement Administrator and addresses and telephone numbers for Settlement Class Counsel; the Settlement Agreement; the signed Preliminary Approval Order and publicly filed motion and accompanying papers; and a downloadable and online version of the The Settlement Administrator shall add to the Claim Form. Settlement Website other material filings by the parties or the Court regarding the settlement, including Settlement Class

- Representatives' motion for attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, and/or payments to the Settlement Class Representatives, the motion for final approval, and any orders with respect to such motions.
- c. The Settlement Administrator shall cause the Publication Notice to be published in accordance with the Notice Program.
- d. The Settlement Administrator shall initiate the process of providing the online notices on websites as set forth in the Notice Program, so that overall notice of the settlement (including the Publication Notice) is reasonably calculated to apprise the Settlement Class members of the settlement.
- e. The Settlement Administrator also will receive and process Claim Forms.
- 8. The Court approves, as to form and content, the Claim Form and notices that are substantially similar to the forms attached as Exhibits 1-4 to the Agreement. The Claim Form and all notices are written in plain English and are easy to comprehend. The Parties shall have discretion to jointly make non-material minor revisions to the Claim Form and notices before they are made available to the Settlement Class. Responsibility for settlement administration, including, but not limited to, notice and related procedures, shall be performed by the Settlement Administrator, subject to the oversight of the Parties and this Court as described in the Agreement.
- 9. The Court finds that the Parties' program for providing notice to the Settlement Class is reasonably calculated to provide the best notice practicable under the circumstances to the Settlement Class, and is in full compliance with the United States Constitution, the requirements of due process, O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23, and any other applicable law. The Parties and the Settlement

Administrator shall comply with the Notice Program as set forth in the Agreement.

- 10. Any member of the Settlement Class who desires to be excluded from the Settlement Class, and therefore not be bound by the terms of the Agreement, must submit a request to Opt-Out to the Settlement Administrator, pursuant to the instructions set forth in the Notice Program. The request must be postmarked by no later than 45 days after the commencement of Notice Program. No one shall be permitted to exercise any exclusion rights on behalf of any other Person, whether as an agent or representative of another or otherwise, except upon proof of a legal power of attorney, conservatorship, trusteeship, or other legal authorization and no one may exclude other Persons within the Settlement Class as a group, class, or in the aggregate.
- 11. Any member of the Settlement Class who wants to make a claim must submit a valid Claim Form to the Settlement Administrator during the Claims Period pursuant to the instructions set forth in the Notice Program and on the Claim Form.
- 12. Any member of the Settlement Class who elects to be excluded shall not receive any benefits of the settlement, shall not be bound by the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and shall have no standing to object to the settlement or intervene in the Action. If the settlement is granted final approval, all Settlement Class members who do not timely submit a valid request for exclusion will be bound by the Final Approval Order and final judgment and enjoined from bringing or prosecuting any action against any of the Released Parties that challenge the settlement or otherwise assert or involve, directly or indirectly, a Released Claim.
- 13. Any Settlement Class member who does not submit a valid and timely request for exclusion may submit an objection to the Agreement. The written objection must satisfy the requirements described in the Notice Program. An objection must be received by the Settlement Administrator and postmarked no later than 45 days after the commencement of Notice Program

or it will be rejected.

- 14. Any Settlement Class member shall have the right to appear and be heard at the Final Approval Hearing, either personally or through an attorney retained at the Settlement Class member's own expense. However, if the Settlement Class member wants to object to the settlement at the Final Approval Hearing (either personally or through counsel), the Settlement Class member must submit a written objection as set forth in the prior paragraph of this Order.
- 15. Settlement Class Representatives shall file their motion for final approval and class representative payments no later than [20 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing] and their motion for an award of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses no later than [14 days prior to the Opt-Out Deadline]. Those motions and all supporting documentation shall simultaneously be posted to the Settlement Website.
- 16. This Court finds that the Settlement Class asserts both federal and state law claims alleging injury in fact caused by Defendant. This Court concludes that it has subject matter jurisdiction over the case and controversy and has the authority to enter a final judgment, following a hearing on final approval.
- 17. In the event that the proposed settlement is not finally approved by the Court, or in the event that the Agreement becomes null and void pursuant to its terms, this Preliminary Approval Order and all orders entered in connection herewith shall become null and void, shall be of no further force and effect.
- 18. This Order shall not be construed as an admission or concession by Defendant of the truth of any allegations made by the Settlement Class Representatives or of liability or fault of any kind.
  - 19. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held before this Court at [ ] [ ].m. on [ ], 2020,

in the, to address: (a) whether the proposed settlement	should be
finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate, and whether the Final Approval Ord	ler should
be entered, and (b) whether Settlement Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees,	costs, and
a payment to the Settlement Class Representatives should be approved.	
20. The Court may, for good cause, extend any of the deadlines set forth in	this Order
without further notice to the Settlement Class members. The Final Approval Hearing	nay, from
time to time and without further notice to the Settlement Class members, be continued	by Order
of the Court.	
IT IS SO ORDERED this day of 2020.	
The Honorable [_]	



## IN THE STATE COURT OF MUSCOGEE COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

BRIAN NOWE and MARY ALLEN WILSON TONDEE, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,	
Plaintiffs,	Civil Action No.
v.	
ESSEX TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC (d/b/a Bargain Hunt),	
Defendants.	

## [PROPOSED] FINAL APPROVAL OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT; FINAL JUDGMENT; AWARD OF SETTLEMENT CLASS COUNSEL'S FEES, EXPENSES, AND SETTLEMENT CLASS REPRESENTATIVES' INCENTIVE AWARDS;

WHEREAS, on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020, this Court entered a Preliminary Approval Order that conditionally certified pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23, for settlement purposes only, a Settlement Class consisting of:

All consumers who, at any time between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, were provided an electronically-printed receipt with more than the last 5 digits of a credit card or debit card at the point of a sale or transaction at any Bargain Hunt store. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (1) all Persons who properly and timely opt out pursuant to the Agreement; and (2) the judge to whom this Action is assigned and any member of his or her immediate family.

WHEREAS, this Court finds that the papers presented in connection with the final approval hearing are detailed and sufficient to rule on final approval, attorneys' fees and expenses, and incentive awards; and

WHEREAS, this Court, having heard from Settlement Class Counsel on behalf of the Settlement Class, and from Defendant's counsel, and having reviewed all other arguments and submissions presented by all interested persons and entities with respect to the settlement and the Settlement Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses and incentive awards to the Settlement Class Representatives;

WHEREAS, this Court, having previously determined that the Settlement Class asserts both federal and state law claims alleging injury in fact caused by Defendant; and

WHEREAS, unless specifically defined herein, all capitalized terms used herein have the meanings set forth and defined in the Settlement Agreement, it is hereby

#### ORDERED, ADJUDGED, DECREED, AND FOUND THAT:

- 1. This cause arises out of Settlement Class Representatives' allegations that Defendant committed violations of state and federal law, including but not limited to the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act ("FACTA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq., by providing electronically-printed receipts with more than the last five digits of a credit card number or debit card number at the point of sale or transaction.
- 2. Defendant denies that there is any factual or legal basis for Settlement Class Representatives' allegations. Defendant denies any liability and that Settlement Class Representatives or any other members of the Settlement Class have suffered injury or are entitled to monetary or other relief. Defendant finally denies that this case should be certified as a class action, except for purposes of settlement.
- 3. After extensive arm's-length settlement negotiations, the Parties agreed to settle this matter.

- 4. The Settlement Agreement provides substantial and meaningful relief to the Settlement Class, including affirmative relief that requires Defendant to continue refraining from printing more than the last five digits of the credit card and debit card numbers on printed receipts issued to customers, as well as monetary benefits to the Settlement Class.
- 5. The Settlement Agreement provides for a settlement under which Participating Claimants can make claims to receive monetary benefits.
- 6. The Settlement Class as provided in the Preliminary Approval Order is unconditionally certified pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23. The prerequisites for a class action under O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23 have been satisfied in that (a) the members of the Settlement Class are so numerous that joinder of all members thereof is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class, and the common questions predominate over any questions affecting only individual members; (c) the claims of Settlement Class Representatives are typical of the claims of the Settlement Class they seek to represent; (d) Settlement Class Representatives have and will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Settlement Class; and (e) a class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.
- 7. For purposes of the nonmonetary benefits specified in Section 11 of the Agreement, the prerequisites for a class action under O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23 have been satisfied in that (a) the members of the Settlement Class is so numerous that joinder of all member thereof is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Settlement Class; (c) the claims of Settlement Class Representatives are typical of the claims of the Settlement Class they seek to represent; (d) Settlement Class Representatives have and will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Settlement Class; and (e) Defendant has acted or refused to act on

grounds generally applicable to the class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive or declaratory relief with respect to the class as a whole.

- 8. This Court previously concluded, and again finds, that it has subject matter jurisdiction over the case and controversy and has the authority to enter this final judgment.
- 9. The following are appointed as Settlement Class Representatives of the Settlement Class: Brian Nowe and Mary Allen Wilson Tondee.
- 10. The Court confirms its appointment of the following as Settlement Class Counsel: Charles Austin Gower, Jr. and Shaun Patrick O'Hara of Charles A. Gower PC, Chant Yedalian of Chant & Company A Professional Law Corporation, and William Dixon James of Wm. Dixon James, P.C.
- 11. The settlement, as set forth in the Settlement Agreement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable, and adequate, is in the best interests of the Settlement Class members, and is approved in all respects in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23.
- 12. The settlement was negotiated at arm's-length by experienced counsel who were fully informed of the facts and circumstances of the Action and of the strengths and weaknesses of their respective positions. The settlement was reached after the Parties engaged in extensive negotiations. Settlement Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel are therefore well positioned to evaluate the benefits of the settlement, taking into account the expense, risk, and uncertainty of protracted litigation over numerous questions of fact and law.
- 13. Notice to the members of the Settlement Class has been provided as directed by this Court in the Preliminary Approval Order, and such notice having constituted the best notice practicable, including, but not limited to, the forms of notice and methods of identifying and

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providing notice to the members of the Settlement Class, has satisfied the requirements of due process, O.C.G.A. § 9-11-23, and all other applicable laws.

- 14. The settlement shall not be deemed to constitute an admission or finding of liability or wrongdoing on the part of Defendant, Settlement Class Representatives, or any of the Settlement Class members, Released Parties, or any additional Released Parties.
- 15. Upon the Final Effective Date, Settlement Class Representatives, each Settlement Class member, and each Releasing Party shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Final Approval Order and Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all Settled Claims against the Released Parties in the manner(s) set forth in Section 13 of the Settlement Agreement.
- 16. Upon the Final Effective Date, Settlement Class Representatives, each Settlement Class member, and each Releasing Party shall be permanently barred and enjoined from asserting, commencing, prosecuting, or continuing any of the Settled Claims.
- 17. Settlement Class Representative incentive awards are hereby awarded to the following Settlement Class Representatives in the amount of five-thousand dollars and zero cents (\$5,000.00) each: Brian Nowe and Mary Allen Wilson Tondee, paid pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, as compensation for their efforts in bringing the Action and achieving the benefits of the settlement on behalf of the Settlement Class.
- 18. Settlement Class Counsel are hereby awarded (a) attorneys' fees in the amount of six-hundred-sixty-six-thousand—six-hundred-sixty-seven dollars and zero cents (\$666,667.00) and (b) reimbursement of their reasonable expenses in the amount of fifteen-thousand dollars and zero cents (\$15,000). These fees and reimbursement of expenses shall be paid pursuant to the

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terms of the Agreement, and are to be allocated among Class Counsel according to Class Counsel's existing agreement with one another.

- 19. The Court finds that the amounts of attorneys' fees and reimbursable expenses awarded to Settlement Class Counsel are fair and reasonable. In making its award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses, in the amounts described in paragraph 18 above, the court has considered and finds as follows:
  - a. The settlement has provided significant relief to the Settlement Class.
  - b. Defendant's implementation of a written company policy to ensure all Bargain
     Hunt stores remain in compliance with FACTA was a negotiated, material term
     of the settlement.
  - c. The Notice Program constituted the best notice practicable to Settlement Class members consistent with the requirements of due process.
  - d. The settlement provides a fair opportunity for all members of the Settlement Class to submit a Claim and be compensated. The Notice Program combined with the length of the Claims Period provides ample opportunity for any Settlement Class member who desires to submit a claim to do so.
  - e. By providing this opportunity for compensation Settlement Class Counsel have demonstrated that they have represented the Settlement Class well. Settlement Class Counsel have conducted the litigation and achieved the settlement with skill, perseverance, and diligent advocacy on behalf of Settlement Class Representatives and the Settlement Class as a whole.

- f. This matter involves complex factual and legal issues and, in the absence of the settlement, would involve further lengthy proceedings and uncertain resolution of such issues.
- g. Had the settlement not been achieved, there would remain a significant risk that the Settlement Class may have recovered less or nothing from Defendant, and that any recovery would have been significantly delayed.
- h. Settlement Class counsel possess and successfully utilized the skills and expertise required to prosecute this matter and achieve settlement. The Court also considered and finds that the experience, reputation, and ability of Settlement Class Counsel contributed to the success of achieving settlement, and the benefits conferred as a result of the settlement, including the monetary benefits and the change of conduct and implementation of a FACTA compliance policy by Defendant. The Court also considered and finds that Settlement Class Counsel's fees were always contingent, and Settlement Class Counsel undertook substantial risk by prosecuting this matter, including the substantial risk of non-payment.
- 20. Defendant and additional Released Parties shall not be liable for any additional fees or expenses for Settlement Class Counsel or counsel of any Settlement Class Representatives in connection with the Action, beyond those expressly provided in the Settlement Agreement.
- 21. The Court hereby directs the Settlement Administrator, Defendant and Plaintiffs to effectuate all terms of the settlement and Agreement.
- 22. By reason of the settlement, and approval hereof, there is no just reason for delay and the Court hereby enters this Final Order and Judgment as a final judgment.

23. Jurisdiction is reserved by this Court, without affecting the finality of this Final Approval Order and Judgment, over:

a. Effectuating the settlement and the terms of the Agreement, including the payment of Settlement Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses, including any interest accrued thereon;

b. Supervising any remaining aspects of the administration of the settlement;

c. Determining whether, in the event an appeal is taken from any aspect of this

Final Approval Order and Judgment, notice should be given at the appellant's

expense to some or all Settlement Class members apprising of the pendency of
the appeal and such other matters as the Court may order;

d. Enforcing and administering the Settlement Agreement and the settlement, including the release executed in connection therewith, and the provisions of this Final Approval Order and Judgment;

e. Adjudicating any disputes that arise under the Settlement Agreement; and

f. Any other matters related or ancillary to the foregoing.

SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED.

Dated:		
	The Honorable [ ]	