

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

FORSYTH COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

22 CVS 929

22 CVS 683

VANDA THOMAS, STACY WHARTON,)
KAREN PRUDENCIO, ARCOLA LEWIS)
d/b/a PREMIER ONE SALON, and)
SHERMAN TRANSOU,)
Individually and On Behalf of All Others)
Similarly Situated,)

Plaintiffs,)

v.)

WINSTON WEAVER Co. Inc.,)

Defendant.)

**CONSENT AMENDED ORDER
APPROVING PRELIMINARY
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES,
SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR
AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS**

WHEREAS, by Order dated February 2, 2025, the Court certified the above-captioned action (the "Action") to proceed as a class action;

WHEREAS, on September 5, 2025, the parties reached a settlement agreement for all individual Class Members;

WHEREAS, claims for the business members of the Class are still pending;

WHEREAS, Court-appointed Class Representatives Vanda Thomas, Stacy Wharton,

Karen Prudencio, Arcola Lewis, and Sherman Transou (collectively, "Class Representatives") have moved for, and Defendant consents to, the entry of an amended Order approving the Preliminary Settlement Agreement, Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, Settlement Administrator and Other Related Matters;

WHEREAS, the Court has reviewed the proposed Preliminary Settlement Agreement, Supporting Memorandum, Attorney's Fees and Expenses, proposed Settlement Administrator, and

other related matters submitted by Class Representatives and has found good cause for entering the following Order;

1. The parties' motion for preliminary approval of the class settlement is ALLOWED;

2. The settlement provided for in the PSA is preliminarily approved pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 1A-1, Rule 23, subject to the terms of this order;

3. The form of the notice to the class attached as Appendix B, Attachment 2 to the Supporting Memorandum is approved;

4. The method of dissemination of notice to the class provided for in Sections 6.1.1 and 6.1.2 and the other provisions of the PSA is approved, and dissemination of notice shall be made in accordance with such provisions and applicable orders of the court;

5. Epiq Class Action & Claims Solutions, Inc. is appointed Settlement Administrator ("Administrator") and as such shall disseminate notice to the class, receive and process proof of claim forms and opt outs, and carry out all other functions of the Administrator as set forth in Section 12 and the other provisions of the PSA, including the Proof of Claims Processing Protocol, the Common Settlement Fund Disbursement Protocol, and the other exhibits to the PSA, and applicable orders of the court;

6. The Defendant, through its insurers, shall disburse payment to the settlement fund no later than fourteen (14) days after the final settlement approval order is entered, following the Fairness Hearing.

7. No later than October 31, 2025, the Administrator shall send notices by postcard,

substantially in the form attached hereto as Appendix B, Attachment 1, mailed via first-class mail, postage prepaid, and, if possible, emailed to all potential Individual Class Members identified by Class Counsel.

8. No later than October 31, 2025, the Administrator shall add a copy of the Long-Form Notice as well as a copy of this Order to the existing website for the Action, www.WinstonWeaverClassAction.com, from which Class members may download copies of the Long-Form Notice, substantially in the form attached hereto as Appendix B, Attachment 2. Class Counsel shall also post the same documents on their own websites, www.crlegalteam.com and www.farrin.com. The Administrator shall mail the Long-Form Notice to any person who requests a copy by phone or email.

9. No later than October 31, 2025, the Administrator shall give public notice, substantially in the form attached hereto as Appendix B, Attachment 3, published once in each of the following: (i) the *Winston-Salem Journal*; and (ii) *Yes Weekly!*.

10. Class Members shall be bound by all determinations, orders, and judgments in this Action, whether favorable or unfavorable, unless such persons or entities request exclusion from the Class Settlement in a timely and proper manner, as hereinafter provided. A Class Member wishing to make such a request shall submit the request in written form by mail to the address designated in the Long-Form Notice, postmarked no later than December 1, 2025. Such request for exclusion must:

(a) State the name, address, telephone number, and email address (if available) of the person or entity requesting exclusion;

(b) State that the Class member desires to be excluded from the Class Settlement in *Thomas et al., v. Winston Weaver Co. Inc.*, 22 CVS 929, 22 CVS 683; and

(c) Be signed by the person or entity requesting exclusion or an authorized representative.

The request for exclusion shall not be effective unless it provides the required information and is made within the time stated above, or the exclusion is otherwise accepted by the Court.

11. Any member of the class who elects to object to the settlement in any respect, including any payments provided for in the PSA, must do so no later than December 1, 2025, (30 days after the date of publication of the notice to the class as provided in Section 6.1.1 of the PSA) by following the procedures set forth in the approved notice and Section 6.2.2 of the PSA;

12. All settlement claims by potential Individual Class Members must be submitted or postmarked no later than January 30, 2026.

13. The Honorable Edwin G. Wilson, Jr. has set the Final Fairness Hearing in this matter for December 8, 2025, at 10:00 am.

14. The parties shall file a motion for final approval of the settlement before the date scheduled for the Final Fairness Hearing.

15. Class counsel shall file a motion for payment of attorneys' fees and non-taxable costs, before the date scheduled for the fairness hearing.

(a) No later than fourteen (14) business days before the date scheduled for the fairness hearing, counsel for the parties shall file a pre-hearing statement which describes all

documents and other evidence they intend to offer at the fairness hearing, identifies by name and address all witnesses they intend to call at the hearing, summarizes the testimony each witness is expected to give, and includes as attachments copies of all documents and other evidence not identified in the statement;

(a) by the same date, counsel for the parties shall deliver to the Administrator a copy of the pre-hearing statement and copies of all exhibits they intend to offer; and

(b) beginning no later than fourteen (14) business days before the date scheduled for the fairness hearing, the Administrator shall make the pre-hearing statement and all the exhibits counsel for the parties intend to offer available on the Administrator's website and, upon request, shall provide paper copies of the statement and exhibits to any person to whom class notice is sent, subject to payment of reasonable copying costs by the requester.

16. The Clerk shall send copies of this Memorandum and Recommendation to counsel for the respective parties, who have ten business days, or such other period as the court specifies, to file written objections. Failure to file timely written objections bars an aggrieved party from receiving a de novo review by the Judge on an issue covered in the Memorandum and Recommendation and, except upon grounds of plain error, from attacking on appeal the unobjected- to proposed factual findings and legal conclusions accepted by the Judge.

10/4/2025 9:57:47 AM SO ORDERED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edwin G. Wilson, Jr." in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Hon. Edwin G. Wilson, Jr.

Designated Superior Court Judge (Rule 2.1)