## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM, NATIONAL CONSUMER LAW CENTER, and ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE, for themselves and all others similarly situated, Plaintiffs,

Case No. 1:16-cy-00745-PLF

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *Defendant*.

## JOINT STATUS REPORT

The parties file this joint status report to update the Court on the progress of their settlement discussions. On November 15, 2021, the parties submitted a joint status report informing the Court that they had reached an agreement in principle on proposed terms to resolve the matter, subject to the defendant obtaining approval of the proposed terms of settlement from the United States Department of Justice. The parties further informed the Court that they required time to memorialize the proposed terms in a written settlement document in connection with that approval process. In the status report dated January 20, 2022, the parties reported that plaintiffs had submitted a draft of the proposed written settlement document to counsel for the defendant, and that counsel for the defendant required time to review the draft and propose any edits. In the last status report, the parties reported that counsel for the parties had finalized a draft settlement document, and that counsel for defendant had begun the process of obtaining formal approval of the proposed settlement from the Department of Justice.

In the last status report, the parties proposed that they file a further status report on May 17, 2022, and that the Court continue the stay of proceedings to May 25, 2022. Although the Court did not enter a minute order following that status report, the parties are nevertheless proceeding with the submission of a status report on the date that they had proposed.

The defendant now reports that the proposed settlement is currently undergoing review within the Department of Justice but has not yet reached the final stage of review. The parties are not able to anticipate how long the approval process might take and, accordingly, respectfully propose that they provide a further status report to the Court on or before June 30, 2022, and that the stay of proceedings be extended to July 12, 2022.

Counsel for the parties are available by telephone or videoconference should the Court have any questions.

Dated: May 17, 2022

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Respectfully submitted,

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