Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides:

A class action shall not be dismissed or compromised without the approval of the court, and notice of the proposed dismissal or compromise shall be given to all members of the class in such manner as the court directs.

With respect to the merits of the settlement, Rule 23(e) requires the Court to determine whether a proposed settlement in a class action is fundamentally fair, adequate, and reasonable. Class Plaintiffs v. City of Seattle, 955 F.2d 1268, 1276 (9th Cir. 1992). It is the settlement taken as a whole, rather than the individual component parts, that must be examined for overall fairness. Officers for Justice v. Civil Serv. Comm'n of San Francisco, 688 F.2d 615, 628 (9th Cir. 1982). The decision to approve or reject a settlement is committed to the sound discretion of the trial judge because he is "exposed to the litigants, and their strategies, positions and proof." Officers for Justice, 688 F.2d at 626 (internal quotation omitted).

For the reasons set out in the parties' Joint Statement re Final Approval of Settlement, the Court finds that the settlement is fundamentally fair, adequate and reasonable.

Accordingly,

OK+ 543

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the proposed settlement is approved and each and every claim of the Complaint, as amended, is dismissed with prejudice, and any injunctive orders and decisions of this Court are dissolved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the settlement class be certified pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as follows:

All persons who entered the United States in a non-immigrant status prior to January 1, 1982, who are otherwise *prima facie* eligible for legalization under § 245A of the INA, 8 U.S.C. § 1255a, who are within one or more of the Enumerated Categories described below in paragraph 2, and who —

- A) between May 5, 1987 and May 4, 1988, attempted to file a complete application for legalization under § 245A of the INA and fees to an INS officer or agent acting on behalf of the INS, including a Qualified Designated Agency ("QDE"), and whose applications were rejected for filing (hereinafter referred to as "Sub-class A members"); or
- B) between May 5, 1987 and May 4, 1988, attempted to apply for legalization with an INS officer, or agent acting on behalf of the INS, including a QDE, under § 245A of the INA, but were advised that they were ineligible for legalization, or were refused legalization application forms, and for whom such information, or inability to obtain the required application forms, was a substantial cause of their failure to file or complete a timely written application (hereinafter referred to as "Sub-class B" members); or
- C) filed a legalization application under INA § 245A and fees with an INS officer or agent acting on behalf of the INS, including a QDE, and whose application
  - i. has not been finally adjudicated or whose temporary resident status has been proposed for termination (hereinafter referred to as "Sub-class C.i. members"),
  - ii. was denied or whose temporary resident status was terminated, where the INS or CIS action or inaction was because INS or CIS believed the applicant had failed to meet the "known to the government" requirement, or the requirement that s/he demonstrate that his/her unlawful residence was continuous (hereinafter referred to as "Sub-class C.ii. members").

## 2. Enumerated Categories

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

- (1) Persons who violated the terms of their nonimmigrant status prior to January 1, 1982 in a manner known to the government because documentation or the absence thereof (including, but not limited to, the absence of quarterly or annual address reports required on or before December 31, 1981) existed in the records of one or more government agencies which, taken as a whole, warrants a finding that the applicant was in an unlawful status prior to January 1, 1982 in a manner known to the government.
- (2) Persons who violated the terms of their nonimmigrant visas before January 1, 1982, for whom INS/DHS records for the relevant period (including required school and employer reports of status violations) are not contained in the alien's A-file, and who are unable to meet the requirements of 8 C.F.R. §§ 245a.1(d) and 245a.2(d) without such records.
- (3) Persons whose facially valid "lawful status" on or after January 1, 1982 was obtained by fraud or mistake, whether such "lawful status" was the result of
  - (a) reinstatement to nonimmigrant status;
  - (b) change of nonimmigrant status pursuant to INA § 248;
  - (c) adjustment of status pursuant to INA § 245; or
  - (d) grant of some other immigration benefit deemed to interrupt the continuous unlawful residence or continuous physical presence requirements of INA § 245A.

Dated: Sect 9 , 2008

Honorable James L Robart United States District Judge

Presented by: Settlement

4

Settlement