

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

IN RE LITERARY WORKS IN ELECTRONIC
DATABASES COPYRIGHT LITIGATION

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)
) Master Docket No. M-21-90 (GBD)
) (MDL # 1379)
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**DECLARATION OF MARTHA RUSSIS IN SUPPORT OF
FINAL SETTLEMENT APPROVAL**

I, Martha Russis, declare as follows:

1. I am a freelance writer and class member in In re Literary Works In Electronic Databases Copyright Litigation, MDL 1379. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' motion for final approval of the proposed class action settlement in this lawsuit. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and, if called on to do so, could and would testify competently thereto.

2. I have been selling publication rights to my literary works as a freelance author since 1991.

3. I have been waiting a long time for a settlement in this case since I registered my copyrights in 1999. I have 650 registered articles that fall in the category B of the settlement and about another 600 unregistered articles falling in category C. I estimate that I could potentially receive about \$110,000 under the terms of this settlement. I understand that I am not enforcing take-down rights in my claim and will receive payment for past and present infringements of my work and compensation for Defendants' right to a broad, non-exclusive electronic use of those

works going forward, including the right to convey the works to other entities for resale to end users.

4. Back in 1999, I spent about three solid weeks without any assistance going through microfiche, xeroxing and filling out the Library of Congress forms in order to get my articles from the Chicago Tribune registered. I've been waiting for this opportunity of a legal settlement and now it is here. This year, I spent about 50 hours assembling my application for the class action suit compensation.

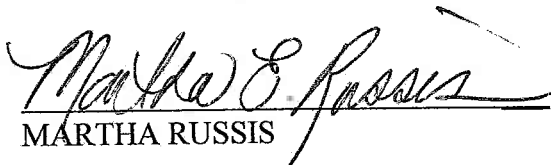
5. I am a mother of three daughters with child-rearing costs. This money would help tremendously to pay for their college. As I am sure the court knows, college costs are exorbitant and I will face them in several years. I also have a mother suffering from cancer who needs to be cared for. This money is incredibly important to me. I am disgusted and aggravated by this objector to the settlement. It is absurd that someone wants all the parties involved to go back to the drawing board and try again after five years of negotiations that finally yielded a settlement. It took enormous effort and cooperation to reach this point. If the settlement is renegotiated, claimants like me will certainly lose money because the value of articles according to the settlement depends on how old they are. The longer any negotiating process continues, the less money claimants will earn and compensation for unregistered articles might likely be thrown out completely.

6. I request that the court consider that this group of six objectors is by far outweighed by the hundreds of claimants who have applied for compensation and support the settlement's present terms. We have waited a long time for this. Please don't destroy the hard

work that has been done here. We finally have all of the defendants that have agreed to the settlement and arriving at that was a tremendous feat.

7. I believe the proposed settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable for me as a class member, and support final approval of the settlement and plan of allocation so that I can receive my share of the Settlement proceeds as approved by the District Court.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed 9/15, 2005, at Glenview, Illinois.


MARTHA RUSSIS