

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Adam Steele, Brittany Montrois, and)
Joseph Henchman, on behalf of)
themselves and all others similarly)
situated,)
 Plaintiffs,)
 v.)
United States of America,)
 Defendant.)
_____)

Civil Action No.: 1:14-cv-01523-RCL

PLAINTIFFS’ RESPONSE TO PATRICK BRYANT LETTER

On May 22, 2023, *Steele v. United States* class member Patrick Bryant sent a letter to the Court asking why he was not included in the class and requesting to be included. As class counsel previously communicated to Mr. Bryant and as further explained below, Mr. Bryant is a class member and received notice of this class action.

1. On or about October 7, 2016, the claims administrator, KCC LLC, sent notice via email to Mr. Bryant at [REDACTED]. *See* Exhibit 1, Declaration of Hannah Fein.

2. On January 31, 2023, Mr. Bryant submitted an inquiry to class counsel through Motley Rice’s website. Exhibit 2, P. Bryant webform submission. He stated that he had not received notice and asked why he was not included in the class. *Id.* at 2, 4. The email address Mr. Bryant provided was [REDACTED]. *Id.*

3. On January 31, 2023, class counsel confirmed with KCC that Mr. Bryant received email notice in 2016. Exhibit 3 at 2, email from H. Forrest to L. Rublee.

4. On January 31, 2023, class counsel responded to Mr. Bryant informing him that he was a member of the class and was previously sent notice. Class counsel also requested his updated contact information. *See* Exhibit 4, email from L. Rublee to P. Bryant. Mr. Bryant did not respond.

5. On May 24, 2023, class counsel received a copy of Mr. Bryant's letter to the Court. Exhibit 5.

6. On May 25, 2023, class counsel emailed Mr. Bryant using the different email address provided in his letter to the Court ([REDACTED]), requested updated contact information, and offered to set up a call to discuss any further questions. Exhibit 6 at 3, email chain between L. Rublee and P. Bryant.

7. On May 30, 2023, Mr. Bryant confirmed he received an email stating he was included in the class, and that the contact information on file was correct, including the email address to which class notice was sent in 2016. Exhibit 7 at 2, email from P. Bryant. In addition, Mr. Bryant noted he must pay if he wants to access the documents filed in this case. *Id.* While key documents are available on the class website as is typical in class actions, (*see, e.g.*, <https://tinyurl.com/SeetGeek-Case-Docs>; <https://tinyurl.com/Packaged-Seafood-Case-Docs>; <https://tinyurl.com/Qualcomm-Case-Docs>), class counsel is in the process of working with KCC to upload the remaining several hundreds of documents to the website.

8. On May 31, 2023, class counsel updated Mr. Bryant on the current status of the case and attached the Court's order on summary judgment. Exhibit 6 at 2.

9. In an email dated June 2, 2023, Mr. Bryant confirmed he had been charged only one time per year for his PTIN.

Dated: June 8, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ William H. Narwold
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on June 8, 2023, I electronically filed Plaintiffs' Response to Patrick Bryant Letter through this Court's CM/ECF system. I understand that notice of this filing will be sent to all parties by operation of the Court's electronic filing system.

Dated: June 8, 2023

/s/ William H. Narwold

William H. Narwold