

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

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CASE NO: 2021-L-0000307
DATE: 10/24/2024 11:46 AM
BY: J P, DEPUTY

DARIO DZANANOVIC and KEMELLE)
HOWELL, individually and on behalf of)
all others similarly situated,)

Plaintiffs,

v.)

BADDO TRADING LIMITED, a United)
Kingdom company; and BUMBLE)
TRADING L.L.C., a Delaware limited)
liability corporation,)

Defendants.

No. 2021-L-307

Hon. Ronald A. Barch

FINAL ORDER AND JUDGMENT

This matter coming to be heard on Plaintiffs’ Unopposed Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement (the “Motion”), due and adequate notice having been given to the Settlement Class, and the Court having considered the papers filed and proceedings in this matter, and being fully advised in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED as follows:

1. Unless otherwise noted, all capitalized terms in this Final Order and Judgment shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the Settlement Agreement between Plaintiffs Dario Dzananovic and Kemelle Howell (“Plaintiffs”), on the one hand, and Defendants Badoo Trading Limited and Bumble Trading, L.L.C. (“Defendants”), on the other hand (collectively “the Parties”). The terms of the Settlement are fully adopted and incorporated herein.

2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action and personal jurisdiction over all parties to the Action, including all Settlement Class Members.

3. The Court preliminarily approved the Settlement on June 6, 2024. The Court finds that adequate notice was given to the members of the Settlement Class pursuant to the terms of the Preliminary Approval Order.

4. The Court has read and considered the papers filed in support of the Motion for Final Approval, including the Settlement and exhibits thereto and supporting declarations.

5. The Court has also read and considered the papers in support of the Motion to Intervene filed by counsel Michael L. Fradin on October 18, 2024 on behalf of 22 individuals claiming to be Settlement Class members.

6. The Court held a Final Approval Hearing on October 23, 2024, at which time the Parties and all other interested persons were afforded the opportunity to be heard in support of and in opposition to the Settlement.

7. For the reasons stated on the record at the Final Approval Hearing, the Motion to Intervene is denied.

8. Based on the papers filed with the Court and the presentations made to the Court by the Parties and other interested persons at the Final Approval Hearing, the Court now gives Final Approval to the Settlement and finds that it is fair, adequate, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class. The complex legal and factual posture of the Action, the monetary and non-monetary relief provided to the Settlement Class, and the fact that the Settlement is the result of arm's-length negotiations overseen by two experienced mediators further support this finding.

9. Pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-801 and 2-802, the Court finally certifies, for settlement purposes only, the following Settlement Class:

“All individuals who used the Bumble or Badoo app while a resident of, or located in, the state of Illinois, between November 1, 2016 through December 31, 2021.”

Excluded from the Settlement Class are (i) Defendants; (ii) Defendants' parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, investors, and employees; (iii) any entity in which Defendants have a controlling interest; (iv) any individual who would otherwise be included in the Settlement Class, but has agreed, in another proceeding, to release claims covered by this Settlement prior to the Claim Form deadline identified in Section 4.4 of the Settlement Agreement; and (v) any judge presiding over this Action, their staff, and the members of the judge's immediate family.

10. The persons listed on Exhibit A to this Order have made a timely and valid request for exclusion and are excluded from the Settlement Class and are not bound by this Final Order and Judgment.

11. For settlement purposes only, the Court confirms the appointment of Plaintiffs Dario Dzananovic and Kemelle Howell as Class Representatives of the Settlement Class.

12. For settlement purposes only, the Court confirms the appointment of the following counsel as Class Counsel, and finds they are experienced in class litigation and have adequately represented the Settlement Class: Jonathan M. Jagher of Freed Kanner London & Millen LLC; Evan M. Meyers of McGuire Law, P.C.; and Katrina Carroll of Lynch Carpenter, LLP.

13. With respect to the Settlement Class, this Court finds, for settlement purposes only, that: (a) the Settlement Class defined above is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law or fact common to the Settlement Class, and those common questions predominate over any questions affecting only individual members; (c) the Class Representatives and Class Counsel have fairly and adequately protected, and will continue to fairly and adequately protect, the interests of the Settlement Class; and (d) certification of the Settlement Class is an appropriate method for the fair and efficient adjudication of the Action.

14. The Court has determined that the Notice given to the Settlement Class members, in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order, fully and accurately informed Settlement

Class members of all material elements of the Settlement, constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and fully satisfied the requirements of 735 ILCS 5/2-803, applicable law, and the Due Process Clauses of the U.S. Constitution and Illinois Constitution.

15. The Court orders the Parties to the Settlement to perform their obligations thereunder. The terms of the Settlement shall be deemed incorporated herein as if explicitly set forth and shall have the full force of an order of this Court.

16. The Court dismisses the Action with prejudice and without costs (except as otherwise provided herein and in the Settlement). The Court adjudges that the Released Claims and all of the claims described in the Settlement Agreement are released against the Released Parties.

17. The Court adjudges that Plaintiffs and all Settlement Class Members who have not opted out of the Settlement Class shall be deemed to have fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged all Released Claims against the Released Parties, as set forth in the Settlement.

18. The Released Claims specifically extend to claims that Plaintiffs and Settlement Class Members do not know or suspect to exist in their favor at the time that the Settlement, and the releases contained therein, become effective.

19. The Court further adjudges that, upon entry of this Order, the Settlement and the above-described release of the Released Claims will be binding on, and have *res judicata* preclusive effect in, all pending and future lawsuits or other proceedings maintained by or on behalf of Plaintiffs and all other Settlement Class Members who did not validly and timely exclude themselves from the Settlement, and their respective predecessors, successors, affiliates, spouses, heirs, executors, administrators, agents and assigns of each of the foregoing, as set forth in the

Settlement. The Released Parties may file the Settlement and/or this Final Order and Judgment in any action or proceeding that may be brought against them in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or any other defense or counterclaim.

20. Plaintiffs and Settlement Class Members who did not validly and timely request exclusion from the Settlement are permanently barred and enjoined from asserting, commencing, prosecuting, or continuing any of the Released Claims or any of the claims described in the Settlement Agreement against any of the Released Parties.

21. The Court approves payment of attorneys' fees, costs and expenses to Class Counsel in the amount of \$14,103,727.98. This amount shall be paid from the Settlement Fund in accordance with the terms of the Settlement. The Court, having considered the materials submitted by Class Counsel in support of final approval of the Settlement and their request for attorneys' fees, costs and expenses, finds the award of attorneys' fees, costs and expenses appropriate and reasonable for the following reasons: First, the Court finds that the Settlement provides substantial monetary and non-monetary benefits to the Settlement Class. Second, the Court finds the payment fair and reasonable in light of the substantial work performed, and the result obtained, by Class Counsel. Third, the Court concludes that the Settlement was negotiated at arm's length without collusion and with the assistance of experienced mediators, and that the negotiation of the attorneys' fees only followed agreement on the settlement benefits for the Settlement Class Members. Finally, the Court notes that the Class Notice specifically and clearly advised the Settlement Class that Class Counsel would seek an award in the amount sought.

22. The Court approves Service Awards in the amount of \$5,000 for Class Representative Dario Dzananovic and \$5,000 for Class Representative Kemelle Howell, and specifically finds such amounts to be reasonable in light of the services performed by Plaintiffs for the Settlement Class, including taking on the risks of litigation and helping achieve the results to be made available to the Settlement Class. This amount shall be paid from the Settlement Fund in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

23. The Court approves payment of administration costs and expenses to the Settlement Administrator, Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc., from the Settlement Fund in accordance with the terms of the Settlement. The estimated total administration costs and expenses are \$307,948.00.

24. The Parties have agreed to distribute any *cy pres* funds to Prairie State Legal Services. Such funds, if any, shall be comprised of the value of uncashed settlement checks and paid in accordance with the Settlement Agreement.

25. Neither this Final Order and Judgment, nor the Settlement, nor the payment of any consideration in connection with the Settlement shall be construed or used as an admission or concession by or against Defendant or any of the other Released Parties of any fault, omission, liability, or wrongdoing, or of the validity of any of the Released Claims as set forth in the Settlement Agreement. This Final Order and Judgment is not a finding of the validity or invalidity of any claims in this Action or a determination of any wrongdoing by Defendants or any of the other Released Parties. The Final Approval of the Settlement does not constitute any position, opinion, or determination of this Court, one way or another, as to the merits of the claims or defenses of Plaintiffs, the Settlement Class Members, or Defendants.

26. No objections made in this matter. The Court finds that no reason exists for delay in entering this Final Order and Judgment. Accordingly, the Clerk is hereby directed forthwith to enter this Final Order and Judgment.

27. The Parties, without further approval from the Court, are hereby permitted to agree to and adopt such amendments, modifications and expansions of the Settlement Agreement and its implementing documents (including all exhibits to the Settlement Agreement) so long as they are consistent in all material respects with the Final Order and Judgment and do not limit the rights of the Settlement Class Members.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

ENTERED: 10/24/2024



Hon. Ronald A. Barch
Circuit Court Judge
Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court of Illinois

Exhibit A

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DARIO DZANANOVIC and KEMELLE)
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List of Opted-Out Class Members From Class Action Settlement

1. Morgan Marcus
2. Morgan Boyer
3. Mauricio Vaca Tapia
4. Jose Brito
5. Kenneth Hitchell