

The Honorable Richard A. Jones

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

MALIK TUCKER and REGINALD
WILLIAMS,

Plaintiffs,

v.

KING COUNTY,

Defendant.

No. 2:24-cv-00002-RAJ

**ORDER GRANTING PRELIMINARY
APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND
APPROVING NOTICE PLAN**

The Court, having considered Plaintiffs’ Motion for Preliminary Approval of Proposed Class Action Settlement (“Preliminary Approval Motion”), the exhibits thereto, and the record in this case, finds good cause to enter the following Order.

IT IS ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

Preliminary Approval of Settlement

1. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Class Action Settlement Agreement, attached and set forth in Exhibit 1 to the Preliminary Approval Motion.

2. The Court preliminarily approves the Settlement Agreement, subject to further consideration by the Court at the time of the Final Approval Hearing. The Court preliminarily finds that the Parties have shown that the Court will likely be able to grant final approval of the Settlement Agreement as fair, reasonable, and adequate.

1 3. The following attorneys are hereby appointed Class Counsel for the
2 Settlement Class:

3 Akeeb Dami Animashaun
4 355 S. Grand Ave, Suite 2450
5 Los Angeles, CA 90071
6 dami@animashaun.me

7 Ezra Ritchin
8 367 St. Marks Ave, #1132
9 Brooklyn, NY 11238
10 ezraritchin@gmail.com

11 Michael Zhang, WSBA #60933
12 Qiu-Qiu Law
13 5020 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Ste S
14 Portland, OR 97211
15 michael@qiu-qiulaw.com

16 Sadé A. Smith, WSBA #44867
17 Smith Law LLC
18 3250 Airport Way S, Suite 415
19 Seattle, WA 98134
20 sade@thesmithlaw.com

21 Shakeer Rahman
22 Law Office of Shakeer Rahman
23 CA Bar No. 332888
24 838 E 6th Street
25 Los Angeles, CA 90021
26 shakeer@loosr.net

27 4. Class Counsel are authorized to act on behalf of the Settlement Class with
28 respect to all acts or consents required by or which may be given pursuant to the
Settlement, and such other acts reasonably necessary to consummate the Settlement.

 5. For purposes of the Court's preliminary approval of the Settlement only, the
Court accepts the Parties' stipulated class definitions and certifies the Settlement Class,
which includes two Subclasses, as defined below:

1 a. No Warrants Subclass: all persons who (i) were detained by Defendant King
2 County for more than 48 hours without a probable cause hearing or a warrant
3 for their arrest at any time between January 2, 2021 and April 23, 2025, and
4 (ii) *were not detained* pursuant to a warrant in an unrelated matter during
5 the pendency of their detention.

6 b. Warrants Subclass: all persons who (i) were detained by Defendant King
7 County for more than 48 hours without a probable cause hearing or a warrant
8 for their arrest at any time between January 2, 2021 and April 23, 2025, and
9 (ii) *were detained* pursuant to a warrant in an unrelated matter during the
10 pendency of their detention.

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12 6. In making this finding, the Court finds that Named Plaintiffs Malik Tucker
13 and Reginald Williams and Class Counsel have adequately represented the Settlement
14 Class; the Settlement Agreement was negotiated at arm's length and was not the product
15 of collusion; the relief provided for the Settlement Class is fair, adequate, reasonable, and
16 within the range of possible approval, subject to further and final consideration at the Final
17 Approval Hearing.

18 7. The Court will retain discretion to appoint a United States Magistrate Judge
19 to handle disputes relating to the interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of the
20 Settlement Agreement. The Court may also itself resolve any such disputes.

21 **Notice**

22 8. The form of Notice and notice process attached and set forth in Exhibit 3 to
23 the Preliminary Approval Motion is approved.

24 9. The Court finds that the Class Notice and notice process reflect the best
25 practicable notice under the circumstances—including individual notice to all Class
26 Members who can be identified through reasonable diligence—and comply with the
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1 requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(c)(2)(B) and due process. The Class
2 Notice clearly and concisely states in plain, easily understood language: the nature of the
3 action; the definition of the Settlement Class; the Settlement Class claims and issues; that
4 a Class Member may enter an appearance through an attorney if the Class Member so
5 desires; that the Court will exclude from the Settlement Class any Class Member who
6 requests exclusion; the time and manner for requesting exclusion at the Final Approval
7 Hearing; and the binding effect of a Final Judgment on Class Members under Federal Rule
8 of Civil Procedure 23(c)(3).
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10 10. Class Counsel shall use reasonable means, including but not limited to,
11 regular U.S. mail, email, telephone calls, and in-person outreach at residential and other
12 addresses related to Class Members, to contact any Class Members.

13 11. The Court approves and appoints American Legal Claim Services LLC as
14 the Settlement Administrator for this action, and to thereby perform and execute all such
15 responsibilities as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

16 12. The cost of preparing, publishing, and serving the Class Notice, as well as
17 the other expenses related to the publication and distribution of the Class Notice to the
18 Settlement Class shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund. Such costs shall not exceed
19 \$50,000.

20 **Deadlines**

21 13. No later than 30 calendar days from the date of this Preliminary Approval
22 Order, the Settlement Administrator shall cause to be disseminated the Class Notice,
23 substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 3 to the Preliminary Motion, in the manner
24 set forth in Section 4 of the Settlement Agreement. At or before the Final Approval
25 Hearing, the Settlement Administrator shall serve and file a sworn statement attesting to
26 compliance with the required notice dissemination.
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1 14. Class Members may opt-out of the Settlement by submitting a written
2 request within 45 calendar days of the Notice Date. Opt-Out requests shall follow the
3 procedure set forth in the Class Notice. Any Class Member who does not properly and
4 timely Opt-Out from the Settlement shall be included in the Class and, if the Settlement is
5 approved and becomes effective, shall be bound by all the terms and provisions of
6 the Settlement Agreement, including but not limited to, the Release of Claims described
7 therein, whether or not such person shall have objected to the Settlement and whether or
8 not such person participates in the Settlement Fund or the other benefits to the Class to be
9 provided under the Settlement Agreement.
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11 15. Class Members may object to the Settlement Agreement by submitting a
12 written objection to this Court within 45 calendar days of the Notice Date. Objections
13 will be filed in the public record. If a Class Member wishes to appear at the Final Approval
14 Hearing to object to the settlement, he or she should indicate such intent in the written
15 objection.

16 16. Class Members submitting a Claim Form must postmark or deliver the
17 Claim Form following the procedure set forth in the Class Notice no later than midnight
18 270 calendar days after the Final Approval Order. This date may be extended by either
19 Party for a period not to exceed 365 calendar days after entry of the Final Approval Order.
20 This date may be further extended by written agreement of the Parties.

21 **Final Approval Hearing**

22 17. A Final Approval Hearing shall be held on **Friday, December 5, 2025 at**
23 **9:00 a.m.**, at the United States District Courthouse, 700 Stewart Street, Courtroom 13106,
24 to consider:

- 25 a. The fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement Agreement;
26 b. Whether a Final Approval Order shall be entered; and
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1 c. Any other matters that properly may be brought before the Court in
2 connection with the Settlement.

3 18. The date and time of the Final Approval Hearing shall be set forth in the
4 Class Notice, but shall be subject to continuance by the Court without further notice to the
5 Class Members other than that which may be posted at the Court.
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7 DATED this 6th day of August, 2025.

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10 The Honorable Richard A. Jones
11 United States District Judge
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