

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

IN RE SIGNET JEWELERS LIMITED
SECURITIES LITIGATION

Civil Action No. 1:16-cv-06728-CM-SDA

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT OF SETTLEMENT

This Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement, dated as of March 16, 2020 (the “Stipulation”) is entered into between (a) lead plaintiff Public Employees’ Retirement System of Mississippi (“Lead Plaintiff” or “MissPERS”), on behalf of itself and the Class (defined below); and (b) defendant Signet Jewelers Limited (together with its affiliates, subsidiaries, and divisions, including Sterling Jewelers, Inc., “Signet” or the “Company”) and defendants Michael Barnes, Virginia Drosos, Mark Light, Ronald Ristau, and Michele Santana (collectively, the “Individual Defendants,” and, together with Signet, “Defendants”) (Lead Plaintiff and Defendants, together, the “Parties”), and embodies the terms and conditions of the settlement of the above-captioned action (the “Action”).¹ Subject to the approval of the Court and the terms and conditions expressly provided herein, this Stipulation is intended to fully, finally, and forever compromise, settle, release, resolve, and dismiss with prejudice the Action and all Released Plaintiff’s Claims (defined below) against Defendants.

¹ All terms with initial capitalization not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in ¶ 1 herein.

WHEREAS:

A. In August 2016, plaintiffs Susan Dube and Lyubomir Spasov filed class action complaints in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (the “Court”), styled *Dube v. Signet Jewelers Limited, et al.*, Case No. 16-CV-6728 (JMF) and *Spasov v. Signet Jewelers Limited, et al.*, Case No. 16-CV-6861 (JMF), respectively, alleging violations of the federal securities laws. The *Dube* and *Spasov* actions were brought on behalf of investors that acquired Signet securities during the period between January 7, 2016 and June 3, 2016, inclusive, and encompassed allegations that defendants misled investors by failing to disclose that the Company was having difficulty ensuring the safety of customers’ jewelry while in the custody of Signet’s retail stores for repairs, which included allegations regarding “diamond swapping” by employees at its Kay Jewelers stores.

B. By Order entered September 16, 2016, the Court consolidated the *Dube* and *Spasov* actions under case number 16-CV-6728, and by Order entered November 21, 2016, the Court appointed plaintiffs Dube and Spasov as lead plaintiffs in the consolidated action.

C. On January 30, 2017, plaintiffs Dube and Spasov filed an Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of Federal Securities Laws (the “First Amended Complaint”), and on April 3, 2017, plaintiffs Dube and Spasov filed a Second Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of Federal Securities Laws (the “Second Amended Complaint”). The Second Amended Complaint included an expanded class period covering the period between August 29, 2013 and February 27, 2017, inclusive, and alleged two new theories of securities fraud (in addition to the diamond-swapping allegations); namely, that Signet misled investors about (1) the quality of its credit portfolio during the class period; and (2) risks to its reputation from an alleged pervasive culture of sexual harassment.

D. On April 14, 2017, the Court entered a Memorandum Opinion and Order in which the Court determined that the claims and class period in the Second Amended Complaint were sufficiently different from those asserted in the original *Dube* complaint and the First Amended Complaint and that plaintiffs Dube and Spasov were accordingly required to republish notice under the PSLRA, after which the Court would revisit the question of who should be appointed as lead plaintiff and lead counsel under the PSLRA.

E. On July 5, 2017, following republication of the PSLRA notice, MissPERS, the Norfolk County Council as Administering Authority of the Norfolk Pension Fund (the “Norfolk Pension Fund”), and Heather Salway (“Salway”) filed competing motions for appointment as lead plaintiff. On July 18, 2017, Salway withdrew her application, leaving only the applications of MissPERS and the Norfolk Pension Fund.

F. On July 27, 2017, the Court entered an Order appointing MissPERS as Lead Plaintiff and approving MissPERS’s selection of Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP as Lead Counsel.

G. On September 29, 2017, MissPERS filed the Third Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of the Federal Securities Laws (the “Third Amended Complaint”) asserting claims against defendants Signet; Michael Barnes (“Barnes”), Signet’s former Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”); Ronald Ristau (“Ristau”), Signet’s former Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”); Mark Light (“Light”), Signet’s former CEO; and Michele Santana (“Santana”), Signet’s CFO. The Third Amended Complaint covered a putative class period of August 29, 2013 through May 24, 2017, and asserted substantially similar claims to the Second Amended Complaint except that it omitted claims based on defendants’ alleged misstatements concerning alleged diamond-swapping.

H. On December 1, 2017, defendants Signet, Barnes, Ristau, Light, and Santana filed a motion to dismiss the Third Amended Complaint.

I. On December 4, 2017, following additional disclosures from Defendants, the Court entered an Order permitting Lead Plaintiff to amend the Third Amended Complaint as of right, and on December 22, 2017, Lead Plaintiff filed its Fourth Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of the Federal Securities Laws (the “Fourth Amended Complaint”) asserting claims against defendants Signet, Barnes, Ristau, Light, Santana, and Virginia Drosos (“Drosos”), Signet’s current CEO (collectively, “Defendants”). The Fourth Amended Complaint asserted substantially the same claims as the Third Amended Complaint for an expanded class period of August 28, 2013 through December 1, 2017, to incorporate additional alleged corrective disclosures.

J. On January 26, 2018, Defendants filed their motion to dismiss the Fourth Amended Complaint. On February 23, 2018, Lead Plaintiff filed its memorandum of law in opposition to the motion to dismiss the Fourth Amended Complaint, and, on March 9, 2018, Defendants filed their reply papers.

K. On March 16, 2018, Lead Plaintiff filed a letter motion requesting leave to amend the Fourth Amended Complaint to add factual allegations concerning new disclosures made by Signet on March 14, 2018 regarding Signet’s sale of the subprime portion of its credit portfolio. On March 20, 2018, the Court entered an Order granting Lead Plaintiff leave to file the Fifth Amended Complaint.

L. On March 22, 2018, Lead Plaintiff filed the Fifth Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of the Federal Securities Laws (the “Fifth Amended Complaint” or “Complaint”) asserting claims against all Defendants under Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(the “Exchange Act”) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder, and against Defendants Barnes, Drosos, Light, Ristau, and Santana under Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. The Complaint alleged that Defendants violated the federal securities laws based on two categories of false or misleading statements and omissions: (1) Defendants’ statements about the Company’s lending operation and loan portfolio, which included repeated representations to investors that Signet was a “prudent” lender that made high-quality loans according to “stringent” credit criteria while, allegedly unbeknownst to investors, Signet engaged in reckless underwriting and built a large portfolio of high-risk subprime loans that caused the Company to incur significant losses; and (2) Defendants’ statements in its codes of conducts and ethics, Signet’s description of a long-running employment arbitration in its public filings, and certain risk disclosures in Signet’s public filings, which were allegedly rendered misleading because of allegations of sexual harassment at Signet. The Complaint further alleged that the price of Signet common stock was artificially inflated during the period between August 29, 2013 and March 13, 2018, inclusive, as a result of Defendants’ allegedly false and misleading statements and omissions, and declined when the truth was revealed to the public.

M. On March 30, 2018, Defendants filed their motion to dismiss the Fifth Amended Complaint. On April 9, 2018, Lead Plaintiff filed its memorandum of law in opposition to the motion to dismiss the Fifth Amended Complaint, and, on April 13, 2018, Defendants filed their reply papers.

N. On May 23, 2018, the Action was reassigned from the Honorable Jesse Furman to the Honorable Colleen McMahan.

O. On November 26, 2018, the Court entered its Decision and Order substantially denying Defendants’ motion to dismiss the Complaint.

P. On February 15, 2019, each of the Defendants filed and served their Answer, Defenses, and Affirmative Defenses to the Complaint.

Q. On March 15, 2019, Lead Plaintiff filed its motion for class certification and supporting papers (the “Class Certification Motion”). Defendants filed their memorandum of law and supporting papers in opposition to Lead Plaintiff’s Class Certification Motion on April 26, 2019.

R. On May 9, 2019, Defendants filed a motion for judgment on the pleadings under Rule 12(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as to Lead Plaintiff’s claim in the Fifth Amended Complaint based on statements in Signet’s codes of conduct and ethics (“Motion for Judgment on Pleadings”).

S. On May 17, 2019, Lead Plaintiff filed its reply memorandum of law and supporting papers in further support of the Class Certification Motion.

T. On May 23, 2019, Lead Plaintiff filed its memorandum of law in opposition to Defendants’ Motion for Judgment on Pleadings, and on May 30, 2019, Defendants filed their reply papers in support of the Motion for Judgment on Pleadings.

U. On June 11, 2019, the Court denied Defendants’ Motion for Judgment on Pleadings. On June 18, 2019, Defendants filed a motion for reconsideration of the Court’s denial of the Motion for Judgment on Pleadings (“Motion for Reconsideration”). On June 20, 2019, the Court entered a Decision and Order denying Defendants’ Motion for Reconsideration.

V. On June 21, 2019, Defendants filed their supplemental memorandum of law further opposing Lead Plaintiff’s Class Certification Motion.

W. On July 10, 2019, the Court entered its Decision and Order Granting Plaintiff’s Motion for Class Certification (“Class Certification Order”) in part. The Court’s Class

Certification Order certified a class consisting of all persons and entities who purchased or otherwise acquired Signet common stock from August 29, 2013 to May 25, 2017.

X. Discovery in the Action commenced in December 2018. Lead Plaintiff prepared and served initial disclosures and requests for production of documents on Defendants, exchanged numerous letters with Defendants concerning discovery issues, and served document subpoenas on 16 third parties. Defendants and third parties produced a total of nearly 4 million pages of documents to Lead Plaintiff, and Lead Plaintiff produced nearly 200,000 pages of documents to Defendants in response to their requests. 31 depositions were taken in the Action, which included depositions of representatives of Lead Plaintiff and depositions of each side's expert witnesses taken in connection with Lead Plaintiff's Class Certification Motion.

Y. On July 24, 2019, Defendants filed a petition, pursuant to Rule 23(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (the "Rule 23(f) Petition"), for leave to appeal the Court's Class Certification Order to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. On August 5, 2019, Lead Plaintiff opposed Defendants' Rule 23(f) Petition. On November 19, 2019, the Second Circuit granted Defendants' Rule 23(f) Petition.

Z. In September 2019, Lead Plaintiff submitted six opening expert reports. On October 25, 2019 and November 15, 2019, Defendants submitted nine rebuttal expert reports. On November 6, 11, and 13, Lead Plaintiff submitted five reply expert reports.

AA. The Parties began exploring the possibility of a settlement in September 2019. The Parties agreed to engage in private mediation and retained retired United States District Court Judge Layn R. Phillips to act as mediator in the Action (the "Mediator"). Pursuant to a schedule set by the Mediator, the Parties exchanged mediation statements on November 1, 2019, and

participated in three full-day mediation sessions in New York on November 18, 2019, December 9, 2019, and January 7, 2020.

BB. After extensive negotiation throughout the months-long mediation process, following the January 7, 2020 mediation session, the Mediator issued a mediator's recommendation that the Action be settled for \$240,000,000 in cash, which the Parties conditionally accepted subject to approvals by the Mississippi Attorney General and Signet's Board of Directors, which were subsequently obtained.

CC. On January 16, 2020, the Parties filed a joint stipulation, pursuant to Second Circuit Local Rule 42.1, withdrawing Defendants' pending Rule 23(f) appeal without costs or attorneys' fees. That joint stipulation, which was so-ordered by the Clerk of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals on January 16, 2020, permits Defendants to reinstate the appeal by filing written notice with the Clerk of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, and serving such notice upon Lead Plaintiff, by August 28, 2020.

DD. This Stipulation (together with the exhibits hereto) reflects the final and binding agreement between the Parties in connection with the Settlement reached by the Parties.

EE. Based upon their investigation, prosecution, and mediation of the case, Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel have concluded that the terms and conditions of this Stipulation are fair, reasonable, and adequate to Lead Plaintiff and the other members of the Class, and in their best interests. Based on Lead Plaintiff's direct oversight of the prosecution of this matter and with the advice of its counsel, Lead Plaintiff has agreed to settle and release the Released Plaintiff's Claims pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Stipulation, after considering, among other things: (a) the substantial financial benefit that Lead Plaintiff and the other members of the Class

will receive under the proposed Settlement; and (b) the significant risks and costs of continued litigation and trial.

FF. This Stipulation constitutes a compromise of all matters that are in dispute between the Parties. Defendants are entering into this Stipulation solely to eliminate the uncertainty, burden, and expense of further protracted litigation. Each of the Defendants denies any wrongdoing, and this Stipulation shall in no event be construed or deemed to be evidence of or an admission or concession on the part of Defendants with respect to any claim or allegation of any fault or liability or wrongdoing or damage whatsoever, or any infirmity in the defenses that Defendants have, or could have, asserted. Defendants expressly deny that Lead Plaintiff has asserted any valid claims as to any of them, and expressly deny any and all allegations of fault, liability, wrongdoing, or damages whatsoever. Similarly, this Stipulation shall in no event be construed or deemed to be evidence of or an admission or concession on the part of Lead Plaintiff of any infirmity in any of the claims asserted in the Action, or an admission or concession that any of the Defendants' defenses to liability had any merit.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and among Lead Plaintiff (individually and on behalf of all other members of the Class) and Defendants, by and through their respective undersigned attorneys and subject to the approval of the Court pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, that, in consideration of the benefits flowing to the Parties from the Settlement, all Released Plaintiff's Claims as against the Defendants' Releasees and all Released Defendants' Claims as against the Plaintiff's Releasees shall be settled and released, upon and subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.

DEFINITIONS

1. As used in this Stipulation and any exhibits attached hereto and made a part hereof, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) “Action” means the consolidated securities class action in the matter styled *In re Signet Jewelers Limited Securities Litigation*, Civil Action No. 1:16-cv-06728-CM-SDA, and includes all actions consolidated therein.

(b) “Alternate Judgment” means a form of final judgment that may be entered by the Court herein but in a form other than the form of Judgment provided for in this Stipulation.

(c) “Authorized Claimant” means a Class Member who or which submits a Claim to the Claims Administrator that is approved by the Court for payment from the Net Settlement Fund.

(d) “Claim” means a paper claim submitted on a Proof of Claim Form or an electronic claim that is submitted to the Claims Administrator.

(e) “Claim Form” or “Proof of Claim Form” means the form, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit 2 to Exhibit A, that a Claimant must complete and submit should that Claimant seek to share in a distribution of the Net Settlement Fund.

(f) “Claimant” means a person or entity who or which submits a Claim to the Claims Administrator seeking to be eligible to share in a distribution of the Net Settlement Fund.

(g) “Claims Administrator” means the firm retained by Lead Counsel, subject to approval of the Court, to provide all notices approved by the Court to potential Class Members and to administer the Settlement.

(h) “Class” means the class certified in the Court’s July 10, 2019 Decision and Order Granting Plaintiff’s Motion for Class Certification (ECF No. 177). Specifically, the Class

includes all persons and entities who purchased or otherwise acquired Signet Jewelers Limited common stock during the period from August 29, 2013 to May 25, 2017 (the “Class Period”) and who were allegedly damaged thereby. Excluded from the Class are: (i) Defendants; (ii) the Immediate Family Members of the Individual Defendants; (iii) any person who was an Officer or director of Signet during the Class Period and his or her Immediate Family Members; (iv) any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of Signet; (v) any firm, trust, corporation, or other entity in which any excluded person or entity has, or had during the Class Period, a controlling interest; and (vi) the legal representatives, agents, affiliates, heirs, successors-in-interest, or assigns of any such excluded person or entity. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Signet employee retirement, savings, or benefit plan shall not be deemed an affiliate of any Defendant, except that any Claim submitted on behalf of any Signet employee retirement, savings, or benefit plan shall be pro-rated to exclude the proportion owned by Defendants and other specifically excluded persons or entities. Also excluded from the Class are any persons and entities who or which exclude themselves by submitting a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.

(i) “Class Members” means each person or entity who or which is a member of the Class.

(j) “Class Period” means the period from August 29, 2013 to May 25, 2017.

(k) “Class Distribution Order” means an order entered by the Court authorizing and directing that the Net Settlement Fund be distributed, in whole or in part, to Authorized Claimants.

(l) “Complaint” or “Fifth Amended Complaint” means the Fifth Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of the Federal Securities Laws filed by Lead Plaintiff in the Action on March 22, 2018.

(m) “Court” means the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

(n) “Defendants” means Signet and the Individual Defendants.

(o) “Defendants’ Counsel” means Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP.

(p) “Defendants’ Releasees” means each and all of the following: (a) each and every Defendant; (b) Defendants’ respective present and former parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, directors, officers, general partners, limited partners, Immediate Family Members, heirs, principals, trustees, trusts, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, successors in interest, assigns, members, agents, employees, managers, representatives, estates, divisions, advisors, estate managers, indemnifiers, insurers (including, but not limited to, Directors and Officers Liability Program Insurers), reinsurers, bankers, consultants, attorneys, accountants, and auditors, in their respective capacities as such; and (c) any entity in which any Defendant has or had a controlling interest.

(q) “Directors and Officers Liability Program Insurers” means the insurers that are paying a portion of the Settlement Amount as set forth herein.

(r) “Effective Date” with respect to the Settlement means the first date by which all of the events and conditions specified in ¶ 36 of this Stipulation have been met and have occurred or have been waived.

(s) “Escrow Account” means an account maintained at Citibank, N.A. wherein the Settlement Amount shall be deposited and held in escrow under the control of Lead Counsel.

(t) “Escrow Agent” means Citibank, N.A.

(u) “Escrow Agreement” means the agreement between Lead Counsel and the Escrow Agent setting forth the terms under which the Escrow Agent shall maintain the Escrow Account.

(v) “Excluded Defendants’ Claims” means (i) any claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement; and (ii) any claims against any person or entity who or which submits a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.

(w) “Excluded Plaintiff’s Claims” means (i) any claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement; (ii) any claims asserted in any derivative action, including, without limitation, the claims asserted in *Aungst v. Light, et al.*, No. CV-2017-3665 (Ct. Com. Pl. Summit Cty. Ohio) or any cases consolidated into that action; (iii) any claims asserted in *Benedict v. Signet Jewelers Ltd. et. al.*, No. 18-004896-CB (Cir. Ct. Wayne Cty. Mich.) or any cases consolidated into that action; (iv) any claims asserted in any ERISA action; (v) any claims by any governmental entity that arise out of any governmental investigation of Defendants relating to the conduct alleged in the Action; and (vi) any claims of any person or entity who or which submits a request for exclusion that is accepted by the Court.

(x) “Final,” with respect to the Judgment or, if applicable, the Alternate Judgment, or any other court order, means: (i) if no appeal is filed, the expiration date of the time provided for filing or noticing any appeal under the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, *i.e.*, thirty (30) days after entry of the judgment or order; or (ii) if there is an appeal from the judgment or order, (a) the date of final dismissal of all such appeals, or the final dismissal of any proceeding on certiorari or otherwise, or (b) the date the judgment or order is finally affirmed on an appeal, the expiration of the time to file a petition for a writ of certiorari or other form of review, or the denial of a writ of certiorari or other form of review, and, if certiorari or other form of review is

granted, the date of final affirmance following review pursuant to that grant. However, any appeal or proceeding seeking subsequent judicial review pertaining solely to an order issued with respect to (i) attorneys' fees, costs or expenses, or (ii) the plan of allocation of Settlement proceeds (as submitted or subsequently modified), shall not in any way delay or preclude a judgment from becoming Final.

(y) "Immediate Family Members" means children, stepchildren, parents, stepparents, spouses, siblings, mothers-in-law, fathers-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers-in-law, and sisters-in-law. As used in this paragraph, "spouse" shall mean a husband, a wife, or a partner in a state-recognized domestic relationship or civil union.

(z) "Individual Defendants" means Michael Barnes, Virginia Drosos, Mark Light, Ronald Ristau, and Michele Santana.

(aa) "Judgment" means the final judgment, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, to be entered by the Court approving the Settlement.

(bb) "Lead Counsel" means the law firm of Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP.

(cc) "Lead Plaintiff" means the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi.

(dd) "Litigation Expenses" means costs and expenses incurred in connection with commencing, prosecuting, and settling the Action (which may include the costs and expenses of Lead Plaintiff directly related to its representation of the Class), for which Lead Counsel intends to apply to the Court for payment from the Settlement Fund.

(ee) "Net Settlement Fund" means the Settlement Fund less: (i) any Taxes; (ii) any Notice and Administration Costs; (iii) any Litigation Expenses awarded by the Court;

(iv) any attorneys' fees awarded by the Court; and (v) any other costs or fees approved by the Court.

(ff) "Notice" means the Notice of (I) Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; (II) Settlement Fairness Hearing; and (III) Motion for an Award of Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit 1 to Exhibit A, which is to be mailed or emailed to Class Members.

(gg) "Notice and Administration Costs" means the costs, fees, and expenses that are incurred by the Claims Administrator and/or Lead Counsel in connection with: (i) providing notices to the Class; and (ii) administering the Settlement, including, but not limited to, the Claims process, as well as the costs, fees, and expenses incurred in connection with the Escrow Account.

(hh) "Officer" means any officer as that term is defined in Securities and Exchange Act Rule 16a-1(f).

(ii) "Parties" means Defendants and Lead Plaintiff, on behalf of itself and the Class.

(jj) "Persons" means a natural person, individual, corporation, limited liability corporation, professional corporation, limited liability partnership, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, association, joint stock company, estate, legal representative, trust, unincorporated association, government, government agency, political subdivision, or any business or legal entity.

(kk) "Plaintiff's Counsel" means Lead Counsel and all other legal counsel who, at the direction and under the supervision of Lead Counsel, performed services on behalf of the Class in the Action.

(ll) “Plaintiff’s Releasees” means each and all of the following: (a) each and every Class Member (including, without limitation, Lead Plaintiff) and their respective counsel (including, without limitation, Plaintiff’s Counsel); (b) the respective present and former parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, directors, officers, general partners, limited partners, Immediate Family Members, heirs, principals, trustees, trusts, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, successors in interest, assigns, members, agents, employees, managers, representatives, estates, divisions, advisors, estate managers, indemnifiers, insurers, reinsurers, bankers, consultants, attorneys, accountants, and auditors of each and every Class Member and their respective counsel, in their respective capacities as such; and (c) any entity in which any Class Member or their respective counsel has or had a controlling interest.

(mm) “Plan of Allocation” means the proposed plan of allocation of the Net Settlement Fund set forth in the Notice.

(nn) “Preliminary Approval Order” means the order, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, to be entered by the Court preliminarily approving the Settlement and directing that notice of the Settlement be provided to the Class.

(oo) “PSLRA” means the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4, as amended.

(pp) “Released Claims” means all Released Defendants’ Claims and all Released Plaintiff’s Claims.

(qq) “Released Defendants’ Claims” means all claims and causes of action of every nature and description, whether known claims or Unknown Claims, whether arising under federal, state, common, or foreign law, that are based upon, arise out of, relate to, or concern the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the claims asserted in the Action against Defendants.

Released Defendants' Claims do not include, settle, or release any of the Excluded Defendants' Claims.

(rr) "Released Plaintiff's Claims" means all claims and causes of action of every nature and description, whether known claims or Unknown Claims, whether arising under federal, state, common, or foreign law, whether class or individual in nature, that (a) Lead Plaintiff or any other member of the Class asserted in the Fifth Amended Complaint or any prior complaint filed in this Action or could have asserted in the Action or in any other action or in any forum (including, without limitation, any federal or state court, or in any other court, arbitration proceeding, administrative agency, or other forum, in the U.S. or elsewhere), including any such claims that arise out of or relate to any disclosures (including in financial statements), U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission filings, press releases, investor calls, registration statements, offering memoranda, web postings, presentations, or any other statements by Defendants during the Class Period, that arise out of or are based upon the claims, allegations, transactions, facts, circumstances, events, acts, disclosures, statements, representations, omissions, or failures to act alleged, set forth, referred to, or involved in the Fifth Amended Complaint or any prior complaint filed in this Action and (b) relate to the purchase or acquisition of Signet Jewelers Limited common stock during the Class Period. Released Plaintiff's Claims do not include, settle, or release any of the Excluded Plaintiff's Claims.

(ss) "Releasee(s)" means each and any of the Defendants' Releasees and each and any of the Plaintiff's Releasees.

(tt) "Releases" means the releases set forth in ¶¶ 5-6 of this Stipulation.

(uu) "Settlement" means the settlement between Lead Plaintiff and Defendants on the terms and conditions set forth in this Stipulation.

(vv) “Settlement Amount” means \$240,000,000 (USD) in cash.

(ww) “Settlement Fund” means the Settlement Amount plus any and all interest earned thereon.

(xx) “Settlement Fairness Hearing” means the hearing set by the Court under Rule 23(e)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to consider final approval of the Settlement.

(yy) “Signet” or the “Company” means Signet Jewelers Limited and its affiliates, subsidiaries, and divisions, including Sterling Jewelers, Inc.

(zz) “Summary Notice” means the Summary Notice of (I) Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; (II) Settlement Fairness Hearing; and (III) Motion for an Award of Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Expenses, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit 3 to Exhibit A, to be published as set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order.

(aaa) “Taxes” means: (i) all federal, state, and/or local taxes of any kind (including any interest or penalties thereon) on any income earned by the Settlement Fund; and (ii) the expenses and costs incurred by Lead Counsel in connection with determining the amount of, and paying, any taxes owed by the Settlement Fund (including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and accountants).

(bbb) “Unknown Claims” means any Released Plaintiff’s Claims which Lead Plaintiff or any other Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of such claims, and any Released Defendants’ Claims which any Defendant does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of such claims, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to this Settlement. With respect to any and all Released Claims, the Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiff and Defendants shall expressly waive,

and each of the other Class Members shall be deemed to have waived, and by operation of the Judgment or the Alternate Judgment, if applicable, shall have expressly waived, any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law or foreign law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil Code §1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

Lead Plaintiff and Defendants acknowledge, and each of the other Class Members shall be deemed by operation of law to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and a key element of the Settlement.

PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT

2. Promptly upon execution of this Stipulation, Lead Plaintiff will move for preliminary approval of the Settlement, authorization to provide notice of the Settlement to the Class, and the scheduling of a hearing for consideration of final approval of the Settlement, which motion shall be unopposed by Defendants provided that it is consistent with this Stipulation. Concurrently with the motion for preliminary approval, Lead Plaintiff shall apply to the Court for, and Defendants shall agree to, entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

3. From the date of this Stipulation through the Effective Date of the Stipulation, Lead Plaintiff and its counsel agree, other than for those matters necessary to implement and effectuate the Settlement itself: (a) not to take any steps to prosecute any of the Released Plaintiff's Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees; and (b) not to initiate or participate in any proceedings asserting any of the Released Plaintiff's Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees.

RELEASE OF CLAIMS

4. The obligations incurred pursuant to this Stipulation are in consideration of: (a) the full and final disposition of the Action as against Defendants; and (b) the Releases provided for herein.

5. Pursuant to the Judgment, or the Alternate Judgment, if applicable, without further action by anyone, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiff and each of the other Class Members, on behalf of themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns in their capacities as such only, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of the judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged any or all of the Released Plaintiff's Claims against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Plaintiff's Claims against any of the Defendants' Releasees. This Release shall not apply to any of the Excluded Plaintiff's Claims.

6. Pursuant to the Judgment, or the Alternate Judgment, if applicable, without further action by anyone, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Defendants, on behalf of themselves, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns in their capacities as such only, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of the judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged any or all of the Released Defendants' Claims against Lead Plaintiff and the other Plaintiff's Releasees, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Defendants' Claims against any of the Plaintiff's Releasees. This Release shall not apply to any of the Excluded Defendants' Claims.

7. Notwithstanding ¶¶ 5-6 above, nothing in the Judgment, or the Alternate Judgment, if applicable, shall bar any action by any of the Parties to enforce or effectuate the terms of this Stipulation or the Judgment, or Alternate Judgment, if applicable.

THE SETTLEMENT CONSIDERATION

8. In consideration of the settlement of the Released Plaintiff's Claims against Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees, Defendants shall pay or cause to be paid the Settlement Amount into the Escrow Account no later than twenty (20) business days after the later of: (a) the date of entry by the Court of an order preliminarily approving this Settlement; or (b) Defendants' Counsel's receipt from Lead Counsel of the information necessary to effectuate a transfer of funds to the Escrow Account, including wiring instructions that include the bank name and ABA routing number, account name and number, and a signed W-9 reflecting a valid taxpayer identification number for the qualified settlement fund in which the Settlement Amount is to be deposited.

9. The Parties intend the Settlement Amount to constitute complete restitution to Class Members for the settlement and release of the Released Plaintiff's Claims against the Defendants' Releasees. The Settlement Amount represents the entirety of the Defendants' Releasees' financial obligations under this Stipulation and in connection with this Settlement, meaning that it includes all attorneys' fees and expenses awarded to Plaintiff's Counsel, Notice and Administration Costs, and Taxes of any kind whatsoever associated with the Settlement. The payment of the Settlement Amount into the Escrow Account by Signet and its Directors and Officers Liability Program Insurers in accordance with ¶ 8 above fully discharges the Defendants' Releasees' financial obligations under this Stipulation and in connection with the Settlement, meaning that no Defendants' Releasees shall have any other obligation to make any payment into the Escrow

Account or to any Class Member under this Stipulation or in connection with this Settlement. For the avoidance of doubt, under no circumstances shall the total to be paid by Defendants' Releasees under this Stipulation exceed the Settlement Amount.

USE OF SETTLEMENT FUND

10. The Settlement Fund shall be used to pay: (a) any Taxes; (b) any Notice and Administration Costs; (c) any Litigation Expenses awarded by the Court; (d) any attorneys' fees awarded by the Court; and (e) any other costs and fees approved by the Court. The balance remaining in the Settlement Fund, that is, the Net Settlement Fund, shall be distributed to Authorized Claimants as provided in ¶¶ 21-34 below.

11. Except as provided herein or pursuant to orders of the Court, the Net Settlement Fund shall remain in the Escrow Account prior to the Effective Date. All funds held by the Escrow Agent shall be deemed to be in the custody of the Court and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court until such time as the funds shall be distributed or returned pursuant to the terms of this Stipulation and/or further order of the Court. The Escrow Agent shall invest any funds in the Escrow Account exclusively in United States Treasury Bills (or a mutual fund invested solely in such instruments) and shall collect and reinvest all interest accrued thereon, except that any residual cash balances up to the amount that is insured by the FDIC may be deposited in any account that is fully insured by the FDIC. In the event that the yield on United States Treasury Bills is negative, in lieu of purchasing such Treasury Bills, all or any portion of the funds held by the Escrow Agent may be deposited in any account that is fully insured by the FDIC or invested in instruments backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Additionally, if short-term placement of the funds is necessary, all or any portion of the funds held by the Escrow Agent may be deposited in any account that is fully insured by the FDIC or invested in instruments backed by

the full faith and credit of the United States. Defendants' Releasees shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to investment decisions by the Escrow Agent.

12. The Parties agree that the Settlement Fund is intended to be a Qualified Settlement Fund within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1 and that Lead Counsel, as administrator of the Settlement Fund within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(k)(3), shall be solely responsible for filing or causing to be filed all informational and other tax returns as may be necessary or appropriate (including, without limitation, the returns described in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(k)) for the Settlement Fund. Lead Counsel shall also be responsible for causing payment to be made from the Settlement Fund of any Taxes owed with respect to the Settlement Fund. Defendants' Releasees shall not have any liability or responsibility for any such Taxes. Upon written request, Defendants will provide to Lead Counsel the statement described in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-3(e). Lead Counsel, as administrator of the Settlement Fund within the meaning of Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-2(k)(3), shall timely make such elections as are necessary or advisable to carry out this paragraph, including, as necessary, making a "relation back election," as described in Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1(j), to cause the Qualified Settlement Fund to come into existence at the earliest allowable date, and shall take or cause to be taken all actions as may be necessary or appropriate in connection therewith.

13. All Taxes shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund, and shall be timely paid, or caused to be paid, by Lead Counsel and without further order of the Court. Any tax returns prepared for the Settlement Fund (as well as the election set forth therein) shall be consistent with the previous paragraph and in all events shall reflect that all Taxes on the income earned by the Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund as provided herein. Defendants'

Releasees shall have no responsibility or liability for the acts or omissions of Lead Counsel or its agents with respect to the payment of Taxes, as described herein.

14. The Settlement is not a claims-made settlement. Upon the occurrence of the Effective Date, no Defendant, Defendants' Releasee, or any other person or entity who or which paid any portion of the Settlement Amount, including, without limitation, Defendants' insurance carriers, shall have any right to the return of the Settlement Fund or any portion thereof for any reason whatsoever, including without limitation, the number of Claims submitted, the collective amount of Recognized Claims (defined in the Plan of Allocation) of Authorized Claimants, the percentage of recovery of losses, or the amounts to be paid to Authorized Claimants from the Net Settlement Fund.

15. Notwithstanding the fact that the Effective Date of the Settlement has not yet occurred, Lead Counsel may pay from the Settlement Fund, without further approval from Defendants or further order of the Court, all Notice and Administration Costs actually incurred and paid or payable. Such costs and expenses shall include, without limitation, the actual costs of printing and mailing the Notice, publishing the Summary Notice, reimbursements to nominee owners for forwarding the Notice to their beneficial owners, the administrative expenses incurred and fees charged by the Claims Administrator in connection with providing notice and administering the Settlement (including processing the submitted Claims), and the fees, if any, of the Escrow Agent. In the event that the Settlement is terminated pursuant to the terms of this Stipulation, all Notice and Administration Costs paid or incurred, including any related fees, shall not be returned or repaid to Defendants, any of the other Defendants' Releasees, or any other person or entity who or which paid any portion of the Settlement Amount.

16. The Defendants' Releasees and Defendants' Counsel shall have no responsibility for, interest in, or liability whatsoever with respect to: (i) any act, omission, or determination by Lead Counsel, the Escrow Agent, or the Claims Administrator, or any of their respective designees or agents, in connection with the administration of the Settlement; (ii) the management, investment, or distribution of the Settlement Fund; (iii) the Plan of Allocation or its implementation, administration, or interpretation; (iv) the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of any claims asserted against the Settlement Fund; (v) any losses suffered by, or fluctuations in value of, the Settlement Fund; or (vi) the payment or withholding of any Taxes, expenses, or costs incurred in connection with the taxation of the Settlement Fund or the filing of any federal, state, or local returns.

ATTORNEYS' FEES AND LITIGATION EXPENSES

17. Lead Counsel will apply to the Court for a collective award of attorneys' fees to Plaintiff's Counsel to be paid solely from (and out of) the Settlement Fund. Lead Counsel also will apply to the Court for payment of Litigation Expenses, which may include a request for reimbursement of Lead Plaintiff's costs and expenses directly related to its representation of the Class, to be paid solely from (and out of) the Settlement Fund. Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses is not the subject of any agreement between Defendants and Lead Plaintiff other than what is set forth in this Stipulation.

18. Any attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses that are awarded by the Court shall be paid to Lead Counsel immediately upon award, notwithstanding the existence of any timely filed objections thereto, or potential for appeal therefrom, or collateral attack on the Settlement or any part thereof, subject to Plaintiff's Counsel's obligation to make appropriate refunds or repayments to the Settlement Fund, plus accrued interest at the same net rate as is earned by the Settlement

Fund, if the Settlement is terminated pursuant to the terms of this Stipulation or if, as a result of any appeal or further proceedings on remand, or successful collateral attack, the award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses is reduced or reversed and such order reducing or reversing the award has become Final. Plaintiff's Counsel shall make the appropriate refund or repayment in full no later than thirty (30) days after: (a) receiving from Defendants' Counsel notice of the termination of the Settlement; or (b) any order reducing or reversing the award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses has become Final. An award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses is not a necessary term of this Stipulation and is not a condition of the Settlement embodied herein. Neither Lead Plaintiff nor Lead Counsel may cancel or terminate the Settlement based on this Court's or any appellate court's ruling with respect to attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses.

19. Other than Defendants' obligation to fund the Settlement Amount, Lead Plaintiffs, Lead Counsel, and the Class Members shall have no recourse against the Defendants' Releasees for the payment of any attorneys' fees or Litigation Expenses in connection with this Action.

20. Lead Counsel shall allocate the attorneys' fees awarded amongst Plaintiff's Counsel in a manner which it, in good faith, believes reflects the contributions of such counsel to the institution, prosecution, and settlement of the Action. Defendants' Releasees shall have no responsibility for or liability whatsoever with respect to the allocation or award of attorneys' fees or Litigation Expenses. The attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses that are awarded to Plaintiff's Counsel shall be payable solely from the Escrow Account.

NOTICE AND SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION

21. As part of the Preliminary Approval Order, Lead Counsel shall seek appointment of a Claims Administrator. The Claims Administrator shall administer the Settlement, including, but not limited to, the process of receiving, reviewing, and approving or denying Claims, under Lead Counsel's supervision and subject to the jurisdiction of the Court. Other than Signet's obligation to provide its security lists as provided in ¶ 22 below, none of the Defendants, nor any of the other Defendants' Releasees, shall have any involvement in or any responsibility, authority, or liability whatsoever for the selection of the Claims Administrator, the Plan of Allocation, the administration of the Settlement, the Claims process, or disbursement of the Net Settlement Fund, and shall have no liability whatsoever to any person or entity, including, but not limited to, Lead Plaintiff, any other Class Members, or Lead Counsel in connection with the foregoing. Defendants and Defendants' Counsel shall cooperate in the administration of the Settlement to the extent reasonably necessary to effectuate its terms.

22. In accordance with the terms of the Preliminary Approval Order to be entered by the Court, Lead Counsel shall cause the Claims Administrator to mail the Notice and Proof of Claim Form to those members of the Class as may be identified through reasonable effort. Lead Counsel shall also cause the Claims Administrator to have the Summary Notice published in accordance with the terms of the Preliminary Approval Order to be entered by the Court. For the purpose of providing notice to the Class, within five (5) business days of the date of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, Signet shall use its best efforts to provide or cause to be provided to the Claims Administrator in electronic format (at no cost to the Settlement Fund, Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator) transfer and other records identifying potential Class Members.

23. Upon receiving any request(s) for exclusion pursuant to the Notice, Lead Counsel shall use its best efforts to promptly notify Defendants' Counsel of such request(s) for exclusion. No later than five (5) calendar days after receiving a request for exclusion or fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the Settlement Fairness Hearing, whichever is earlier, provided they are timely received, Lead Counsel shall provide Defendants' Counsel with copies of such request(s) for exclusion and any documentation accompanying them by email. Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, and other counsel for Lead Plaintiff shall not act to encourage Class Members to exclude themselves from the Class.

24. No later than ten (10) calendar days following the filing of this Stipulation with the Court, Defendants shall serve the notice required under the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1715, *et seq.* ("CAFA"). Defendants are solely responsible for the costs of the CAFA notice and administering the CAFA notice. At least seven (7) calendar days before the Settlement Fairness Hearing, Defendants shall cause to be served on Lead Counsel and filed with the Court proof, by affidavit or declaration, regarding compliance with the notice requirements of CAFA.

25. The Claims Administrator shall receive Claims and determine first, whether the Claim is a valid Claim, in whole or part, and second, each Authorized Claimant's *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Fund based upon each Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim compared to the total Recognized Claims of all Authorized Claimants (as set forth in the Plan of Allocation set forth in the Notice attached hereto as Exhibit 1 to Exhibit A, or in such other plan of allocation as the Court approves).

26. The Plan of Allocation proposed in the Notice is not a necessary term of the Settlement or of this Stipulation and it is not a condition of the Settlement or of this Stipulation that any particular plan of allocation be approved by the Court. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel

may not cancel or terminate the Settlement (or this Stipulation) based on this Court's or any appellate court's ruling with respect to the Plan of Allocation or any other plan of allocation in this Action. Any orders or proceedings relating to the Plan of Allocation (or any other such plan of allocation as may be approved by the Court) as well as any appeal therefrom (or appellate ruling) shall not: (a) operate to modify, terminate, or cancel this Settlement; (b) modify, terminate, or impact in any way the Releases set forth herein; (c) affect or delay the validity or finality of the Judgment or Alternative Judgment, if applicable, or any other orders entered by the Court giving effect to this Stipulation; (d) affect or delay the Effective Date; (e) provide any ground or otherwise permit any Person (including Lead Plaintiff and the other Class Members), or any of their counsel, to cancel, terminate, or withdraw from the Stipulation or the Settlement; and/or (f) affect or delay the validity of the Settlement. Defendants and the other Defendants' Releasees shall not object in any way to the Plan of Allocation or any other plan of allocation in this Action provided that such plan is consistent with this Stipulation. No Defendant, nor any of the other Defendants' Releasees, shall have any involvement with or liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever for the application of the Court-approved plan of allocation.

27. Any Class Member who or which does not submit a valid Claim will not be entitled to receive any distribution from the Net Settlement Fund, but will otherwise be bound by all of the terms of this Stipulation and the Settlement, including the terms of the Judgment or, the Alternate Judgment, if applicable, to be entered in the Action and the Releases provided for herein and therein, and will be permanently barred and enjoined from bringing any action, claim, or other proceeding of any kind against the Defendants' Releasees with respect to the Released Plaintiff's Claims in the event that the Effective Date occurs with respect to the Settlement.

28. Lead Counsel shall be responsible for supervising the administration of the Settlement and the disbursement of the Net Settlement Fund subject to Court approval. No Defendant, or any other Defendants' Releasee, shall be permitted to review, contest, or object to any Claim, or any decision of the Claims Administrator or Lead Counsel with respect to accepting or rejecting any Claim for payment by a Class Member. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Defendants and Defendants' Releasees may confidentially obtain copies of a Claimant's Claim if necessary to enforce any and all terms of the Settlement. Lead Counsel shall have the right, but not the obligation, to waive what it deems to be formal or technical defects in any Claims submitted in the interests of achieving substantial justice.

29. For purposes of determining the extent, if any, to which a Class Member shall be entitled to be treated as an Authorized Claimant, the following conditions shall apply:

(a) Each Claimant shall be required to submit a Claim in paper form, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit 2 to Exhibit A, or in electronic form, in accordance with the instructions for the submission of such Claims, and supported by such documents as are designated therein, including proof of the Claimant's alleged loss, or such other documents or proof as the Claims Administrator or Lead Counsel, in their discretion, may deem acceptable;

(b) All Claims must be submitted by the date set by the Court in the Preliminary Approval Order and specified in the Notice. Any Class Member who fails to submit a Claim by such date shall be forever barred from receiving any distribution from the Net Settlement Fund or payment pursuant to this Stipulation (unless by Order of the Court such Class Member's Claim is accepted), but shall in all other respects be bound by all of the terms of this Stipulation and the Settlement, including the terms of the Judgment or Alternate Judgment, if applicable, and the

Releases provided for herein and therein, and will be permanently barred and enjoined from bringing any action, claim, or other proceeding of any kind against any Defendants' Releasees with respect to any Released Plaintiff's Claim. Provided that it is mailed by the claim-submission deadline, a Claim Form shall be deemed to be submitted when postmarked, if received with a postmark indicated on the envelope and if mailed by first-class mail and addressed in accordance with the instructions thereon. In all other cases, the Claim Form shall be deemed to have been submitted on the date when actually received by the Claims Administrator;

(c) Each Claim shall be submitted to and reviewed by the Claims Administrator who shall determine in accordance with this Stipulation and the plan of allocation the extent, if any, to which each Claim shall be allowed, subject to review by the Court pursuant to subparagraph (e) below as necessary;

(d) Claims that do not meet the submission requirements may be rejected. Prior to rejecting a Claim in whole or in part, the Claims Administrator shall communicate with the Claimant in writing, to give the Claimant the chance to remedy any curable deficiencies in the Claim submitted. The Claims Administrator shall notify, in a timely fashion and in writing, all Claimants whose Claim the Claims Administrator proposes to reject in whole or in part, setting forth the reasons therefor, and shall indicate in such notice that the Claimant whose Claim is to be rejected has the right to a review by the Court if the Claimant so desires and complies with the requirements of subparagraph (e) below; and

(e) If any Claimant whose Claim has been rejected in whole or in part desires to contest such rejection, the Claimant must, within twenty (20) days after the date of mailing of the notice required in subparagraph (d) above or a lesser time period if the Claim was untimely, serve upon the Claims Administrator a notice and statement of reasons indicating the Claimant's grounds

for contesting the rejection along with any supporting documentation, and requesting a review thereof by the Court. If a dispute concerning a Claim cannot be otherwise resolved, Lead Counsel shall thereafter present the request for review to the Court.

30. Each Claimant shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the Claimant's Claim, and the Claim will be subject to investigation and discovery under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, *provided, however*, that such investigation and discovery shall be limited to that Claimant's status as a Class Member and the validity and amount of the Claimant's Claim. No discovery shall be allowed on the merits, prosecution, or defense of this Action or of the Settlement in connection with the processing of Claims.

31. Lead Counsel will apply to the Court, on notice to Defendants' Counsel, for a Class Distribution Order: (a) approving the Claims Administrator's administrative determinations concerning the acceptance and rejection of the Claims submitted; (b) approving payment of any administration fees and expenses associated with the administration of the Settlement from the Escrow Account; and (c) if the Effective Date has occurred, directing payment of the Net Settlement Fund to Authorized Claimants from the Escrow Account.

32. Payment pursuant to the Class Distribution Order shall be final and conclusive against all Claimants. All Class Members whose Claims are not approved by the Court for payment shall be barred from participating in distributions from the Net Settlement Fund, but otherwise shall be bound by all of the terms of this Stipulation and the Settlement, including the terms of the Judgment or Alternate Judgment, if applicable, to be entered in this Action and the Releases provided for herein and therein, and will be permanently barred and enjoined from bringing any action against any and all Defendants' Releasees with respect to any and all of the Released Plaintiff's Claims.

33. No person or entity shall have any claim against Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, the Claims Administrator, or any other agent designated by Lead Counsel, or Defendants' Releasees and/or their respective counsel, arising from distributions made substantially in accordance with the Stipulation, the plan of allocation approved by the Court, or any order of the Court. Lead Plaintiff and Defendants, and their respective counsel, and Lead Plaintiff's damages expert and all other Releasees shall have no liability whatsoever for the investment or distribution of the Settlement Fund or the Net Settlement Fund, the plan of allocation, or the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of any claim or nonperformance of the Claims Administrator, the payment or withholding of taxes (including interest and penalties) owed by the Settlement Fund, or any losses incurred in connection therewith.

34. All proceedings with respect to the administration, processing, and determination of Claims and the determination of all controversies relating thereto, including disputed questions of law and fact with respect to the validity of Claims, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Court. All Class Members, other Claimants, and parties to this Settlement expressly waive trial by jury (to the extent any such right may exist) and any right of appeal or review with respect to such determinations.

TERMS OF THE JUDGMENT

35. If the Settlement contemplated by this Stipulation is approved by the Court, Lead Counsel and Defendants' Counsel shall request that the Court enter a Judgment, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.

CONDITIONS OF SETTLEMENT AND EFFECT OF DISAPPROVAL, CANCELLATION, OR TERMINATION

36. The Effective Date of the Settlement shall be deemed to occur on the occurrence or waiver of all of the following events:

(a) the Court has entered the Preliminary Approval Order, substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, as required by ¶ 2 above;

(b) the Settlement Amount has been deposited into the Escrow Account in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 8 above;

(c) Signet has not exercised its option to terminate the Settlement pursuant to the provisions of this Stipulation (including pursuant to the Supplemental Agreement described in ¶ 40 below);

(d) Lead Plaintiff has not exercised its option to terminate the Settlement pursuant to the provisions of this Stipulation; and

(e) the Court has approved the Settlement as described herein, following notice to the Class and a hearing, as prescribed by Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and entered the Judgment and the Judgment has become Final, or the Court has entered an Alternate Judgment and neither Lead Plaintiff nor Signet seeks to terminate the Settlement and the Alternate Judgment has become Final.

37. Upon the occurrence of all of the events referenced in ¶ 36 above, any and all remaining interest or right of Defendants or their insurance carriers in or to the Settlement Fund, if any, shall be absolutely and forever extinguished and the Releases herein shall be effective.

38. If (i) Signet exercises its right to terminate the Settlement as provided in this Stipulation; (ii) Lead Plaintiff exercises its right to terminate the Settlement as provided in this Stipulation; (iii) the Court disapproves the Settlement; or (iv) the Effective Date as to the Settlement otherwise fails to occur, then:

(a) The Settlement and the relevant portions of this Stipulation shall be canceled and terminated.

(b) Lead Plaintiff and Defendants shall revert to their respective positions in the Action as of immediately prior to the execution of this Stipulation.

(c) The terms and provisions of this Stipulation, with the exception of this ¶ 38 and ¶¶ 15, 18, 42-43, and 62-63, shall have no further force and effect with respect to the Parties and shall not be used in the Action or in any other proceeding for any purpose, and any Judgment, or Alternate Judgment, if applicable, or order entered by the Court in accordance with the terms of this Stipulation shall be treated as vacated, *nunc pro tunc*.

(d) Within five (5) business days after joint written notification of termination is sent by Defendants' Counsel and Lead Counsel to the Escrow Agent, the Settlement Fund (including accrued interest thereon, and change in value as a result of the investment of the Settlement Fund, and any funds received by Lead Counsel consistent with ¶ 18 above), less any Notice and Administration Costs actually incurred, paid, or payable and less any Taxes paid, due, or owing, shall be refunded by the Escrow Agent directly to Signet and directly to the Directors and Officers Liability Program Insurers in proportion to their contributions to the Settlement Amount as directed by Defendants' Counsel. In the event that the funds received by Lead Counsel consistent with ¶ 18 above have not been refunded to the Settlement Fund within the five (5) business days specified in this paragraph, those funds shall be refunded by the Escrow Agent directly to Signet and directly to the Directors and Officers Liability Program Insurers in proportion to their contributions to the Settlement Amount as directed by Defendants' Counsel, immediately upon their deposit into the Escrow Account consistent with ¶ 18 above.

39. It is further stipulated and agreed that Lead Plaintiff and Signet shall each have the right to terminate the Settlement and this Stipulation, by providing written notice of their election to do so ("Termination Notice") to the other Parties to this Stipulation within thirty (30) days of:

(a) the Court's final refusal to enter the Preliminary Approval Order in any material respect; (b) the Court's final refusal to approve the Settlement or any material part thereof; (c) the Court's final refusal to enter the Judgment in any material respect as to the Settlement; (d) the date upon which the Judgment is modified or reversed in any material respect by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit or the United States Supreme Court; or (e) the date upon which an Alternate Judgment is modified or reversed in any material respect by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit or the United States Supreme Court, and the provisions of ¶ 38 above shall apply. However, any decision or proceeding, whether in this Court or any appellate court, with respect to an application for an award of attorneys' fees or Litigation Expenses or with respect to any plan of allocation shall not be considered material to the Settlement, shall not affect the finality of any Judgment or Alternate Judgment, if applicable, and shall not be grounds for termination of the Settlement.

40. In addition to the grounds set forth in ¶ 39 above, Signet shall have the right to terminate the Settlement in the event that Class Members timely and validly requesting exclusion from the Class meet the conditions set forth in Signet's confidential supplemental agreement with Lead Plaintiff (the "Supplemental Agreement"), in accordance with the terms of that agreement. The Supplemental Agreement, which is being executed concurrently herewith, shall not be filed with the Court and its terms shall not be disclosed in any other manner (other than the statements herein and in the Notice, to the extent necessary, or as otherwise provided in the Supplemental Agreement) unless the Court otherwise directs or a dispute arises between Lead Plaintiff and Signet concerning its interpretation or application, in which event the Parties shall submit the Supplemental Agreement to the Court in camera and request that the Court afford it confidential treatment.

41. In addition to the grounds set forth in ¶ 39 above, Lead Plaintiff shall also have the right to terminate the Settlement in the event that the Settlement Amount has not been paid as provided for in ¶ 8 above, by providing written notice of the election to terminate to Defendants' Counsel.

NO ADMISSION OF WRONGDOING

42. Defendants expressly deny any liability with respect to the matters alleged in the Complaint. Defendants have denied and continue to deny, *inter alia*, that Lead Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered any damages alleged in the Complaint; that the price of Signet common stock was artificially inflated by reason of any alleged misrepresentations, omissions, or otherwise; that Defendants acted fraudulently or wrongfully in any way; that Defendants made any alleged material misrepresentation or omission; or that the alleged harm suffered by Lead Plaintiff and other Class Members, if any, was causally linked to any alleged misrepresentations or omissions. In addition, Defendants maintain that they have meritorious defenses to all claims alleged in the Action. Nonetheless, Defendants have concluded that further litigation of the Action, especially given the complexity of cases such as this one, would be protracted, burdensome, and expensive, and that it is desirable and beneficial to them that they secure releases to the fullest extent permitted by law and that the Action be fully and finally settled and terminated in the manner and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Stipulation.

43. Neither this Stipulation (whether or not consummated), including the exhibits hereto and the Plan of Allocation contained therein (or any other plan of allocation that may be approved by the Court), the negotiations leading to the execution of this Stipulation, nor any proceedings taken pursuant to or in connection with this Stipulation and/or approval of the Settlement (including any arguments proffered in connection therewith):

(a) shall be offered against any of the Defendants' Releasees as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Defendants' Releasees with respect to the truth of any allegation by Lead Plaintiff or the validity of any claim that was or could have been asserted or the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in this Action or in any other litigation, or of any liability, negligence, fault, or other wrongdoing of any kind of any of the Defendants' Releasees or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Defendants' Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Stipulation;

(b) shall be offered against any of the Plaintiff's Releasees as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Plaintiff's Releasees that any of their claims are without merit, that any of the Defendants' Releasees had meritorious defenses, or that damages recoverable under the Complaint would not have exceeded the Settlement Amount or with respect to any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind, or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Plaintiff's Releasees, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Stipulation; or

(c) shall be construed against any of the Releasees as an admission, concession, or presumption that the consideration to be given hereunder represents the amount which could be or would have been recovered after trial;

provided, however, that, notwithstanding the foregoing, if this Stipulation is approved by the Court, the Parties and the Releasees and their respective counsel may file or refer to it to effectuate the protections from liability granted hereunder or otherwise to enforce the terms of the Settlement.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

44. All of the exhibits attached hereto are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that there exists a conflict or inconsistency between the terms of this Stipulation and the terms of any exhibit attached hereto, the terms of the Stipulation shall prevail.

45. Defendants warrant that, as to the payments made or to be made on behalf of them, at the time of entering into this Stipulation and at the time of such payment they, or to the best of their knowledge any persons or entities contributing to the payment of the Settlement Amount, were not insolvent, nor will the payment required to be made by or on behalf of them render them insolvent, within the meaning of and/or for the purposes of the United States Bankruptcy Code, including §§ 101 and 547 thereof. This representation is made by each of the Defendants and not by their counsel. In the event of the entry of a final order of a court of competent jurisdiction determining the transfer of money to the Settlement Fund or any portion thereof by or on behalf of Defendants to be a preference, voidable transfer, fraudulent transfer, or similar transaction and any portion thereof is required to be returned, and such amount is not promptly deposited into the Settlement Fund by others, then, at the election of Lead Plaintiff, Lead Plaintiff and Defendants shall jointly move the Court to vacate and set aside the Releases given and the Judgment or Alternate Judgment, if applicable, entered in favor of Defendants and the other Releasees pursuant to this Stipulation, in which event the Releases and Judgment, or Alternate Judgment, if applicable, shall be null and void, and the Parties shall be restored to their respective positions in the litigation

as provided in ¶ 38 above and any cash amounts in the Settlement Fund (less any Taxes paid, due, or owing with respect to the Settlement Fund and less any Notice and Administration Costs actually incurred, paid, or payable) shall be returned as provided in ¶ 38 above.

46. The Parties intend this Stipulation and the Settlement to be a final and complete resolution of all disputes asserted or which could be asserted by Lead Plaintiff and any other Class Members against the Defendants' Releasees with respect to the Released Plaintiff's Claims. No Party will deny that the Action was commenced, litigated, and resolved in good faith and in a manner that comports with Rule 11. No Party will assert any violation of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure relating to the litigation of this Action, including, but not limited to, the institution, prosecution, defense, or settlement of the Action, although by refraining from asserting such a violation, Defendant Mark Light will not be deemed to endorse or agree that the prosecution of the Action complied with Rule 11. No Party will object to any finding by the Court in the Judgment or otherwise that the Parties and their respective counsel have complied in all respects with the requirements of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in connection with the institution, prosecution, defense, and settlement of the Action, although by refraining from objecting, Defendant Mark Light will not be deemed to endorse or agree with any such finding. The Parties agree that the amounts paid and the other terms of the Settlement were negotiated at arm's length and in good faith by the Parties, including through a mediation process supervised and conducted by the Honorable Layn R. Phillips, and reflect the Settlement that was reached voluntarily after extensive negotiations and consultation with experienced legal counsel, who were fully competent to assess the strengths and weaknesses of their respective clients' claims or defenses.

47. Defendants and their counsel retain their right to deny that the claims asserted in the Action were meritorious. For the avoidance of doubt, Defendant Mark Light and his counsel may continue to assert that the allegations of sexual misconduct against him were not true. Lead Plaintiff and its counsel and Defendants and their counsel shall not make any accusations of wrongful or actionable conduct by either Party concerning the prosecution, defense, and resolution of the Action, and shall not otherwise suggest that the Settlement constitutes an admission of any claim or defense alleged, to the media or otherwise.

48. The terms of the Settlement, as reflected in this Stipulation, may not be modified or amended, nor may any of its provisions be waived except by a writing signed on behalf of both Lead Plaintiff and Defendants (or their successors-in-interest).

49. The headings herein are used for the purpose of convenience only and are not meant to have legal effect.

50. The administration and consummation of the Settlement as embodied in this Stipulation shall be under the authority of the Court, and the Court shall retain jurisdiction for the purpose of entering orders providing for awards of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses to Plaintiff's Counsel and enforcing the terms of this Stipulation, including the Plan of Allocation (or such other plan of allocation as may be approved by the Court) and the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund to Class Members.

51. The waiver by one Party of any breach of this Stipulation by any other Party shall not be deemed a waiver of any other prior or subsequent breach of this Stipulation.

52. This Stipulation and its exhibits and the Supplemental Agreement constitute the entire agreement among Lead Plaintiff and Defendants concerning the Settlement and this Stipulation and its exhibits. All Parties acknowledge that no other agreements, representations,

warranties, or inducements have been made by any Party concerning this Stipulation, its exhibits, or the Supplemental Agreement other than those contained and memorialized in such documents.

53. This Stipulation may be executed in one or more counterparts, including by signature transmitted via facsimile, or by a .pdf/.tif image of the signature transmitted via email. All executed counterparts and each of them shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument.

54. This Stipulation shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Parties, including any and all Releasees and any corporation, partnership, or other entity into or with which any Party may merge, consolidate, or reorganize.

55. The construction, interpretation, operation, effect, and validity of this Stipulation, the Supplemental Agreement, and all documents necessary to effectuate it shall be governed by the internal laws of the State of New York without regard to conflicts of laws, except to the extent that federal law requires that federal law govern.

56. Any action arising under or to enforce this Stipulation or any portion thereof, shall be commenced and maintained only in the Court.

57. This Stipulation shall not be construed more strictly against one Party than another merely by virtue of the fact that it, or any part of it, may have been prepared by counsel for one of the Parties, it being recognized that it is the result of arm's-length negotiations between the Parties and all Parties have contributed substantially and materially to the preparation of this Stipulation.

58. All counsel and any other person executing this Stipulation and any of the exhibits hereto, or any related Settlement documents, warrant and represent that they have the full authority to do so and that they have the authority to take appropriate action required or permitted to be taken pursuant to the Stipulation to effectuate its terms.

59. Lead Counsel and Defendants' Counsel agree to cooperate fully with one another in seeking Court approval of the Preliminary Approval Order and the Settlement, as embodied in this Stipulation, and to use best efforts to promptly agree upon and execute all such other documentation as may be reasonably required to obtain final approval by the Court of the Settlement.

60. If any Party is required to give notice to another Party under this Stipulation, such notice shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given upon receipt of hand delivery or facsimile or email transmission, with confirmation of receipt. Notice shall be provided as follows:

If to Lead Plaintiff or Lead Counsel: Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP
Attn: John Rizio-Hamilton, Esq.
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
Telephone: (212) 554-1400
Facsimile: (212) 554-1444
Email: johnr@blbglaw.com

If to Defendants: Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
Attn: Joseph S. Allerhand, Esq.
767 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10153
Telephone: (212) 310-8000
Facsimile: (212) 310-8007
Email: joseph.allerhand@weil.com

61. Except as otherwise provided herein, each Party shall bear its own costs.

62. Whether or not the Stipulation is approved by the Court and whether or not the Stipulation is consummated, or the Effective Date occurs, the Parties and their counsel shall use

their best efforts to keep all negotiations, discussions, acts performed, agreements, drafts, documents signed, and proceedings in connection with the Stipulation confidential.

63. All agreements made and orders entered during the course of this Action relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive this Settlement.

64. No opinion or advice concerning the tax consequences of the proposed Settlement to individual Class Members is being given or will be given by the Parties or their counsel; nor is any representation or warranty in this regard made by virtue of this Stipulation. Each Class Member's tax obligations, and the determination thereof, are the sole responsibility of the Class Member, and it is understood that the tax consequences may vary depending on the particular circumstances of each individual Class Member.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Stipulation to be executed, by their duly authorized attorneys, as of March 16, 2020.

**BERNSTEIN LITOWITZ BERGER &
GROSSMANN LLP**

By: 
John Rizio-Hamilton

Rebecca E. Boon
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
Telephone: (212) 554-1400
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*Lead Counsel for Lead Plaintiff the Public
Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi and
the Class*

WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES LLP

By: 

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767 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10153

Telephone: (212) 310-8000

Facsimile: (212) 310-8007

***Counsel for Defendants Signet Jewelers Limited,
Michael Barnes, Virginia Drosos, Mark Light,
Ronald Ristau, and Michele Santana***

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