

**BERNSTEIN LITOWITZ BERGER  
& GROSSMANN LLP**

Jonathan D. Uslaner (Bar No. 256898)  
jonathanu@blbglaw.com  
Lauren M. Cruz (Bar No. 299964)  
lauren.cruz@blbglaw.com  
2121 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 2575  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
Tel: (310) 819-3481

**MOTLEY RICE LLC**

Gregg S. Levin (*Pro Hac Vice*)  
glevin@motleyrice.com  
28 Bridgeside Blvd.  
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464  
Tel: (843) 216-9000

*Counsel for Lead Plaintiffs and  
Lead Counsel for the Class*

[Additional counsel appear on signature page]

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

IN RE QUALCOMM  
INCORPORATED SECURITIES  
LITIGATION

Case No. 3:17-cv-00121-JO-MSB

**LEAD PLAINTIFFS’  
UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR  
PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF  
SETTLEMENT**

Judge: Hon. Jinsook Ohta  
Date: June 26, 2024  
Time: 8:30 a.m.  
Courtroom: 4C



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

		<b><u>Page</u></b>
1		
2		
3	I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT .....	1
4	II. SUMMARY OF THE LITIGATION.....	3
5	A. The Filing of the Action and the Appointment of Lead Plaintiffs	
6	and Lead Counsel .....	3
7	B. The Complaint and Defendants’ Pleading Challenges .....	3
8	C. Subsequent Developments in the Actions Underlying the	
9	Corrective Disclosures .....	4
10	D. The Parties Completed Substantial Fact and Expert Discovery .....	6
11	E. Class Certification, Notice, and the Opt-Out Opportunity.....	6
12	F. Lead Plaintiffs’ Opposition to Defendants’ Motions for	
13	Summary Judgment.....	8
14	III. THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT .....	8
15	IV. THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT MERITS PRELIMINARY	
16	APPROVAL .....	9
17	A. Standards Governing Approval of a Class Action Settlement.....	9
18	B. The Court “Will Likely Be Able to” Approve the Proposed	
19	Settlement Under Rule 23(e)(2) .....	11
20	1. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel Have Adequately	
21	Represented the Class .....	11
22	2. The Settlement Was Reached Through Extensive Arm’s-	
23	Length Negotiations Among Experienced Counsel .....	11
24	3. The Settlement Is Within the Range of Possible Approval.....	13
25	4. The Settlement Treats Class Members Fairly.....	18
26	5. The Settlement Does Not Excessively Compensate	
27	Plaintiffs’ Counsel.....	20
28	6. Lead Plaintiffs Have Identified All Agreements Made in	
	Connection with the Settlement .....	21
	V. THE COURT SHOULD APPROVE THE PROPOSED FORM OF	
	NOTICE AND PLAN FOR PROVIDING NOTICE TO THE CLASS .....	21
	VI. PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS .....	23
	VII. CONCLUSION.....	25

**TABLE OF AUTHORITIES**

**Page(s)**

**CASES**

*In re 3D Sys. Sec. Litig.*,  
2024 WL 50909 (E.D.N.Y. Jan. 4, 2024) .....18

*In re Allergan, Inc. Proxy Violation Derivative Litig.*,  
2018 WL 4959014 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 13, 2018) .....20

*In re Allergan, Inc. Proxy Violation Sec. Litig.*,  
No. 8:14-cv-02004-DOC-KESx, slip op.  
(C.D. Cal. Mar. 18, 2018), ECF No. 614.....23

*Baker v. SeaWorld Ent., Inc.*,  
2020 WL 818893 (S.D. Cal. Feb. 19, 2020).....23

*In re BofI Holding, Inc. Sec. Litig.*,  
2022 WL 9497235 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 14, 2022) .....12, 21

*Brown v. China Integrated Energy Inc.*,  
2016 WL 11757878 (C.D. Cal. July 22, 2016).....19

*Churchill Village, L.L.C. v. General Electric*,  
361 F.3d 566 (9th Cir. 2004) .....10

*FTC v. Qualcomm Inc.*,  
969 F.3d 974 (9th Cir. 2020) .....5

*FTC v. Qualcomm Inc.*,  
No. 19-16122 (9th Cir. Aug. 11, 2020), ECF No. 86.....5

*Gutierrez-Rodriguez v. R.M. Galicia, Inc.*,  
2018 WL 1470198 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 26, 2018) .....23

*Hefler v. Wells Fargo & Co.*,  
2018 WL 4207245 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 4, 2018) .....21

*Hefler v. Wells Fargo & Co.*,  
2018 WL 6619983 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 18, 2018).....21

*In re Heritage Bond Litig.*,  
2005 WL 1594389 (C.D. Cal. June 10, 2005).....11

1 *Hernandez v. Arthur J. Gallagher Serv. Co.*,  
 2 2024 WL 1521422 (S.D. Cal. Apr. 8, 2024) .....10, 13

3 *Hudson v. Libre Tech. Inc.*,  
 4 2020 WL 2467060 (S.D. Cal. May 13, 2020) .....12

5 *In re Illumina, Inc. Sec. Litig.*,  
 6 2021 WL 1017295 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 17, 2021) .....19, 21

7 *In re Int’l Rectifier Corp. Sec. Litig.*,  
 8 Case No. 2:07-cv-02544-JFW, slip op.  
 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 8, 2010), ECF No. 316 .....20

9 *Khoja v. Orexigen Therap., Inc.*,  
 10 2021 WL 1579251 (S.D. Cal. Apr. 22, 2021) .....10, 17

11 *Lane v. Facebook, Inc.*,  
 12 696 F.3d 811 (9th Cir. 2012) .....22

13 *Linney v. Cellular Alaska P’ship*,  
 14 151 F.3d 1234 (9th Cir. 1998) .....9

15 *Loomis v. Slendertone Distrib., Inc.*,  
 2021 WL 873340 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 9, 2021) .....9

16 *Low v. Trump Univ., LLC*,  
 17 881 F.3d 1111 (9th Cir. 2018) .....23

18 *In re Mattel, Inc. Sec. Litig.*,  
 19 No. 2:19-cv-10860, slip op. (C.D. Cal. Jan. 18, 2022), ECF No. 146 .....21

20 *Maxin v. RHG & Co. Inc.*,  
 21 2018 WL 9540503 (S.D. Cal. Feb. 16, 2018).....23

22 *In re N. Dynasty Mins. Ltd. Sec. Litig.*,  
 23 2024 WL 308242 (E.D.N.Y. Jan. 26, 2024) .....18

24 *Nguyen v. Radiant Pharms. Corp.*,  
 25 2014 WL 1802293 (C.D. Cal. May 6, 2014).....11, 13, 19

26 *In re Online DVD-Rental Antitrust Litig.*,  
 27 779 F.3d 934 (9th Cir. 2015) .....20

28

1 *In re Pac. Enters. Sec. Litig.*,  
 2 47 F.3d 373 (9th Cir. 1995) .....12

3 *In re Qualcomm Antitrust Litig.*,  
 4 2023 WL 7393012 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 7, 2023) .....16

5 *Rael v. Children’s Place, Inc.*,  
 6 2020 WL 434482 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 28, 2020) .....9

7 *In re Regulus Therap. Inc. Sec. Litig.*,  
 8 2020 WL 6381898 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 30, 2020).....18, 19

9 *Spann v. J.C. Penney Corp.*,  
 10 314 F.R.D. 312 (C.D. Cal. 2016).....12

11 *Tait v. BSH Home Appliances Corp.*,  
 12 2015 WL 4537463 (C.D. Cal. July 27, 2015).....12

13 *In re Twitter Inc. Sec. Litig.*,  
 14 326 F.R.D. 619 (N.D. Cal. 2018).....12

15 *Vizcaino v. Microsoft Corp.*,  
 16 290 F.3d 1043 (9th Cir. 2002) .....20

17 *Walters v. Target Corp.*,  
 18 2019 WL 6696192 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 6, 2019) .....23

19 *In re WorldCom, Inc. Sec. Litig.*,  
 20 2004 WL 2591402 (S.D.N.Y. Nov. 12, 2004).....12

21 **STATUTES, RULES & OTHER AUTHORITIES**

22 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4(e) .....19

23 Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e).....*passim*

24 **CORNERSTONE RESEARCH, SECURITIES CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENTS: 2023**  
 25 **REVIEW & ANALYSIS (2024) .....18**

26

27

28

1 **I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

2 Lead Plaintiffs are pleased to report that, after seven years of hard-fought  
3 litigation, they have reached an agreement to settle this action in exchange for a  
4 payment of \$75 million in cash for the benefit of the Class (the “Settlement”), subject  
5 to the Court’s approval. Lead Plaintiffs now seek preliminary approval of the  
6 Settlement pursuant to Rule 23(e)(1). The motion is unopposed.

7 Lead Plaintiffs respectfully submit that the \$75 million Settlement is a  
8 favorable result, particularly given the significant risks of this litigation. Throughout  
9 this Action, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel zealously represented Class Members’  
10 interests. Among other things, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel conducted and  
11 completed substantial fact and expert discovery, obtaining over 60 million pages of  
12 documents from Defendants and over 17 non-parties, serving and responding to  
13 extensive written discovery, and taking and defending over 37 fact and expert  
14 depositions. In addition, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel consulted extensively  
15 with experts in specialized areas, prepared and served five expert reports, and  
16 engaged in motion practice to exclude Defendants’ six experts. Lead Plaintiffs and  
17 Lead Counsel also filed robust oppositions to Defendants’ motions for summary  
18 judgment on, among other things, loss causation, falsity, and scienter, as well as  
19 Defendants’ motion to decertify the Class.

20 Through their extensive litigation efforts, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel  
21 gained a thorough understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the case,  
22 including the possibility of no recovery based on developments in the actions that  
23 formed the basis of the corrective disclosures in this case. Since the time that the  
24 Complaint was filed, Qualcomm has successfully defeated nearly every other related  
25 action. The Ninth Circuit held that Qualcomm’s business practices at issue here  
26 complied with the competition laws and reversed a district court’s decision in favor  
27 of the FTC. The Ninth Circuit also reversed a district order certifying a class of U.S.  
28 consumers alleging the same anti-competitive practices, after which the district court

1 dismissed certain claims and granted summary judgment in favor of Qualcomm.  
2 Likewise, a court reversed the European Commission’s findings that Qualcomm’s  
3 chip-selling practices to Apple had anticompetitive effects, and Apple voluntarily  
4 dismissed its suit against Qualcomm and agreed to pay Qualcomm billions of  
5 dollars, sending Qualcomm’s stock price soaring. Meanwhile, the SEC has taken no  
6 action against any of the Defendants related to the alleged misstatements at issue in  
7 the case.

8 Defendants have and would continue to assert that these developments  
9 disprove Lead Plaintiffs’ core allegations and vindicate Qualcomm’s challenged  
10 business practices, undermining Lead Plaintiffs’ allegations of falsity, scienter, and  
11 loss causation. Defendants would also maintain that damages were far less than  
12 Lead Plaintiffs asserted, arguing (among other things) that because of these  
13 developments in Qualcomm’s favor, the alleged corrective disclosures in the Action  
14 did not reveal new information and that, instead, the negative price reactions on the  
15 corrective disclosure dates were due to the announcements of the meritless actions  
16 themselves and that those actions were based on previously disclosed risks.

17 This Settlement, if approved, would be the first time any U.S. plaintiff has  
18 achieved any recovery from Qualcomm in any of the proceedings related to the  
19 alleged anti-competitive conduct at issue.

20 For the reasons discussed in this motion, Lead Plaintiffs respectfully request  
21 that the Court enter the Order Preliminarily Approving Settlement and Providing for  
22 Notice (“Preliminary Approval Order”) attached as Exhibit A to the Stipulation and  
23 as Exhibit 2. The Preliminary Approval Order will, among other things,  
24 (i) preliminarily approve the terms of the Settlement in the Stipulation; (ii) approve  
25 the form and method for providing notice of the Settlement to the Class, which is  
26 designed to ensure that Class Members are notified of the Settlement and informed  
27 of their rights to participate or object; and (iii) schedule the Settlement Hearing, at  
28 which the Court will consider the request for final approval of the Settlement, the



1 plan for allocating the net proceeds of the Settlement, and any motion for attorneys’  
2 fees and Litigation Expenses.

## 3 **II. SUMMARY OF THE LITIGATION**

### 4 **A. The Filing of the Action and the Appointment of Lead** 5 **Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel**

6 On January 23, 2017, notice was issued setting the deadline by which putative  
7 class members could move the Court for appointment as lead plaintiff in this Action.  
8 Lead Plaintiffs timely moved for appointment in accordance with the PSLRA,  
9 approval of their selection of lead counsel, and consolidation of all related actions.  
10 ECF Nos. 11, 19. On May 4, 2017, the Honorable John A. Houston consolidated  
11 the actions, appointed Sjunde AP-Fonden and Metzler Asset Management GmbH as  
12 Lead Plaintiffs, approved Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossman LLP and Motley  
13 Rice LLC as Lead Counsel, and ordered that all future filings in the action be made  
14 in Case No. 3:17-cv-00121-JAH-WVG, under the caption *In re Qualcomm*  
15 *Incorporated Securities Litigation*. ECF No. 31.

### 16 **B. The Complaint and Defendants’ Pleading Challenges**

17 Following an extensive pre-suit investigation, on July 3, 2017, Lead Plaintiffs  
18 filed the Consolidated Class Action Complaint (ECF No. 32) (the “Complaint”),  
19 asserting claims against Defendants Qualcomm Inc. (“Qualcomm”), and certain of  
20 its current and former executives, Derek K. Aberle, Steven R. Altman, Donald J.  
21 Rosenberg, William F. Davidson, Jr., Paul E. Jacobs, and Steven Mollenkopf (the  
22 “Individual Defendants”) under Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of  
23 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder, and against the  
24 Individual Defendants under Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act.

25 Lead Plaintiffs alleged that Defendants made material misrepresentations and  
26 omissions concerning Qualcomm’s licensing practices, including that  
27 (1) Qualcomm refused to license its standard essential patent rights to competitors  
28 of its chipset business (the “Licensing Representations”); and (2) Qualcomm

1 bundled the negotiations and terms of its standard essential patent licenses and  
2 chipset agreements (the “Bundling Representations”). Lead Plaintiffs further  
3 alleged that the price of Qualcomm’s common stock was artificially inflated as a  
4 result of Defendants’ allegedly false and misleading misstatements and omissions,  
5 declining upon the announcements of certain enforcement actions and a lawsuit  
6 brought by Apple.

7 Defendants moved to dismiss the Complaint on September 1, 2017, asserting  
8 that the Complaint failed to plead that the statements were materially false or  
9 misleading or made with scienter. ECF No. 40. The motion was fully briefed and  
10 taken under submission on November 29, 2017. ECF No. 43. On March 18, 2019,  
11 Judge Houston entered an order denying Defendants’ motion. ECF No. 59.  
12 Defendants then served and filed their Answer and Affirmative Defenses to the  
13 Complaint on May 31, 2019. ECF No. 82.

14 On January 15, 2020, Defendants moved for judgment on the pleadings. ECF  
15 No. 143. The motion was fully briefed and taken under submission on March 13,  
16 2020. ECF No. 157. On January 5, 2022, while the motion was pending, the case  
17 was transferred to Your Honor for all further proceedings. ECF No. 185. On  
18 February 3, 2022, the Court denied Defendants’ motion for judgment on the  
19 pleadings. ECF No. 192.

### 20 **C. Subsequent Developments in the Actions Underlying the** 21 **Corrective Disclosures**

22 The alleged corrective disclosures are comprised of regulatory actions and a  
23 private lawsuit by Apple. During the course of this litigation, each of the actions  
24 underlying the corrective disclosures reached resolution, with all but one resolving  
25 entirely in Qualcomm’s favor.

26 The first alleged corrective disclosure in this Action concerned the Korean  
27 Fair Trade Commission (“KFTC”) Case Examiner’s findings concerning  
28 Qualcomm’s licensing practices. On December 4, 2019, the Seoul High Court

1 overruled the KFTC’s conclusion with respect to some, but not all, of the challenged  
2 conduct.

3 The second corrective disclosure in this Action concerned the announcement  
4 of the European Commission’s (“EC”) statement of objections and the Taiwan Fair  
5 Trade Commission (“TFTC”) investigation, each concerning Qualcomm’s business  
6 practice. On August 8, 2018, the TFTC revoked its prior findings *ab initio* and, on  
7 June 15, 2022, the Court of Justice of the European Union reversed the EC’s  
8 findings.

9 The third corrective disclosure concerned the United States Federal Trade  
10 Commission (“FTC”) action against Qualcomm. On August 11, 2020, the Ninth  
11 Circuit overturned the district court’s post-trial order in favor of the FTC, praising  
12 Qualcomm for its “hypercompetitive” licensing practices and for having “asserted  
13 its economic muscle ‘with vigor, imagination, devotion, and ingenuity.’” *FTC v.*  
14 *Qualcomm Inc.*, 969 F.3d 974, 1001–02, 1005 (9th Cir. 2020). The DOJ also  
15 submitted an amicus brief in Qualcomm’s favor, asserting that the erroneous district  
16 court decision against Qualcomm, ultimately reversed by the Ninth Circuit,  
17 “reflect[ed] basic misunderstanding of antitrust law,” was “[b]ereft of a legally  
18 sufficient theory of harm,” wrongly applied binding antitrust law, and imposed an  
19 expansive remedy that “could harm U.S. national security.”<sup>2</sup>

20 The fourth corrective disclosure concerned Apple’s private lawsuit against  
21 Qualcomm. On April 16, 2019, Qualcomm announced the parties had reached a  
22 settlement with Apple agreeing to pay Qualcomm billions of dollars.

23 Following these announcements, Qualcomm’s stock price rose dramatically,  
24 erasing all of the losses (and more) suffered by investors during the Class Period  
25 who held their Qualcomm shares.

26  
27 <sup>2</sup> Brief of the United States of America as Amicus Curiae in Support of Appellant  
28 and Vacatur, *FTC v. Qualcomm Inc.*, No. 19-16122 (9th Cir. Aug. 11, 2020), ECF  
No. 86.

1           **D. The Parties Completed Substantial Fact and Expert**  
2           **Discovery**

3           Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel engaged in extensive fact and expert  
4 discovery during the past seven years of litigation, including, among other things:  
5 (i) issuing over 115 document requests; (ii) serving 38 interrogatories, 20 requests  
6 for admissions, and multiple subpoenas on third parties; (iii) taking and defending  
7 over 37 fact and expert depositions across the country; (iv) obtaining, reviewing, and  
8 analyzing over 60 million pages of discovery from Defendants and over 17 third  
9 parties; (v) preparing hundreds of pages of written responses to detailed contention  
10 interrogatory requests and 25 requests for admission from Defendants;  
11 (vi) reviewing and producing over 33,000 pages of client discovery; (vii) reviewing  
12 voluminous written discovery responses from Defendants; (viii) exchanging  
13 opening, rebuttal, and reply reports for five expert witnesses; and (ix) analyzing and  
14 responding to reports submitted by six defense experts.

15           Discovery in the Action was hard-fought. Throughout the discovery process,  
16 the Parties regularly met and conferred, utilized the Court’s informal and formal  
17 joint motion procedures on at least four occasions, and, when appropriate, brought  
18 disputes to Magistrate Judge Berg for judicial determination, including seeking  
19 additional depositions and opposing motions to quash third-party depositions.

20           **E. Class Certification, Notice, and the Opt-Out Opportunity**

21           While pursuing merits discovery, on May 23, 2022, Lead Plaintiffs filed their  
22 motion for class certification (“Class Certification Motion”) supported by a market  
23 efficiency and damages report prepared by Lead Plaintiffs’ expert, Dr. David I  
24 Tabak. ECF No. 217. Defendants opposed the Class Certification Motion based on  
25 a purported lack of price impact, an inability to establish a Class-wide damages  
26 model consistent with the theory of liability, and the atypicality of the Lead  
27 Plaintiffs. The Class Certification Motion was fully briefed, including sur-replies,  
28 on October 7, 2022. ECF No. 273.

1           Following oral argument, on March 20, 2023, the Court granted in part and  
2 denied in part the Class Certification Motion, certifying the Class, appointing Lead  
3 Plaintiffs as Class Representatives, and appointing Lead Counsel as Class Counsel  
4 (the “Class Certification Decision”). ECF No. 279. The Court found that there was  
5 no price impact for the Licensing Representations, effectively dismissing 15  
6 statements from the case, including all of the misstatements that formed the basis of  
7 the Section 10(b) claims against two of the Individual Defendants.<sup>3</sup>

8           On September 13, 2023, Lead Plaintiffs filed an unopposed motion for  
9 approval of the Class Notice, which the Court approved on October 26, 2023. *See*  
10 ECF Nos. 301, 309. Beginning on November 28, 2023, the Claims Administrator,  
11 A.B. Data, disseminated the Class Notice by mail to potential Class Members. *See*  
12 ECF No. 328 at ¶ 5. The Class Notice provided Class Members with the opportunity  
13 to request exclusion from the Class, explained that right, and set forth the procedures  
14 for doing so. *Id.* at Ex. 2, ¶ 12. The Class Notice informed Class Members that, if  
15 they chose to remain a Class member, they would “be bound by all past, present and  
16 future orders and judgments in the Action, whether favorable or unfavorable.” *Id.*

17           In accordance with the Court’s Notice Order, A.B. Data also caused a  
18 summary notice to be published in *The Wall Street Journal* and transmitted over *PR*  
19 *Newswire* on December 17, 2023. *Id.* at ¶ 9. On February 20, 2024, Lead Plaintiffs  
20 submitted the Declaration of Jack Ewashko on behalf of A.B. Data, who reported  
21 A.B. Data had mailed an aggregate of over 2.1 million copies of the Class Notice  
22 (including the postcard version and longer-form version) to potential Class Members  
23 and nominees via first-class mail. *Id.* at ¶ 8. The deadline for submitting requests  
24 for exclusion was January 29, 2024. Two hundred and thirty-three (233) requests  
25 for exclusion from the Class were received. *See* Stipulation at App. A; ECF No. 328

26  
27 <sup>3</sup> On the basis of the Class Certification Decision, the Parties moved to dismiss the  
28 Section 10(b) claims against two of the Individual Defendants, and the Court granted  
the motion. *See* ECF Nos. 333, 355.

1 at ¶¶ 12, Exs. 6-7.

2 **F. Lead Plaintiffs’ Opposition to Defendants’ Motions for**  
 3 **Summary Judgment**

4 On March 29, 2024, Qualcomm and the Individual Defendants moved for  
 5 summary judgment on the elements of loss causation, falsity, scienter, and control  
 6 (“Summary Judgment Motions”). *See* ECF Nos. 341, 351-52. On the same day,  
 7 Defendants moved to decertify the Class (“Decertification Motion”) and filed three  
 8 motions to exclude opinions and testimony from Lead Plaintiffs’ proposed expert  
 9 witnesses (“Defendants’ Daubert Motions”). *See* ECF Nos. 342, 344, 347-48.  
 10 Meanwhile, Lead Plaintiffs filed six motions to exclude certain opinions and  
 11 testimony from Defendants’ proposed expert witnesses (“Plaintiffs’ Daubert  
 12 Motions”). *See* ECF Nos. 335-340, 358.

13 By May 24, 2024, the Parties completed extensive briefing on the Summary  
 14 Judgment Motions, Decertification Motion, and the Parties’ Daubert Motions, which  
 15 included thousands of pages of evidence, and other supporting documents. *See*  
 16 *generally* ECF Nos. 360-372, 384-397.

17 **III. THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT**

18 On May 31, 2024, following arm’s-length negotiations, the Parties reached an  
 19 agreement in principle to resolve the Action for \$75 million. The Stipulation, with  
 20 its exhibits, constitutes the final and binding agreement between the parties. At the  
 21 time the Settlement was reached, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel had a thorough  
 22 understanding of the strengths and risks of the claims.

23 The Settlement provides that Defendants will cause \$75 million in cash to be  
 24 paid into an interest-bearing escrow account. If the Settlement is approved, the  
 25 Settlement Amount, plus accrued interest, after the deduction of attorneys’ fees and  
 26 Litigation Expenses awarded by the Court, Notice and Administration Costs, and  
 27 Taxes (the “Net Settlement Fund”), will be distributed among Class Members who  
 28 submit valid Claim Forms, in accordance with a plan of allocation to be approved

1 by the Court. The Class will receive the full benefit of the \$75 million, net of Court-  
2 approved fees and expenses; there will be no reversion of funds to Defendants once  
3 the Settlement becomes final. *See* Stipulation ¶ 12.

4 The Settlement applies to the same Class that was certified by the Court in its  
5 March 20, 2023 Order (ECF No. 279). The Class includes all persons or entities  
6 who purchased or otherwise acquired the common stock of Qualcomm between  
7 February 1, 2012 and January 20, 2017, inclusive (the “Class Period”), and who were  
8 damaged thereby. *See* Stipulation ¶ 1(h). In exchange for the payment of the  
9 Settlement Amount, Class Members will release the “Released Plaintiffs’ Claims.”  
10 Stipulation ¶ 1(oo). The Settlement’s release provision is tailored to the Class’s  
11 claims. Specifically, the release is limited to (1) the actual claims asserted in  
12 Complaint; or (2) unasserted claims that could have been brought if they “arise out  
13 of or relate in any way to the allegations, transactions, facts, matters or occurrences,  
14 representations, or omissions involved, set forth, or referred to in the Complaint and  
15 relate to the purchase of Qualcomm common stock during the Class Period.” *Id.*

#### 16 **IV. THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT MERITS** 17 **PRELIMINARY APPROVAL**

##### 18 **A. Standards Governing Approval of a Class Action Settlement**

19 The Ninth Circuit has a strong judicial policy in favor of voluntary settlement  
20 of litigation, and particularly so in class actions. *See, e.g., Linney v. Cellular Alaska*  
21 *P’ship*, 151 F.3d 1234, 1238 (9th Cir. 1998). “Judicial policy favors settlement in  
22 class actions and other complex litigation where substantial resources can be  
23 conserved by avoiding the time, cost, and rigors of formal litigation.” *Loomis v.*  
24 *Slendertone Distrib., Inc.*, 2021 WL 873340, at \*3 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 9, 2021). “[I]n  
25 approving a class action settlement, the Court advances the overriding public interest  
26 in settling and quieting litigation, particularly where resource-intensive class actions  
27 are concerned.” *Rael v. Children’s Place, Inc.*, 2020 WL 434482, at \*10 (S.D. Cal.  
28 Jan. 28, 2020).

1 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e) governs the process for judicial  
2 approval of class action settlements. A district court’s review of a proposed class  
3 action settlement consists of two steps. First, the court performs a preliminary  
4 review of the terms of the proposed settlement to determine whether to send notice  
5 of the proposed settlement to the class. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(1). Second,  
6 following distribution of the notice, and after a hearing, the Court determines  
7 whether to grant final approval of the settlement. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2).

8 The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure instruct that a court should grant  
9 preliminary approval to authorize notice of a settlement upon a finding that it “will  
10 likely be able” to finally approve the Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate at  
11 the final hearing under Rule 23(e)(2). *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(1)(B). In conducting  
12 this evaluation, courts consider whether the settlement: (1) appears to be the product  
13 of serious, informed, non-collusive negotiations; (2) has no obvious deficiencies;  
14 (3) does not improperly grant preferential treatment; and (4) falls within the range  
15 of possible, final approval. *See, e.g., Hernandez v. Arthur J. Gallagher Serv. Co.*,  
16 2024 WL 1521422, at \*6 (S.D. Cal. Apr. 8, 2024); *Khoja v. Orexigen Therap., Inc.*,  
17 2021 WL 1579251, at \*6 (S.D. Cal. Apr. 22, 2021) (same).

18 At the final approval stage, the Court determines whether the Settlement is  
19 “fair, reasonable, and adequate.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2). In considering whether a  
20 settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate at final approval, Rule 23(e)(2) provides  
21 that the Court should consider whether:

22 (A) the class representatives and class counsel have adequately  
23 represented the class; (B) the proposal was negotiated at arm’s length;  
24 (C) the relief provided for the class is adequate, taking into account: (i)  
25 the costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal; (ii) the effectiveness of  
26 any proposed method of distributing relief to the class, including the  
method of processing class-member claims; (iii) the terms of any  
proposed award of attorney’s fees, including timing of payment; and  
(iv) any agreement required to be identified under Rule 23(e)(3); and  
(D) the proposal treats class members equitably relative to each other.

27 Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2). The Court also considers the factors identified by the Ninth  
28 Circuit in *Churchill Village, L.L.C. v. General Electric*, 361 F.3d 566, 575 (9th Cir.



1 2004), many of which overlap with the Rule 23(e) factors. As detailed below, each  
2 of these factors support preliminary approval of the Settlement.

3 **B. The Court “Will Likely Be Able to” Approve the**  
4 **Proposed Settlement Under Rule 23(e)(2)**

5 **1. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel Have Adequately**  
6 **Represented the Class**

7 In determining whether to approve a class-action settlement, courts consider  
8 whether Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel “have adequately represented the class.”  
9 Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)(A). This analysis considers “the nature and amount of  
10 discovery” undertaken in the litigation. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)(A), 2018  
11 Advisory Committee Notes. Here, as the Court found when it certified the Class,  
12 Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have vigorously represented the Class in its  
13 prosecution of the Action since its inception. Among other things, Lead Plaintiffs  
14 and Lead Counsel completed exhaustive fact and expert discovery efforts that  
15 included 37 fact and expert depositions; obtained over 60 million pages of discovery  
16 from Defendants and over 17 third parties; produced over 33,000 pages of Lead  
17 Plaintiffs’ documents; served 38 interrogatories and 20 requests for admission; and  
18 opposed multiple summary judgment and *Daubert* motions. As a result of these  
19 extensive efforts, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel had a well-developed  
20 understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the claims when the Settlement  
21 was reached.

22 **2. The Settlement Was Reached Through Extensive Arm’s-**  
23 **Length Negotiations Among Experienced Counsel**

24 Courts repeatedly recognize that “the fact that experienced counsel involved  
25 in the case approved the settlement after hard-fought negotiations is entitled to  
26 considerable weight.” *Nguyen v. Radiant Pharms. Corp.*, 2014 WL 1802293, at \*3  
27 (C.D. Cal. May 6, 2014); *In re Heritage Bond Litig.*, 2005 WL 1594389, at \*14 (C.D.  
28 Cal. June 10, 2005) (“Great weight is accorded to the recommendation of counsel,  
who are most closely acquainted with the facts of the underlying litigation.”); *In re*

1 *Pac. Enters. Sec. Litig.*, 47 F.3d 373, 378 (9th Cir. 1995) (“Parties represented by  
2 competent counsel are better positioned than courts to produce a settlement that  
3 fairly reflects each party’s expected outcome in litigation”).

4 Lead Counsel are highly experienced in complex securities litigation. As  
5 reflected in their Firm Resumes (ECF Nos. 217-4, 217-5), BLB&G and Motley Rice  
6 are among the most experienced securities class action law firms in the country.<sup>4</sup> As  
7 the Court found in the Class Certification Order, Lead Counsel are fully committed  
8 and incentivized to maximize investors’ recovery in this case, as demonstrated by,  
9 among other things, the tireless work they have devoted to this case over the past  
10 seven years. *See, e.g., Hudson v. Libre Tech. Inc.*, 2020 WL 2467060, at \*5 (S.D.  
11 Cal. May 13, 2020) (finding Rule 23(e)(2)(A) met because the analysis is “redundant  
12 of the requirements of Rule 23(a)(4) and Rule 23(g)”; *In re BofI Holding, Inc. Sec.*  
13 *Litig.*, 2022 WL 9497235, at \*5 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 14, 2022) (similar).

14 Furthermore, this matter was “hard fought and contentiously litigated  
15 throughout.” *Spann v. J.C. Penney Corp.*, 314 F.R.D. 312, 324-25 (C.D. Cal. 2016)  
16 (granting preliminary approval where plaintiffs’ counsel “engaged in substantial  
17 motion practice”). Indeed, at the time of Settlement, the Parties had completed fact  
18 and expert discovery, summary judgment briefing, and extensive pre-trial  
19 preparation and analysis. Accordingly, “both parties had ample time and  
20 information to evaluate all aspects of the case, the strength of the factual and legal  
21 questions at issue, and the likelihood of prevailing.” *Tait v. BSH Home Appliances*  
22 *Corp.*, 2015 WL 4537463, at \*8 (C.D. Cal. July 27, 2015) (parties sufficiently

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 <sup>4</sup> *See also In re WorldCom, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 2004 WL 2591402, at \*18 (S.D.N.Y.  
25 Nov. 12, 2004) (“The quality of the representation given by Lead Counsel [including  
26 Bernstein Litowitz] is unsurpassed in this Court’s experience with plaintiffs’ counsel  
27 in securities litigation”); *In re Twitter Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 326 F.R.D. 619, 628 (N.D.  
28 Cal. 2018) (recognizing Motley Rice’s “extensive class action securities litigation  
experience”). BLB&G has settled more of the top 100 largest securities class action  
settlements of all time than any other Firm in the country. *See Institutional  
Shareholder Services, Top 100 Settlements of All-Time*, at 19 (2024), available at  
[https://www.issgovernance.com/library/the-top-100-us-class-action-settlements-of-  
all-time-as-of-december-2023/](https://www.issgovernance.com/library/the-top-100-us-class-action-settlements-of-all-time-as-of-december-2023/).

1 informed “after extensive fact discovery, expert discovery, and motions practice”);  
2 *Nguyen*, 2014 WL 1802293, at \*3 (parties sufficiently informed after “[a]ll  
3 discovery was completed”).

### 4 **3. The Settlement Is Within the Range of Possible Approval**

5 At the preliminary approval stage, the Court need only determine whether it  
6 will “likely be able” to approve the Settlement, Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(1), or, in other  
7 words, whether the Settlement is “within the range of possible approval.”  
8 *Hernandez*, 2024 WL 1521422, at \*6. Because the proposed \$75 million Settlement  
9 represents a favorable recovery for the Class given the substantial risks of non-  
10 recovery presented by continued litigation and the likely damages that could be  
11 recovered at trial, the Settlement falls well within the range of possible approval.

12 Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe that the claims asserted against  
13 Defendants have merit. They recognize, however, the substantial risks the Class  
14 would face in establishing liability and complete damages, as well as the significant  
15 delay and expenses that would necessarily be incurred to pursue their claims against  
16 Defendants through the resolution of summary judgment, trial, and appeals. In  
17 particular, Lead Plaintiffs would have faced substantial risks in establishing the  
18 required elements of falsity, scienter, loss causation, and damages.

19 ***Falsity:*** Defendants have asserted, and would continue to assert that their  
20 statements were literally true—including their statements that Qualcomm  
21 “committed to” standard-setting organizations that it would license on FRAND  
22 terms and that its two business units were “separate.” In addition, Defendants have  
23 strong arguments that their statements that Qualcomm “facilitated competition”  
24 were also literally true, as demonstrated by the Ninth Circuit’s holding that  
25 Qualcomm “asserted its economic muscle ‘with vigor, imagination, devotion, and  
26 ingenuity’” and the European Court of Justice’s reversal of the European  
27 Commission’s findings that Qualcomm’s practices had anticompetitive effects.  
28 Indeed, the Court effectively dismissed one entire portion of alleged misstatements

1 in its Class Certification Order.

2 In seeking to dispose of the remaining misstatements at trial or on appeal,  
3 Defendants would invariably assert that the SEC has taken no action against  
4 Qualcomm, the Company has issued no restatements, and the DOJ publicly endorsed  
5 Qualcomm's appeal to the Ninth Circuit. Lead Plaintiffs recognize that these issues  
6 presented unique challenges to establishing falsity.

7 ***Scienter***: Lead Plaintiffs faced additional challenges associated with proving  
8 scienter. Lead Plaintiffs recognize that Defendants had threatening arguments that  
9 they each reasonably believed Qualcomm's practices were lawful and their  
10 statements were truthful. In support of the reasonableness of their beliefs,  
11 Defendants invariably would point to the fact that the SEC has taken no action  
12 against any of the Defendants, the Ninth Circuit found that Qualcomm's actions  
13 complied with the competition laws, and the DOJ agreed with Qualcomm's position  
14 that its business practices were lawful. Defendants were also expected to continue  
15 to argue that the Individual Defendants' personal stock trades were consistent with  
16 their honest belief: they did not sell a significant amount of their personal  
17 Qualcomm stocks and, in fact, held substantial Qualcomm stock at the time of the  
18 corrective disclosures. If a jury were to accept that Defendants did not act with the  
19 requisite state of mind, investors would recover nothing.

20 ***Loss Causation***: Lead Plaintiffs further recognize that Defendants had  
21 meaningful challenges to "loss causation" in this action. Each of the corrective  
22 disclosures in this case were announcements related to regulatory enforcement  
23 actions and a private lawsuit by Apple. Defendants strenuously argued that the  
24 corrective disclosures did not reveal "new" information about any of Qualcomm's  
25 alleged licensing and bundling practices, but merely disclosed developments in the  
26 regulatory investigations, which Defendants had already disclosed. The Court  
27 already accepted Defendants' argument as to Qualcomm's Licensing  
28 Representations in its Class Certification Order, declining to certify a class with

1 respect to most of the alleged misrepresentations that had been at issue in this case.  
2 Defendants would also contend that their public SEC filings repeatedly warned  
3 investors about the risks of regulatory action, as well as the initiation of the  
4 investigations that led to the enforcement actions forming the corrective disclosures  
5 at issue.

6 Defendants would argue that for these reasons Lead Plaintiffs could not  
7 appropriately disaggregate the impact of information that was not related to the  
8 alleged false and misleading statements and omissions on the price declines at issue.  
9 On that basis, Defendants had moved to decertify the class through a motion that, if  
10 successful, would have precluded Lead Plaintiffs from prosecuting this action as a  
11 class action altogether. In seeking to decertify the Class and dispose of the remaining  
12 statements at summary judgment, Defendants presented arguments that the market  
13 was also already aware of the alleged bundling practices. Relatedly, Defendants had  
14 meaningful arguments that Qualcomm's stock price declined in response to the  
15 enforcement actions themselves—rather than any revelations about Qualcomm's  
16 practices. Lead Plaintiffs recognized that the Class could recover nothing if the  
17 Court, a jury, or the Ninth Circuit accepted any of these loss causation challenges.

18 ***Summary Judgment and Daubert Risks:*** At the time of the Settlement, the  
19 parties had fully briefed summary judgment and *Daubert* motions, which were set  
20 to be heard on June 12, 2024. If Defendants prevailed on their summary judgment  
21 arguments, Lead Plaintiffs would have recovered nothing or substantially less.  
22 Likewise, if Defendants succeeded on their *Daubert* motions, Lead Plaintiffs would  
23 have been severely limited in their ability to prove their case to a jury at trial. In  
24 deciding to settle this action, Lead Plaintiffs carefully considered each of these risks.

25 ***Trial Risks:*** To recover anything in this case, Lead Plaintiffs would also need  
26 to convince a unanimous jury at trial. Lead Plaintiffs recognized the distinct  
27 difficulties of doing so in this case. With the assistance of a jury consultant, Lead  
28 Plaintiffs considered that the trial would be based in Qualcomm's hometown of San

1 Diego, California, where jurors may be sympathetic to Qualcomm, which is a large,  
2 local U.S. based employer, and to the Individual Defendants, who are well-known  
3 contributors to the local community. Lead Plaintiffs also considered how a jury  
4 would respond to the particular facts of the case and developments in the related  
5 actions, including the ultimate findings in Qualcomm’s favor across the globe and  
6 the DOJ’s support for Qualcomm’s practices.

7 ***Appellate Risk:*** Even if successful in prevailing at trial, Lead Plaintiffs  
8 recognized that they faced substantial appellate risk. The Ninth Circuit already  
9 reversed entirely the FTC’s post-trial victory against Qualcomm and denied a  
10 request to hear the appeal *en banc*. In so doing, the Ninth Circuit stated that  
11 Qualcomm did not unlawfully interfere with competition, but rather acted “hyper-  
12 competitively” and in accordance with the antitrust laws. Additionally, the Ninth  
13 Circuit vacated a district court decision certifying a class of U.S. consumers alleging  
14 the same anti-competitive practices, after which the district court dismissed certain  
15 claims and granted summary judgment on all remaining claims in favor of  
16 Qualcomm. *See In re Qualcomm Antitrust Litig.*, 2023 WL 7393012, at \*1 (N.D.  
17 Cal. Nov. 7, 2023).

18 ***Damages:*** Defendants also pressed threatening challenges that Lead Plaintiffs  
19 suffered no or little damages from the alleged misstatements. Qualcomm’s stock  
20 price did not increase following any of the alleged misrepresentations, and its stock  
21 price fully rebounded following the reversal of the FTC and EC Actions and Apple’s  
22 voluntary dismissal of its lawsuit. Additionally, as noted, Defendants raised  
23 meaningful challenges that Lead Plaintiffs and their expert could not reliably  
24 “disentangle” the competing causes of investors’ alleged damages, given the nature  
25 of the corrective disclosures. If Defendants prevailed at summary judgement, trial,  
26 or appeal on any of these arguments, investors would recover nothing.

27 The Settlement is also reasonable when considered in relation to the range of  
28 potential recoveries for the Class, even if Lead Plaintiffs overcame Defendants’

1 summary judgment motion, prevailed at trial, and defeated any appeals. Lead  
2 Plaintiffs consulted extensively with damage experts in connection with this case. If  
3 investors were to prevail on all aspects of their claims, throughout the entire Class  
4 Period, and on all corrective disclosures at trial, the absolute maximum amount of  
5 aggregate damages were approximately \$3.6 billion, accounting only for  
6 disaggregation based on confounding non-fraud news and investors' offsetting  
7 gains. This estimate aggressively assumes that the jury would accept Dr. Tabak's  
8 content-analysis disaggregation calculations. It further assumes that the jury would  
9 accept Lead Plaintiffs' argument that no further disaggregation is required based on  
10 the materialization of a known risk, accepting instead both that the enforcement  
11 actions and the Apple litigation were certain to occur based on Qualcomm's  
12 practices (*i.e.*, 100% likely to occur) and the market did not believe that they would  
13 ever occur (*i.e.*, investors believed there was zero chance they would occur). Lead  
14 Plaintiffs recognize that damages would likely be significantly reduced or eliminated  
15 altogether in this case if the Court or the jury were to accept Defendants' challenges  
16 to Dr. Tabak's content analysis, found that any of the enforcement actions were not  
17 foreseeable, or determined that investors already appreciated the risks of such  
18 enforcement actions.

19 Maximum recoverable damages would also be significantly reduced in this  
20 Action if the Court or jury rejected any of the alleged corrective disclosures—which  
21 was a real possibility in this case. As noted, Qualcomm successfully defeated all of  
22 the enforcement actions and the Apple lawsuit that are the subject of the corrective  
23 disclosures, with the lone exception of a portion of the KFTC Action. If damages  
24 were limited to the corrective disclosure concerning the KFTC Action—*i.e.*, the only  
25 enforcement action that was successfully brought against Qualcomm—damages in  
26 this case would be reduced to approximately \$351 million. Under this realistic  
27 scenario, the \$75 million Settlement represents a recovery of 21% of total maximum  
28 damages. *See Khoja*, 2021 WL 5632673, at \*6 (“the median settlement recovery for

1 all securities cases in 2020 represented just 1.7% of investor losses”); *In re N.*  
 2 *Dynasty Mins. Ltd. Sec. Litig.*, 2024 WL 308242, at \*13 & n.11 (E.D.N.Y. Jan. 26,  
 3 2024) (finding 2.3% reasonable because it was consistent with “the median  
 4 settlement for cases with similar estimated losses” of 1.8% for cases settled in 2022);  
 5 *In re 3D Sys. Sec. Litig.*, 2024 WL 50909, at \*12 & n.11 (E.D.N.Y. Jan. 4, 2024)  
 6 (finding 1% reasonable for the same reasons).

7 The \$75 million Settlement is also eight times the amount of the median  
 8 securities class action in the Ninth Circuit over the last ten years (from 2014 to 2023).  
 9 See CORNERSTONE RESEARCH, SECURITIES CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENTS: 2023  
 10 REVIEW & ANALYSIS, at 20 (2024), available at [https://www.cornerstone.com/wp-](https://www.cornerstone.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Securities-Class-Action-Settlements-2023-Review-and-Analysis.pdf)  
 11 [content/uploads/2024/03/Securities-Class-Action-Settlements-2023-Review-and-](https://www.cornerstone.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Securities-Class-Action-Settlements-2023-Review-and-Analysis.pdf)  
 12 [Analysis.pdf](https://www.cornerstone.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Securities-Class-Action-Settlements-2023-Review-and-Analysis.pdf).

#### 13 **4. The Settlement Treats Class Members Fairly**

14 Rules 23(e)(2)(C) and 23(e)(2)(D) direct the Court to evaluate whether “the  
 15 relief provided for the class is adequate” and “the proposal treats class members  
 16 equitably relative to each other.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e)(2)(C)-(D). Here, the  
 17 Settlement does not improperly grant preferential treatment to Lead Plaintiffs or any  
 18 segment of the Class. Rather, all Class Members will be eligible to receive a  
 19 distribution from the Net Settlement Fund in accordance with a plan of allocation to  
 20 be approved by the Court. Thus, at the final Settlement Hearing, Lead Plaintiffs will  
 21 ask the Court to approve the proposed Plan of Allocation for the Net Settlement Fund  
 22 (the “Plan,” set forth in full in Appendix A to the Notice).

23 “Approval of a plan of allocation of settlement proceeds in a class action under  
 24 FRCP 23 is governed by the same standards of review applicable to approval of  
 25 settlement as a whole: the plan must be fair, reasonable and adequate.” *In re Regulus*  
 26 *Therap. Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 2020 WL 6381898, at \*5 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 30, 2020)  
 27 (collecting cases). “The allocation formula used in a plan of allocation ‘need only  
 28 have a reasonable, rational basis, particularly if recommended by experienced and



1 competent counsel.” *Id.* The Plan here readily meets these requirements, providing  
2 for distribution of the Net Settlement Fund to Class Members demonstrating a loss  
3 on their transactions in publicly traded Qualcomm common stock. The formula to  
4 apportion the Net Settlement Fund among Class Members was developed by Lead  
5 Counsel in consultation with Lead Plaintiffs’ damages expert and is based on the  
6 estimated amount of artificial inflation in the price of Qualcomm common stock  
7 during the Class Period related to Defendants’ alleged misconduct. The Plan is  
8 consistent with plans of allocation regularly approved by courts in securities class  
9 actions. *See In re Illumina, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 2021 WL 1017295, at \*5 (S.D. Cal. Mar.  
10 17, 2021) (approving similar plan of allocation); *Brown v. China Integrated Energy*  
11 *Inc.*, 2016 WL 11757878, at \*9 (C.D. Cal. July 22, 2016) (same).

12 Further, the calculation of “Recognized Loss Amounts” under the Plan will  
13 depend on when the claimant purchased and/or sold the eligible securities, whether  
14 the claimant held the securities through the statutory 90-day “look-back” period, *see*  
15 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4(e), and the value of the securities when the claimant purchased,  
16 sold, or held them. Under the Plan, a claimant’s “Recognized Claim” will be the  
17 sum of the claimant’s Recognized Loss Amounts. The method ensures that the Net  
18 Settlement Fund will be allocated to Class Members on a *pro rata* basis based on the  
19 relative size of their Recognized Claims. Accordingly, the Plan applies in an  
20 equitable manner to all Class Members. *See Regulus*, 2020 WL 6381898, at \*5  
21 (finding that “[a] plan which ‘fairly treats class members by awarding a pro rata  
22 share to every Authorized Claimant ... should be approved as fair and reasonable”);  
23 *Radiant*, 2014 WL 1802293, at \*5 (stating that “[a] settlement in a securities class  
24 action case can be reasonable if it ‘fairly treats class members by awarding a *pro*  
25 *rata* share to every Authorized Claimant”).

26 Once the Claims Administrator has processed all submitted claims it will  
27 make distributions to eligible Class Members, until additional re-distributions are no  
28 longer cost effective. At such time, any remaining balance will be contributed to a

1 non-sectarian, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization approved by the Court.

2 **5. The Settlement Does Not Excessively Compensate Plaintiffs’**  
3 **Counsel**

4 The Court will not decide Lead Counsel’s fee and expense application until  
5 the submission of final approval briefing. Lead Counsel will provide detailed  
6 information in support of its application in its motion for attorneys’ fees and  
7 expenses, which will be filed 35 days before the final Settlement Hearing.

8 The Notice provides that Lead Counsel will apply for an award of attorneys’  
9 fees of 23% of the Settlement Fund and reimbursement of expenses. For purposes  
10 of the Court’s preliminary review in connection with this motion for preliminary  
11 approval of the Settlement, Lead Counsel notes that a fee request of 23% is below  
12 the 25% “benchmark” and the 30% “norm” in cases, such as this one, prosecuted on  
13 a contingency basis. *See In re Online DVD-Rental Antitrust Litig.*, 779 F.3d 934,  
14 949 (9th Cir. 2015) (recognizing 25% fee percentage as the Ninth Circuit  
15 “benchmark”); *In re Allergan, Inc. Proxy Violation Derivative Litig.*, 2018 WL  
16 4959014, at \*1 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 13, 2018) (recognizing “a 30% award” is “the  
17 norm”). The 23% fee request is also below the range of fee requests that Ninth  
18 Circuit courts repeatedly approve in similarly sized settlements in securities class  
19 actions with contingency fee risks. *See Vizcaino v. Microsoft Corp.*, 290 F.3d 1043,  
20 1051 (9th Cir. 2002) (affirming award of 28% of \$97 million); *In re Int’l Rectifier*  
21 *Corp. Sec. Litig.*, Case No. 2:07-cv-02544-JFW, slip op. at 1 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 8,  
22 2010), ECF No. 316 (awarding 25% of \$90 million). The 23% requested fee  
23 percentage is also consistent with the lowest fee agreement entered into between  
24 Lead Counsel and any of the Lead Plaintiffs—both of which were entered at the start  
25 of this litigation, and before the Ninth Circuit’s and the other ultimate decisions  
26 across the globe in Qualcomm’s favor. Finally, the 23% requested fee percentage  
27 amounts to a fee in this case that is well below Lead Counsel’s “lodestar,” given the  
28 extensive work performed over the past seven years of hard-fought litigation—all of

1 which will be further detailed in Lead Counsel’s motion for fees and expenses at the  
2 final approval stage.

3 **6. Lead Plaintiffs Have Identified All Agreements Made in**  
4 **Connection with the Settlement**

5 In addition to the Stipulation, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants have entered  
6 into a Supplemental Agreement regarding requests for exclusion (“opt-outs”) from  
7 the Class. *See* Stipulation ¶ 33. The Supplemental Agreement establishes the  
8 conditions under which Qualcomm may terminate the Settlement. “This type of  
9 agreement is a standard provision in securities class actions and has no negative  
10 impact on the fairness of the Settlement.” *In re Mattel, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, No. 2:19-cv-  
11 10860, slip op. at 4 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 18, 2022), ECF No. 146; *see also BofI*, 2022 WL  
12 9497235, at \*7 (approving preliminary approval of settlement with termination  
13 provision as it “is common in securities class actions”); *Hefler v. Wells Fargo & Co.*,  
14 2018 WL 6619983, at \*7 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 18, 2018) (approving preliminary approval  
15 of settlement with “termination option triggered by the number of class members  
16 who opt out of the Settlement”); *Illumina*, 2021 WL 1017295, at \*4 (same). As is  
17 also standard in securities class actions, agreements of this kind are not made public  
18 to avoid incentivizing individuals to leverage the opt-out threshold to exact  
19 individual settlements at the Class’s expense. *See, e.g., Hefler v. Wells Fargo &*  
20 *Co.*, 2018 WL 4207245, at \*7 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 4, 2018) (“There are compelling  
21 reasons to keep this information confidential in order to prevent third parties from  
22 utilizing it for the improper purpose of obstructing the settlement and obtaining  
23 higher payouts.”).

24 **V. THE COURT SHOULD APPROVE THE PROPOSED FORM OF**  
25 **NOTICE AND PLAN FOR PROVIDING NOTICE TO THE CLASS**

26 On October 26, 2023, the Court approved Lead Plaintiffs’ notice to the Class  
27 of this Class Action. In accordance with the Court’s Order, the Court-approved  
28 Claims Administrator, A.B. Data, mailed over 2.1 million copies of the postcard

1 version and longer version of the Class Notice to potential Class Members to inform  
2 them of the pendency of the Action as well as their right to request exclusion from  
3 the Class and the procedures for doing so. *See* ECF No. 328, at ¶¶ 3-9 and Exs. 1-2.  
4 Both the longer Class Notice and the postcard version of that notice made clear that  
5 any Class Members who did not request exclusion would “be bound by the outcome  
6 of this case,” including “by all past, present and future orders and judgments in the  
7 Action, whether favorable or unfavorable.” ECF No. 328-1; ECF No. 328-2, at ¶ 12.  
8 In response to the notice campaign, 233 Class Members made requests for exclusion,  
9 demonstrating that Class Members who wished to request exclusion had a fair  
10 opportunity to do so. *See* ECF No. 328, ¶¶ 8, 12.

11 Lead Plaintiff now seeks the Court’s permission to serve notice of the  
12 proposed Settlement. Rule 23(e)(1)(B) instructs that notice of a class action  
13 settlement be directed “in a reasonable manner to all class members who would be  
14 bound” by the proposed settlement. The settlement notice “must ‘generally  
15 describe[] the terms of the settlement in sufficient detail to alert those with adverse  
16 viewpoints to investigate and to come forward and be heard.’” *Lane v. Facebook,*  
17 *Inc.*, 696 F.3d 811, 826 (9th Cir. 2012).

18 As outlined in the Preliminary Approval Order, if the Court grants preliminary  
19 approval, the Claims Administrator will mail the Postcard Notice (Exhibit 1 to the  
20 Preliminary Approval Order) by first-class mail to all Class Members who were  
21 previously mailed a copy of the Class Notice (over 2.1 million notice recipients),  
22 and to all other Class Members who may be identified by brokers and nominees. A  
23 Summary Settlement Notice will also be published in *The Wall Street Journal* and  
24 transmitted over *PR Newswire*. Lead Counsel will also make copies of a more  
25 detailed Settlement Notice and Claim Form available for download via the website  
26 to be established by the Claims Administrator,  
27 [www.QualcommSecuritiesLitigation.com](http://www.QualcommSecuritiesLitigation.com) or upon request. The website will provide  
28 copies of the Complaint, the Stipulation, and other case and Settlement documents.

1 The proposed notices include all the information required by Rule 23 and the  
2 PSLRA, as well as additional information. Courts routinely find that comparable  
3 notice procedures meet the requirements of due process, Rule 23, and the PSLRA.  
4 *See, e.g., Baker v. SeaWorld Ent., Inc.*, 2020 WL 818893, at \*3 (S.D. Cal. Feb. 19,  
5 2020) (approving comparable notice plan); *Walters v. Target Corp.*, 2019 WL  
6 6696192, at \*8 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 6, 2019) (same); *Gutierrez-Rodriguez v. R.M.*  
7 *Galicia, Inc.*, 2018 WL 1470198, at \*4, \*8 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 26, 2018) (same); *Maxin*  
8 *v. RHG & Co. Inc.*, 2018 WL 9540503, at \*2 (S.D. Cal. Feb. 16, 2018) (same).

9 As noted above, Class Members were previously advised that, if they did not  
10 request exclusion by January 29, 2024, they would “be bound by the outcome of this  
11 case,” including “by all past, present and future orders and judgments in the Action,  
12 whether favorable or unfavorable.” Given the extensive notice program already  
13 undertaken, the ample opt-out opportunity already provided to Class Members, and  
14 that Class Members will receive notification of the settlement and the opportunity to  
15 object at a formal fairness hearing, no further opt-out opportunity is necessary. *See*  
16 *Low v. Trump Univ., LLC*, 881 F.3d 1111, 1121 (9th Cir. 2018) (“[There is] no  
17 authority of any kind suggesting that due process requires that members of a Rule  
18 23(b)(3) class be given a second chance to opt out.”); *Baker*, 2020 WL 818893, at  
19 \*5 (no second opt-out opportunity because of “extensive notice program undertaken  
20 in connection with class certification” and “ample opportunity provided to Class  
21 Members to request exclusion from the Class”); *In re Allergan, Inc. Proxy Violation*  
22 *Sec. Litig.*, No. 8:14-cv-02004-DOC-KESx, slip op. at 11 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 18, 2018),  
23 ECF No. 614 (same).

## 24 **VI. PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

25 In connection with preliminary approval, courts typically set the dates for  
26 future events, many of which are identified in the proposed notice (*e.g.*, deadlines  
27 for objecting to the Settlement, submitting claim forms and the final Settlement  
28 Hearing). Lead Plaintiffs propose the following schedule, which is based on the

1 dates the Preliminary Approval Order is entered and the Settlement Hearing is  
2 scheduled:

Event	Time for Compliance	Proposed Calendar Dates <sup>5</sup>
Deadline to commence mailing the Notice and Claim Form to Class Members (“Notice Date”)	15 business days after the entry of the Preliminary Approval Order (Preliminary Approval Order ¶ 4(a))	July 18, 2024
Deadline for publishing the Summary Notice	10 business days after the Notice Date ( <i>Id.</i> ¶ 4(c))	August 1, 2024
Deadline for filing papers in support of final settlement approval, the Plan of Allocation, and the request for attorneys’ fees and Litigation Expenses	35 calendar days before the date scheduled for the Settlement Hearing ( <i>Id.</i> ¶ 21)	August 30, 2024
Deadline for filing an objection	21 calendar days before the date of the Settlement Hearing ( <i>Id.</i> ¶¶ 11, 12)	September 13, 2024
Deadline for filing reply papers	7 calendar days before the Settlement Hearing ( <i>Id.</i> ¶ 21)	September 27, 2024
Settlement Hearing	At the Court’s convenience, at least 100 calendar days following the entry of the proposed Preliminary Approval Order ( <i>Id.</i> ¶ 2)	October 4, 2024
Deadline for submitting Claim Forms	120 calendar days following the Notice Date ( <i>Id.</i> ¶ 7)	November 15, 2024

27 <sup>5</sup> The “Proposed Calendar Dates” are representative dates that would apply if the  
28 Court entered the Preliminary Approval Order on the scheduled hearing date of June 26, 2024 and set the Settlement Hearing for October 4, 2024.

1 If the Court agrees with the schedule, Lead Plaintiffs request that the Court  
2 schedule the Settlement Hearing for a date 100 calendar days after entry of the  
3 Preliminary Approval Order, or at the Court’s earliest convenience thereafter, to  
4 allow ample time for mailing of notice of the Settlement to all potential Class  
5 Members in advance of the Settlement Hearing and the objection deadline. For  
6 example, if the Court enters the Preliminary Approval Order on June 26, 2024, Lead  
7 Plaintiffs request that the Court schedule the Settlement Hearing for October 4, 2024,  
8 or at the earliest date thereafter on which the Court’s schedule will allow the hearing.

9 **VII. CONCLUSION**

10 For the foregoing reasons, Lead Plaintiffs respectfully submit that the  
11 proposed Settlement is a fair and reasonable resolution of the Action and warrants  
12 this Court’s preliminary approval. Lead Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court  
13 enter the Proposed Order Preliminarily Approving Settlement and Providing for  
14 Notice of the Settlement submitted herewith, which will: (1) preliminarily approve  
15 the proposed Settlement; (2) approve the form and manner of giving notice of the  
16 Settlement to the Class; and (3) schedule a hearing date and time to consider final  
17 approval of the Settlement and related matters.

18 Dated: June 18, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

19 **BERNSTEIN LITOWITZ BERGER**  
20 **& GROSSMANN LLP**

21 *By: /s/ Jonathan D. Uslaner*  
22 Jonathan D. Uslaner (Bar No. 256898)  
jonathanu@blbglaw.com  
23 Lauren M. Cruz (Bar No. 299964)  
lauren.cruz@blbglaw.com  
24 2121 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 2575  
25 Los Angeles, CA 90067  
26 Tel: (310) 819-3481

27 -and-  
28

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

Salvatore J. Graziano (*Pro Hac Vice*)  
salvatore@blbglaw.com  
Rebecca E. Boon (*Pro Hac Vice*)  
rebecca.boon@blbglaw.com  
1251 Avenue of the Americas, 44th Floor  
New York, NY 10020  
Tel: (212) 554-1400  
Fax: (212) 554-1444

**MOTLEY RICE LLC**

Gregg S. Levin (*Pro Hac Vice*)  
glevin@motleyrice.com  
William S. Norton (*Pro Hac Vice*)  
bnorton@motleyrice.com  
Christopher F. Moriarty (*Pro Hac Vice*)  
cmoriarty@motleyrice.com  
28 Bridgeside Blvd.  
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464  
Tel: (843) 216-9000  
Fax: (843) 216-9450

*-and-*

William H. Narwold (*Pro Hac Vice*)  
bnarwold@motleyrice.com  
One Corporate Center  
20 Church Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103

*Counsel for Lead Plaintiffs Sjunde AP-  
Fonden and Metzler Asset Management  
GmbH, and Lead Counsel for the Class*