UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU and STATE OF FLORIDA, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, Department of Legal Affairs,

Plaintiffs,

Case no. 9:14 CV 80931/COHN/SELTZER

vs.

MICHAEL HARPER, et al.,

Defendants.

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RECEIVER'S SEVENTH INTERIM REPORT, <u>CONCERNING DISTRIBUTIONS TO CONSUMERS</u>

Mark J. Bernet, Receiver for The Hoffman Law Group, P.A., f/k/a The Residential Litigation Group, P.A., Nationwide Management Solutions, LLC, Legal Intake Solutions, LLC, File Intake Solutions, LLC, and BM Marketing Group, LLC (the "Receiver"), hereby files his seventh interim report, relating to restitution payments to consumers.

As previously reported, the funds collected by the Receiver are included in a consumer compensation fund administered by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. In addition, the CFPB has allocated money from its Civil Penalty Fund to the eligible class of victims in this case. A total of \$11,730,579.00 – the amount of damages awarded by the Court – has been dedicated to providing compensation to consumers. <u>The CFPB reports that it has sent checks</u> to the consumer-victims of the Hoffman Law Group. If affected consumers have not yet received their compensation checks, they should contact the CFPB's third-party administrator, whose contact information is provided in the link below.

More information about consumer compensation in this case is available online at http://s3.amazonaws.com/files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/

Hoffman webpage 2016.10.13.pdf. A copy of the webpage is attached. Also, the Receiver will post updates on his website, at <u>www.bernet-receiver.com</u>, as more information becomes available.

Dated: Tampa, Florida October 28, 2016

> /s/ Mark J. Bernet Mark J. Bernet, Receiver 401 E. Jackson Street, Suite 1700 Tampa, Florida 33602 Telephone: (813) 223-7333 Facsimile: (813) 218-5495 Email: <u>mark.bernet@akerman.com</u> Secondary: judy.barton@akerman.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was served by CM/ECF to Melissa Guidorizzi, Esquire, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552, e-mail melissa.guidorizzi@cfpb.gov; Leanne Hartmann, Esquire, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552, e-mail leanne.hartmann@cfpb.gov; Maureen Elin McOwen, Esquire, 1700 G. Street NW, Washington, DC 20552, e-mail molly.mcowen@cfpb.gov; Jennifer Pinder, Esquire, 3507 E. Frontage Road, Suite 325, Tampa, Florida 33607, e-mail jennifer.pinder@myfloridalegal.com; Hector E. Lora, Esquire, The Lora Law Firm, LLC, 174 N.E. 106th Street, Miami Shores, Florida 33138, e-mail hectorlora@bellsouth.net; John A. Richert, Esquire, Hornstine, Pelloni & Hornstine, LLC, 13575 58th Street North, Clearwater, Florida 33760, e-mail john@hornstine.com; and Andrew N. Cove, Esquire, Cove & Associates, P.A., 225 S. 21st Avenue, Hollywood, Florida 33020, e-mail anc@covelaw.com, main@covelaw.com, this 28th day of October, 2016.

> /s/ Mark J. Bernet Receiver

cc: Lou Hornstine, Esquire (via e-mail to <u>lou@hornstine.com</u>)



CFPB v. Hoffman Law Group f/k/a Residential Litigation Group – Case No. 2013-1004-02

Background:

On May 28, 2015, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) and the State of Florida were granted a final judgment against the Hoffman Law Group (HLG) and corporate affiliates accused of using deceptive marketing practices and scamming distressed homeowners into paying illegal advance fees. The Court entered judgments of \$11,730,579.00 against the individual defendants and the corporate defendants (jointly and severally), the figure represents the total amount consumers paid the defendants for mortgage assistance relief products or services since April 1, 2012. Of the total redress ordered (\$11,730,579.00), the Bureau collected \$655,736.98, which will be distributed as redress. Additionally, \$11,074,842.00 was allocated from the Civil Penalty Fund to cover the remaining victim harm outlined in the order.

More information about this case can be found in our <u>press release</u>. To see the court order in the Hoffman Law Group case, click <u>here.</u>

Victim Compensation:

The CFPB has contracted with Rust Consulting, Inc. to administer payments for this case and to answer questions from consumers. For questions related to this case, please:

Call:	1-877-814-0828 (Toll-Free)
Email:	hoffman_info@rustcfpbconsumerprotection.org
Write:	CFPB v. Hoffman Law Group Third Party Administrator P.O. Box 2530 Faribault, MN 55021-9530