# If you received calls from Neptune Society, you could get a payment from a class action settlement.

A federal court authorized this Notice. It is <u>not</u> a solicitation from a lawyer.

- A settlement has been reached with SCI Direct, Inc. doing business as Neptune Society ("SCI Direct" or "Defendant") in a class action lawsuit about whether it violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) by making prerecorded calls to consumers without their consent and calls to consumers without a proper "Do Not Call" policy in effect.
- You may be included in the settlement and eligible for a payment from it if you received prerecorded telephone calls without your prior express written consent or telephone calls made by or on behalf of SCI Direct and promoted its goods and services (including the cremation services offered by Neptune Society).
- Your rights are affected whether you act or don't act. Read this Notice carefully.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT		
SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2018	This is the only way you can receive a payment from this settlement. If you submit a Claim Form, you will give up the right to sue SCI Direct in a separate lawsuit about the legal claims this settlement resolves.	
ASK TO BE EXCLUDED  DEADLINE: JANUARY 12, 2018	This is the only option that allows you to sue, continue to sue, or be part of another lawsuit against SCI Direct related to the legal claims this settlement resolves. However, you will give up the right to get a payment from this settlement.	
OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT DEADLINE: JANUARY 12, 2018	If you do not exclude yourself from the settlement, you may object to it by writing to the Court about why you don't like the settlement. If you object, you may also file a claim for a cash payment.	
GO TO A HEARING ON MARCH 14, 2018	You may object to the settlement and ask the Court for permission to speak at the Final Approval Hearing about your objection.	
DO NOTHING	You will not get a payment from this settlement and you will give up the right to sue, continue to sue, or be part of another lawsuit against SCI Direct about the legal claims resolved by this settlement.	

- These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this Notice.
- The Court in charge of this case still has to decide whether to approve the settlement.

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# **BASIC INFORMATION**

## 1. Why was this Notice issued?

A court authorized this Notice because you have a right to know about the proposed settlement of this class action lawsuit and about all of your options before the Court decides whether to grant final approval to the settlement. This Notice explains the lawsuit, the settlement, your legal rights, what benefits are available, and who can get them.

Judge John Z. Lee of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois is overseeing this class action. The case is known as *Strache v. SCI Direct, Inc. d/b/a Neptune Society*, Case No. 17-cv-4692. The proposed settlement resolves the legal claims in this lawsuit as well as *Allard v. SCI Direct, Inc. d/b/a Neptune Society*, Case No. 16-cv-1033 (M.D. Tenn.) (together the "Actions"). The people that filed this lawsuit are called the "Plaintiffs" and the company they sued, SCI Direct, Inc., is called the "Defendant."

## 2. What is this lawsuit about?

This lawsuit is about whether SCI Direct violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act when SCI or companies working on its behalf made calls through the use of an artificial or prerecorded voice and did not have the recipients' permission to make these calls, and made calls to consumers without a proper "Do Not Call" policy in effect.

# 3. What is a class action?

In a class action, one or more people called Class Representatives (in this case, Linda Allard and Kelly Strache) sue on behalf of other people with similar claims. Together, the people included in the class action are called a Class or Class Members. One court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the Class.

# 4. Why is there a settlement?

The Court did not decide in favor of the Class Representatives or Defendant. Instead, both parties agreed to a settlement. This way, they avoid the cost and burden of a trial and the people affected can get benefits. The Class Representatives and their attorneys think the settlement is best for all Class Members.

#### WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT

## 5. How do I know whether I am part of the settlement?

You are included in the settlement as a Settlement Class Member if you fit one or both of the following descriptions:

- <u>Prerecord Class:</u> Since October 16, 2013, all persons within the United States to whose telephone number Defendant SCI Direct, Inc. placed a telephone call using CallFire, Inc.'s calling platform when that call was dispositioned as "Answering Machine," "Live Answer," or "Do Not Call."
- <u>DNC Class:</u> Since May 27, 2012, all persons within the United States to whose telephone number Defendant SCI Direct, Inc. placed (or had placed on its behalf) two or more telephone calls in a 12-month period.

## 6. How do I know if I fit either of the class definitions?

In general, if you received *either* a prerecorded call or call using an "artificial" voice from SCI Direct (also known as the Neptune Society) at any time since October 16, 2013, *or* you received two or more calls within a 12-month period from SCI Direct (after May 27, 2012), you are likely included.

## 7. Are there exceptions to being included?

Yes. The settlement does not include: (1) the Judges presiding over the Actions and members of their families; (2) the Defendant, its subsidiaries, parent companies, successors, predecessors, and any entity in which the Defendant or its parents have a controlling interest and their current or former officers, directors, and employees; (3) Settlement Class Members who properly request exclusion from the Settlement Class; (4) Persons whose claims against the Defendant have been fully and finally adjudicated or released; and (5) the legal representatives, successors or assigns of any excluded Persons.

#### 8. What if I am still not sure whether I am part of the settlement?

If you are not sure whether you are included, call 1-855-200-6242, go to <a href="www.SCIDirectSettlement.com">www.SCIDirectSettlement.com</a> or write to the lawyer listed in Question \_ below.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS—WHAT YOU GET IF YOU QUALIFY

# 9. What does the settlement provide?

SCI Direct has agreed to create a \$15,000,000 Settlement Fund. After deducting Court-approved attorneys' fees and costs, incentive awards for the Class Representatives, and settlement administration expenses, the balance will be distributed to Settlement Class Members who submit valid Claim Forms. Under the settlement, SCI also agrees to develop and implement certain internal policies, trainings, and procedures to ensure compliance with the TCPA.

## 10. How much will my payment be?

Payments will be distributed pro rata (proportionately) to all Settlement Class Members who submit valid Claim Forms.

#### HOW TO GET A SETTLEMENT PAYMENT—SUBMITTING A CLAIM FORM

## 11. How do I get a payment from the settlement?

You must complete and submit a Claim Form by **February 13, 2018**. Claim Forms may be submitted online at <a href="https://www.SCIDirectSettlement.com">www.SCIDirectSettlement.com</a> or printed from the website and submitted to the Settlement Administrator at the address on the form. Claim Forms are also available by calling 1-855-200-6242 or by writing to the Settlement Administrator, Strache v. SCI Direct, Inc. Settlement Administrator, P.O. Box 404039, Louisville, KY 40233-4039.

## 12. When would I get my settlement payment?

The Court will hold a hearing on March 14, 2018 to decide whether to grant final approval to the settlement. If the Court approves the settlement, there may be appeals. It is always uncertain whether appeals will be filed and, if so, how long it will take to resolve them. Settlement payments will be distributed as soon as possible, only if and when the Court grants final approval to the settlement and after any appeals are resolved.

# 13. What rights am I giving up to get a payment and stay in the Settlement Class?

Unless you exclude yourself, you are staying in the Settlement Class. If the settlement is approved and becomes final, all of the Court's orders will apply to you and legally bind you. You won't be able to sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against SCI and the Released Parties (*see* next question) about the legal issues resolved by this settlement. The rights you are giving up are called Released Claims.

## 14. What are the Released Claims?

If and when the settlement becomes final, Settlement Class Members will permanently release SCI and any and all of its present or former heirs, executors, estates, administrators, predecessors, successors, assigns, parents, subsidiaries, associates, affiliated and related entities, employers, employees, agents, representatives, consultants, independent contractors, directors, managing directors, officers, partners, principals, members, attorneys, accountants, financial and other advisors, investment bankers, insurers, underwriters, shareholders, lenders, auditors, investment advisors, and any and all present and former companies, firms, trusts, corporations, officers, directors, other individuals or entities in which SCI has a controlling interest or which is affiliated with any of them, or any other representatives of any of these Persons and entities (the "Released Parties") from any and all claims or causes of action of every kind and description (including any causes of action in law, claims in equity, complaints, suits or petitions) and any allegations of wrongdoing (including any assertions of liability, debts, legal duties, torts, unfair or deceptive practices, statutory violations, contracts, agreements, obligations, promises, promissory estoppel, detrimental reliance, or unjust enrichment) and any demands for legal, equitable or administrative relief (including any claims for injunction, rescission, reformation, restitution, disgorgement, constructive trust, compensatory damages, consequential damages, penalties, exemplary damages, punitive damages, attorneys' fees, costs, interest, or expenses) that you have had or have (including assigned claims and unknown claims) that have been or could have been asserted in the Actions or in any other action or proceeding before any court, arbitrator(s), tribunal or administrative body (including any state, local or federal regulatory body), regardless of whether the claims or causes of action are based on federal, state, or local law, statute, ordinance, regulation, contract, common law, or any other source, and regardless of whether they are known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, suspected or unsuspected, or fixed or contingent, arising out of, or related or connected in any way with any and all telephone calls made by or on behalf of SCI Direct to consumers and all claims or causes of action of every kind and description that were brought, alleged, argued, raised, or asserted in any pleading or court filing in the Actions related to the telephone

More detail about the claims you will be releasing are described in Sections 1.25, 3.1, and 3.2 of the Stipulation of Class Action Settlement, available at <a href="https://www.SCIDirectSettlement.com">www.SCIDirectSettlement.com</a>.

## THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

## 15. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

Yes. Judge Lee appointed Jeremy Glapion of Glapion Law Firm, LLC to represent you and other Settlement Class Members as "Class Counsel." You will not be charged for this lawyer. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

# 16. How will the lawyers be paid?

Class Counsel will ask the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and costs of up to \$5,000,000 plus expenses. He will also ask the Court to approve \$10,000 service awards to each of the Class Representatives. The Court may award less than these amounts. Any amounts awarded by the Court will be paid from the Settlement Fund before making payments to Settlement Class Members.

#### EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

If you want to keep the right to sue or continue to sue SCI Direct or the Released Parties about the legal claims in this case, and you do not want to receive a payment from this settlement, you must take steps to get out of the Settlement Class. This is called excluding yourself from or opting out of the settlement.

## 17. How do I get out of the settlement?

To exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you must submit a written request for exclusion. Your request for exclusion must include: (1) your name, address and telephone number; (2) a statement that you are a Settlement Class Member and wish to be excluded from *Kelly Strache v. SCI Direct, Inc. d/b/a Neptune Society*, Case No.17-cv-4692; and (4) your personal signature. Your request for exclusion must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator at the address below so it is postmarked no later than **January 12, 2018**:

Strache v. SCI Direct, Inc. Settlement Administrator P.O. Box 404039 Louisville, KY 40233-4039

## 18. If I exclude myself, can I still get a payment from this settlement?

No. If you exclude yourself, you are telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the settlement. You can only get a payment if you stay in the settlement and submit a valid Claim Form.

# 19. If I do not exclude myself, can I sue SCI Direct or the Released Parties for the same legal claims later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you are giving up the right to sue SCI Direct and the Released Parties for the claims that this settlement resolves. You must exclude yourself from *this* lawsuit to start or continue with your own lawsuit or be part of any other lawsuit against SCI Direct or any of the Released Parties.

#### **OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT**

You can tell the Court if you don't agree with the settlement or any part of it.

#### 20. How do I tell the Court that I do not like the settlement?

If you are a Settlement Class Member, you can object to the settlement if you do not like it or a portion of it. You can give reasons why you think the Court should not approve it. The Court will consider your views. Your objection must be in writing and include: (1) your name and address; (2) the telephone number you believe received the telemarketing calls at issue in this settlement; (3) a statement indicating that you believe you are included in the Prerecorded Class, DNC Class or both Classes; (4) the reasons why you object to the settlement, including any supporting documents; (5) the name and contact information of your attorney, if you have hired one to represent you in this case; (6) a statement indicating whether you or your attorney intend to appear at the Court's Final Approval Hearing; and (7) your signature. Mail your objection to all three addresses below so it is <u>filed</u> by the Court and <u>postmarked</u> to Class Counsel and Defense Counsel on or before **January 12, 2018**.

The Court	Class Counsel	Defense Counsel
Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse 219 South Dearborn Street Chicago, IL 60604	Jeremy Glapion Glapion Law Firm, LLC 1704 Maxwell Drive Wall, NJ 07719	Joseph Wylie K&L Gates 70 West Madison Street Suite 3100 Chicago, IL 60602-4207

## 21. May I come to court to speak about my objection?

Yes. You or your attorney may speak at the Final Approval Hearing about your objection. To do so, you must include a statement in your objection indicating that you or your attorney intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing. Remember, your objection must be filed and postmarked by **January 12, 2018** and sent to all three addresses in Question 20.

# 22. What is the difference between objecting to the settlement and asking to be excluded from it?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you don't like something about the settlement. You can object only if you remain a Settlement Class Member (that is, do not exclude yourself). Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the settlement. If you exclude yourself, you cannot object because the settlement no longer affects you.

#### THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a hearing to decide whether to approve the settlement. You may attend and you may ask to speak, but you don't have to.

# 23. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing at 2:00 PM CT on March 14, 2018 at the Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse, Courtroom 1225, 219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate. It will also consider whether to approve Class Counsel's request for an award of attorneys' fees and costs, as well as the Class Representative's incentive awards. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. Judge Lee will listen to people who have asked to speak at the hearing (*see* Question 20 above). After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the settlement.

## 24. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel will answer any questions Judge Lee may have. However, you are welcome to come to the hearing at your own expense. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary.

# 25. May I speak at the hearing?

Yes. You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Final Approval Hearing by including a statement in your objection indicating that you intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing (see Question 21). You cannot speak at the hearing if you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class.

#### IF YOU DO NOTHING

# 26. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you are a Settlement Class Member and you do nothing, you will give up the rights explained in Question 13, including your right to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against SCI Direct and the Released Parties about the legal issues resolved by this settlement. In addition, you will not receive a settlement payment.

#### **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

## 27. How do I get more information?

This Notice summarizes the proposed settlement. Complete details are provided in the Stipulation of Class Action Settlement. The Stipulation of Class Action Settlement, Claim Form and other related documents are available at <a href="https://www.SCIDirectSettlement.com">www.SCIDirectSettlement.com</a>. Additional information is also available by calling 1-855-200-6242 or by writing to <a href="https://www.SCI Direct, Inc.">Strache v. SCI Direct, Inc.</a>. Settlement Administrator, P.O. Box 404039, Louisville, KY 40233-4039. Publicly-filed documents can also be obtained by visiting the Everett McKinley Dirksen U.S. Courthouse during business hours or accessing the Court's online docket via PACER.