# FINANCIAL RECOVERY STRATEGIES

# TELEVISION ADVERTISING DIRECT PURCHASER ANTITRUST CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENTS

# DID YOUR BUSINESS PURCHASE BROADCAST TELEVISION SPOT ADVERTISING?

## YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO RECOVER MONEY!

#### **Eligible Class Members:**

If certified, eligible Class Members are all persons and entities in the United States (excluding federal governmental entities and instrumentalities of the federal government, and states and their subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities) who or which, from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2018, purchased "Broadcast Television Spot Advertising" from one or more "Broadcaster Defendants" in a designated market area within which two or more of the Broadcaster Defendants sold broadcast television spot advertisements on broadcast television stations, including anyone who paid one or more Defendants directly for all or a portion of the cost of such broadcast television spot advertisements.

#### **Definition of "Broadcast Television Spot Advertising":**

Broadcast Television Spot Advertising is defined as advertising spots that run on a broadcast television channel or channels that use public airwaves to transmit programs available to any television set within range of a broadcast transmitter, or that are retransmitted via multichannel video programming distributors ("MVPDs") such as cable, fiber optic networks (e.g., Verizon FiOS), satellite (e.g., DirecTV), and virtual MVPDs (e.g., Hulu + Live TV and YouTube TV). Broadcast Television Spot Advertising includes advertising spots sold by and run-on local broadcast stations that are usually affiliated with broadcast TV networks such as ABC, NBC, CBS, Fox, The CW, and MyTVNetwork, but it does not include advertising spots that run on channels solely available through MVPDs or virtual MVPDs, such as ESPN, CNN or TBS.

## **SUMMARY**

Total Settlements Reached: **\$48 Million** 

Purchase Dates: January 1, 2014 -December 31, 2018

Filing Deadline: **Passed** 

Specific information about the class action(s) listed below

#### **Defendants:**

The "Settling Defendants" include CBS Corp. n/k/a Paramount Global ("CBS"); Fox Corp. ("Fox"); Cox Media Group, LLC ("CMG LLC"), Cox Enterprises, Inc. ("CEI"), CMG Media Corporation (f/k/a Terrier Media Buyer, Inc. and d/b/a Cox Media Group) ("CMG"), and Cox Reps, Inc. ("CoxReps") (CoxReps, CMG LLC, CEI, and CMG are collectively referred to herein as the "Cox Entities"); and ShareBuilders, Inc. ("ShareBuilders"). The "Non-Settling Defendants" include: Raycom Media Inc. ("Raycom"), Meredith Corporation ("Meredith"), Griffin Communications, LLC ("Griffin"), Nexstar Media Group, Inc. ("Nexstar"), Dreamcatcher Broadcasting, LLC ("Dreamcatcher"), Sinclair Broadcasting Group, Inc. ("Sinclair"), Tribune Broadcasting Company, LLC ("Tribune Broadcasting") and Tribune Media Company ("Tribune Media") (collectively, "Tribune," and with Dreamcatcher and Nexstar, "Nexstar Group"), The E.W. Scripps Company ("Scripps"), and TEGNA Inc. ("TEGNA").

#### "Broadcaster Defendants":

The Broadcaster Defendants include CBS; CMG LLC; Dreamcatcher; Fox; Griffin; Meredith; Nexstar; Raycom; Scripps; Sinclair; TEGNA; Tribune Broadcasting; and Tribune Media. ShareBuilders is not a Broadcaster Defendant, but it is alleged to have aided the Broadcaster Defendants in effectuating their conspiracy discussed below.

# THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL COURT NOTICE. INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS SUMMARY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

The Services FRS Provides: Financial Recovery Strategies (FRS) is a class action claims management consultant; we are not a court appointed claims administrator or class counsel. If you hire FRS, FRS will work within your guidelines to manage the claims process. The services that FRS provides include the following: (i) notifying you when we believe that you may be eligible to participate in settlements likely to be valuable to you; (ii) endeavoring to enhance the likelihood that all of your eligible business units (e.g., subsidiaries, divisions, acquisitions and divestitures) are included in the claims process; (iii) to reduce the support needed from your in-house staff, providing advice on what, if any, documents need to be collected and maintained, and, when requested, assisting in that effort; (iv) when required documents are not available or are too burdensome to collect, attempting to develop innovative alternatives to satisfy documentation requirements and striving to obtain approval of those alternatives; (v) preparing, assembling and submitting your claim package, and managing it throughout the claims processing phase, including working with you to address any concerns or questions claims administrators may have; (vi) providing regular updates on the recovery process; (vii) reviewing your payment to assure that it has not been under calculated; and (viii) following up with you to assure that your recovery check is deposited. FRS's recovery specialists are always available to answer any questions you may have.

How to Retain FRS: If you wish to hire FRS to file and manage a claim on your behalf, you must return a signed Claims Management Agreement and a signed Authority to File and Manage Claims. Before doing so, it is important that you understand their terms and make sure that all information about you is correct.

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### **Case History**

In 2018, several class action lawsuits were filed alleging the Defendants shared competitively sensitive sales data, which they used to fix, raise, stabilize or maintain television advertising prices in the United States in violation of federal antitrust laws. At this time, the class has entered into settlements with the Settling Defendants in the total amount of \$48 million. The settlements received final approval and the claim filing deadline was October 26, 2023. The settlement funds (less any expenses and fees) will be distributed to eligible class members at a later date. The litigation is currently ongoing against the Non-Settling Defendants so it is possible that additional funds may become available to the class if the class reaches settlements with the Non-Settling Defendants. FRS will update this Summary as the case progresses and new information becomes available.

Class Counsel or the Settlement Administrator may be contacted for additional settlement information. You also may visit the Court-approved website. Please understand that you have the right to file on your own.

To learn more about our services, visit www.FRSco.com.

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