# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff

Case No. 16-CR-20810-04

v.

TAKATA CORPORATION, Defendant.

Honorable George Caram Steeh

## FORTY-THIRD STATUS REPORT OF THE SPECIAL MASTER

1. Eric D. Green, the court-appointed Special Master for the custody, administration, and distribution of the Takata Airbag Restitution Funds, hereby respectfully submits his Forty-Third Status Report pursuant to paragraph 4 of this Court's Appointment Order (the "<u>Status Report</u>").' The Status Report provides an overview of the Special Master's work from September 9, 2024 through November 9, 2024 (the "<u>Reporting Period</u>") and anticipated future efforts. The Special Master is presently on schedule regarding the processing of Claims and distribution of the restitution funds available to eligible Claimants who have filed Claims with the Individual Restitution Fund (the "<u>IRF</u>").

Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the *Forty-Second Status Report of the Special Master*, dated September 13, 2024 [Docket No. 206].

#### I. <u>ACTIVITIES IN THE REPORTING PERIOD.</u>

# A. APPROVAL OF TWENTY-SEVENTH IRF DISTRIBUTION REQUEST.

1. On September 13, 2024, the Special Master filed the *Special Master's Request for Approval of Twenty-Eighth Distribution of Individual Restitution Fund* [Docket No. 208] (the "<u>Twenty-Eighth IRF Distribution Request</u>"), seeking Courtapproval for: (i) a twenty-eighth distribution from the IRF to compensate two (2) eligible Claims; and denial of two (2) ineligible Claims.

2. Consistent with the procedures set forth in the Minutes of July 25, 2019 Conference with Special Master (the "July 2019 Minutes Order") [Docket No. 110], the Special Master notified the affected Claimants: (i) of their point award and the monetary value of the award (if any); (ii) of the filing of the Twenty-Eighth IRF Distribution Request; and (iii) that such Claimants may object to the Twenty-Eighth IRF Distribution Request by submitting a written response to the Special Master on or before October 8, 2024 (the "Objection Deadline").

3. As the Court is aware, there are two conditions that must be met for Claimants with compensable Claims to receive payment from the IRF. First, all Claimants must execute and submit to the Special Master the Court-approved release agreement (a "<u>Release</u>"). Additionally, if any Claimant was represented by counsel, such counsel must execute and submit to the Special Master a fee rider (a "<u>Fee</u> <u>Rider</u>") acknowledging and agreeing to abide by the restriction on attorney's fees set forth in the IRF Methodology Order. [Docket No. 78, Page ID 2219].

4. On October 24, 2024, the Court entered an order granting the Special Master's Request. *See Order Granting Special Master's Request For Approval Of Twenty-Eighth Distribution Of Individual Restitution Fund* [Docket No. 210]. Accordingly, the Special Master will begin processing and making these payments, subject to the Modified Points Schedule and 2024 Point Value, on a rolling basis following receipt of the necessary documentation.

## II. <u>GOING FORWARD EFFORTS</u>.

#### A. BDO THIRD ANNUAL AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES.

5. In August 2024, BDO USA LLP ("BDO"), the independent auditors previously retained by the Special Master, commenced work on the agreed-upon procedures on the payment of claims and expenses for the period beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023. The Special Master and his team are working diligently to provide BDO the requested claim and expense payment information so that BDO may complete the agreed-upon procedures report. The Special Master anticipates the report to be finalized in November 2024. In accordance with previous practice, the Special Master will transmit BDO's report to the Court upon its completion under separate cover.

#### B. <u>CLAIM EVALUATION AND PROCESSING EFFORTS.</u>

6. The Special Master and his team continue to receive claims for compensation from the IRF and TATCTF (in his capacity as Trustee of that Trust) and will continue the process of reviewing, evaluating, and distributing funds on account of claims. The Special Master and his team will also continue to evaluate the claims data and recall completion rate data in connection with any future pointvalue evaluations. The Special Master and his claims evaluation team remain committed to completing its initial evaluation of Claims within thirty (30) days of the Special Master's receipt thereof.

## **CONCLUSION**

7. The Special Master will continue to perform his responsibilities and duties consistent with the Appointment Order and all other directives of this Court.

Dated: November 13, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Green, Special Master