# **Distribution Process in Class Action and SEC Settlements**

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#### **Overview**

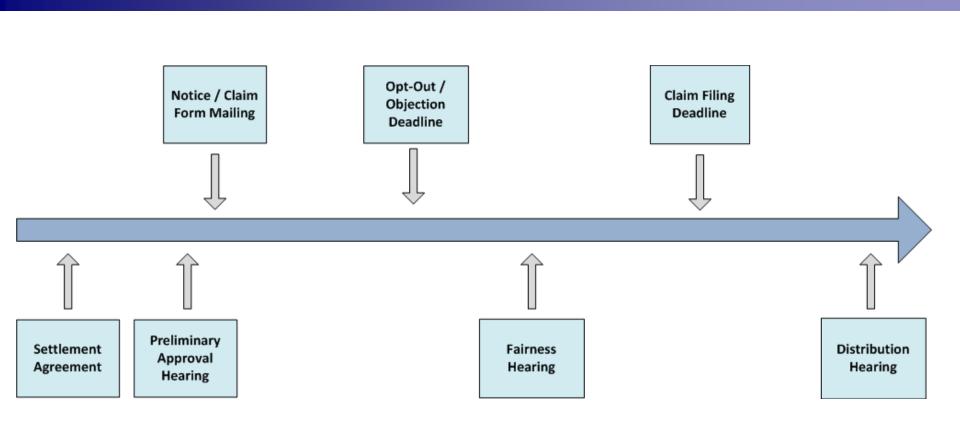
- Description of the distribution process
- Data concerning the distribution process
  - Case studies
- Tensions and suggestions



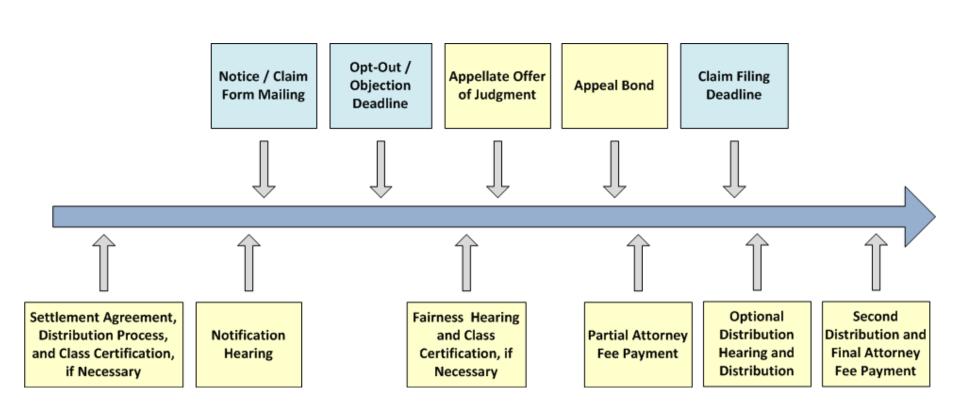
#### **Key Players – Private Class Action Settlements**

- Lead plaintiff
- Plaintiff attorney
- Defendant
- Defense attorney
- Judge

#### **Timeline – Private Class Action Settlements**



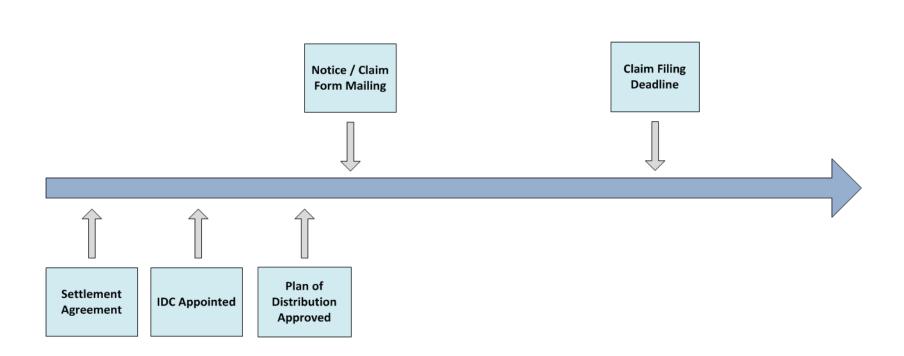
#### **Proposal – Private Class Action Settlements**





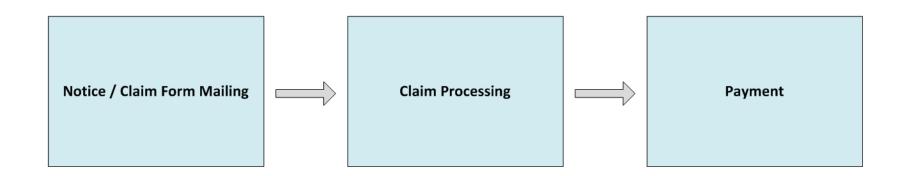
- SEC
- Defendant
- IDC
  - Claims Administrator
  - Economist
  - Bank

#### **Timeline – SEC Settlements**

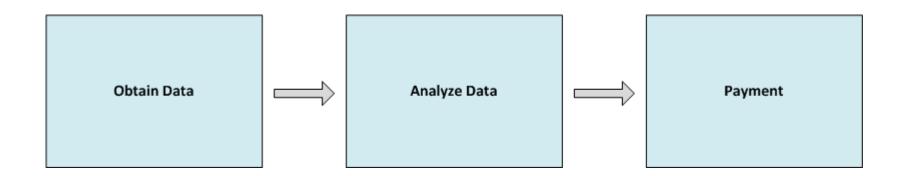




#### **Claims Administration Process – Claims Made**



# **Claims Administration Process– Not Claims Made**





- Interface with nominees
- Publication in IBD and direct mail
- Alternative media WSJ, email
- Support Services helpline, website
- Blank and pre-populated claim forms
- Electronic filing option for bulk filers



# **Claim Processing**

- Receipt and response rate calculation
- Validity determination
- Deficiency processing
- Fraud prevention and detection
- Payment calculation
  - Notification
  - Pro rata
  - De minimis



# **Payment**

- File approval
- Mailing and wire transfers
- Single payments to bulk filers
- Follow up on undelivered and uncashed checks
- Payment review/appeal process

# Participation Rates in Private Securities Litigation Settlement Distributions

- Study: 52 Cases
- Settlement years: 2000-2008
- Analysis:

2001 - 2004 25

2005 - 2008 27

#### 1. Settlements increased in value

Settlement Distribution Year	Cases	Average Inflation Adjusted Settlement Amount	Median Inflation Adjusted Settlement Amount
2001-2004	25	\$70, 410,879	\$12,162,487
2005-2008	27	\$343,240,215	\$19,848,665

2. Estimated number of potentially eligible shares increased

Distribution Year	Cases	Average Shares Potentially Eligible	Median Shares Potentially Eligible
2001-2004	25	343,518,934	41,972,717
2005-2008	27	972,312,360	125,893,995
		183%	200%

#### 3. Number of claim forms mailed increased

Distribution Year	Cases	Average Claim Forms Mailed	Median Claim Forms Mailed
2001-2004	24	225,509	26,089
2005-2008	24	479,950	35,069
		113%	34%

# 4. Number of eligible claims and shares filed increased

Distribution		Average Eligible	Median Eligible	Average Eligible	Median Eligible	Average Eligible Shares Per	Median Eligible Shares
	Canada		<b>O</b>	<u> </u>			
Year	Cases	Claims	Claims	Shares	Shares	Claim	Per Claim
2001-04	25	36,417	4,918	198,541,998	17,865,250	6,549	5,260
2005-08	27	80,285	4,995	443,720,763	48,399,127	10,532	7,247
		120%	2%	123%	171%	61%	38%



#### 5. Electronic claims increased

Claim					
Filing		Average	Median	Average %	Median %
Deadline		Electronic	Electronic	Electronic	Electronic
Year	Cases	Claims	Claims	Claims	Claims
<b>Year</b> 2001-04	Cases 12	<b>Claims</b> 10,119	Claims 293	Claims 14%	Claims 10%

 Larger settlements, longer filing periods, and more potentially eligible shares resulted in more claims filed

Term	Estimate	Std Error	t Ratio	Prob> t
Intercept	-1336184	163484.8	-8.17	<.0001*
Inflation Adjusted Cash Settlement fund	31379.196	13424.94	2.34	0.0243*
Filing Window - date from mailing of claim forms to claim filing deadline	45685.649	22570.12	2.02	0.0493*
Shares Potentially Eligible	47906.677	13197.14	3.63	0.0008*



7. Between 40% and 60% of potentially eligible shares were filed and determined eligible for payment

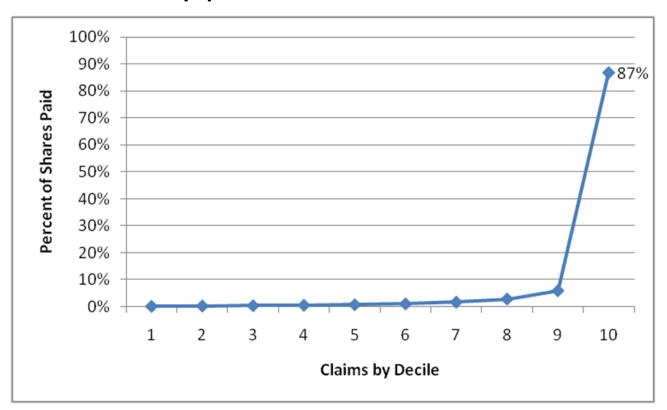
		Average % Shares	Median % Shares
<b>Distribution Year</b>	Cases	Eligible	Eligible
2001-04	25	48%	38%
2005-08	27	55%	46%



8. Longer class period and larger numbers of eligible shares are associated with a larger percentage of eligible shares paid and more complex plans of distribution are associated with a smaller percentage

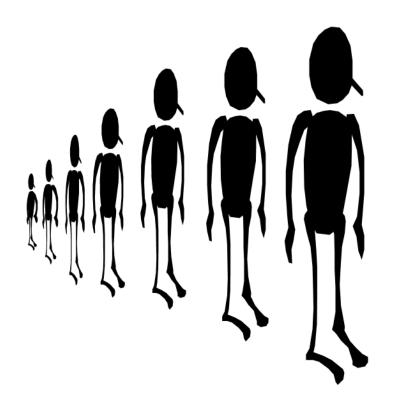
Term	Estimate	Std Error	t Ratio	Prob> t
Intercept	0.1992055	0.083137	2.40	0.0216*
Length of Class Period	0.0859118	0.026262	3.27	0.0023*
Shares per Eligible Claim	0.0024398	0.000993	2.46	0.0187*
Complex Plans	-0.112444	0.06383	-1.76	0.0862

 Approximately 90% of settlement funds are consistently paid to 10% of the claims.



#### Mass Settlements Often Pose Goldilocks Dilemma





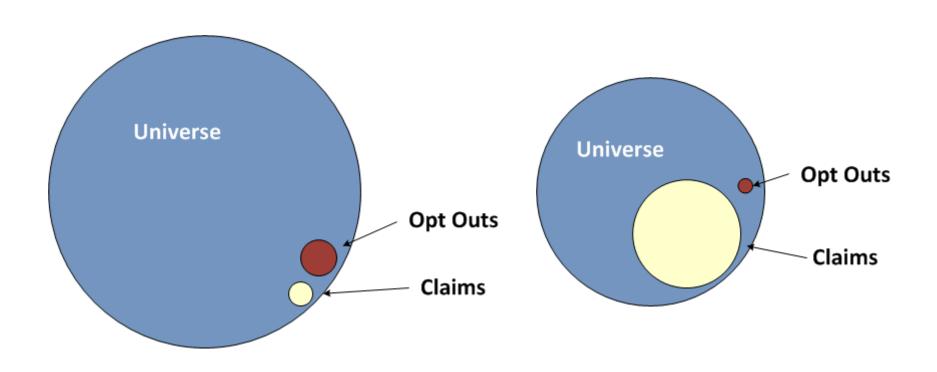


#### **Potential Disaster Scenarios**

- Too many opt-outs
- Too few claims
- Too many claims
- Too little money
- Too much money

# **Too Many Opt Outs**

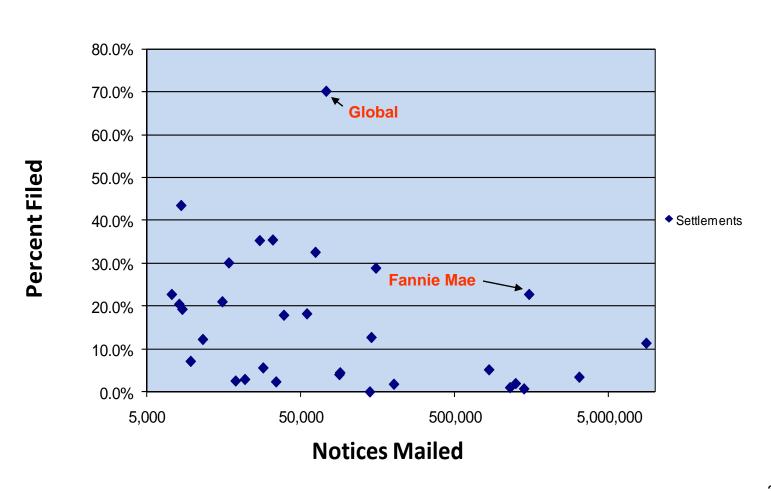
#### **Average Wholesale Price Antitrust Litigation**



**Status Quo** 

**Judicial Management** 

#### **Too Few Claims**



# **Too Many Claims**

#### Triana DDT

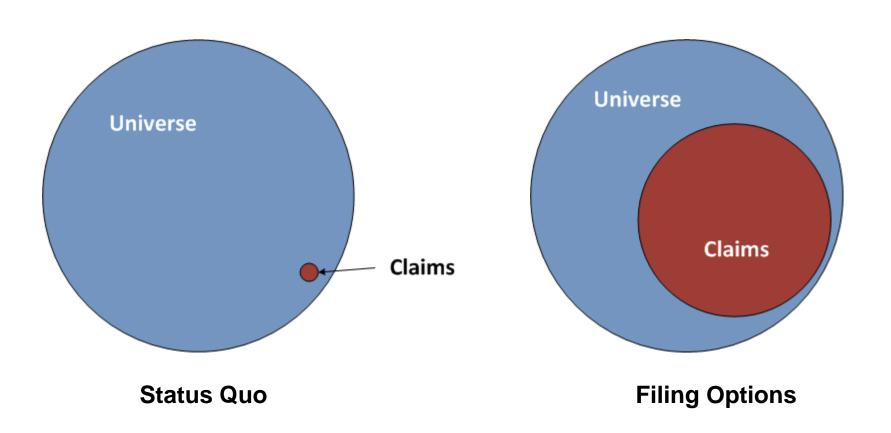






## **Too Few Claims and Too Many Claims**

#### **Foreign Currency Conversion**



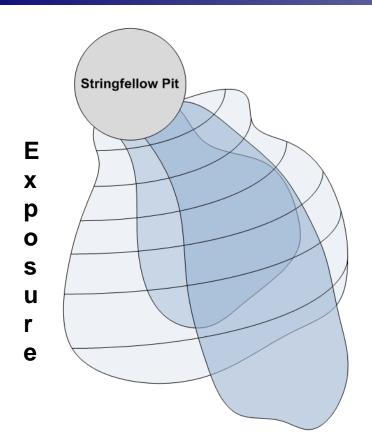
# **Too Little Money**

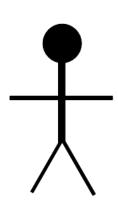
#### **Stringfellow Pit**

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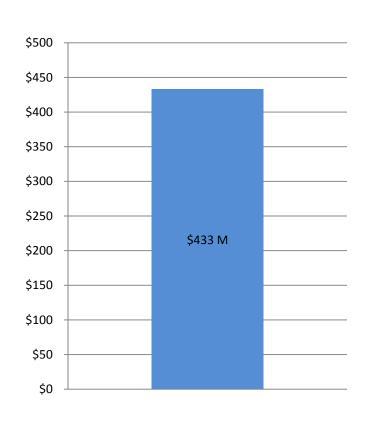


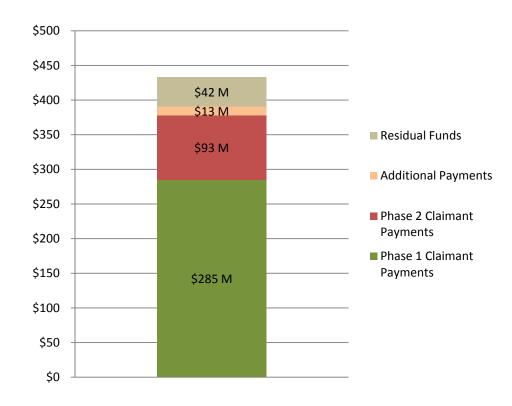


	Points			
Age				
Disease				
Flat Amount				
Property				

### **Too Much Money**

#### **Global Research Analyst Settlement**





**Fund Total** 

**Fund Distribution** 

#### **Trade Offs**

**Time** ← Cost ← Quality

#### **Tensions**

- Defining data and filing responsibility
  - Legal
  - Contractual
- Data
  - Transaction data retention and transfer
  - Account holder contact data retention
- Customer privacy
  - Legal
  - Contractual

### Tensions, Contd.

- Notice/Claim Form Mailing
  - Obtaining CUSIPs and other information needed for filing
  - Forwarding notice/supplying names and addresses
  - Duplication and due process
- Claims Processing
  - Deadlines
  - Electronic filing
  - Deficiencies
  - Receipt of claim notification

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#### Tensions, Contd.

- Payment
  - Deadlines for depositing monies
  - Single and multiple checks/wires
  - Claim status disposition
  - Shares/warrants distribution
  - Un-cashed checks and closed accounts
  - Interest



- Establish agreements with clients for filing and data retention/transfer responsibility
  - Closed accounts
  - New accounts
- Establish financial arrangements with clients
- Establish alternative arrangements
  - Filing service
  - Self filing
  - Other
- Record authority to file internally

# Other Suggestions

- Communicate with claims administrators
  - Eligibility guidelines
  - Electronic filing templates
  - Authority to file
  - Fraud prevention and data confidentiality
  - Wire transfers
  - Deficiency codes
  - Escheatment



# Other Suggestions, Contd.

- Arrange needed services from claims administrators
  - Notification of receipt of claim
  - Disposition of claims filed
  - Bulk deficiency processing
  - Deadline reminders/advance notice of payment
  - Accounting for disbursements from single wire/check

## Other Suggestions, Contd.

- Seek improvements
  - Greater standardization across cases
    - Time to file/respond
    - Deadline date
  - Better organization and timing of information needed for filing
    - All CUSIPS
    - Corporate actions
    - Derivatives eligible

# Other Suggestions, Contd.

- Seek improvements, contd.
  - Improved processes for bulk filers
    - Electronic filing
    - Electronic deficiency processing
    - Single check/wire
  - Changes in Plans of Distribution
    - Guidelines on eligibility of purchase alternatives
    - Instructions to return un-deposited monies to funds