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~~[EXHIBIT A TO THE SETTLEMENT]~~

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS NATIONAL  
PENSION FUND, Individually and on  
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

Case No.: 1:13-cv-5696-JGK

vs.

ORTHOFIX INTERNATIONAL N.V., ET AL.,

Defendants.

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~~PROPOSED~~ PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ORDER

WHEREAS, Lead Plaintiff Plumbers & Pipefitters National Pension Fund (“Lead Plaintiff”) on behalf of itself and each of the Class Members, and defendants Orthofix International N.V. (“Orthofix”), Robert S. Vaters (“Vaters”), Brian McCollum (“McCollum”), and Emily V. Buxton (“Buxton”) (Orthofix, Vaters, McCollum, and Buxton are collectively the “Defendants”), by and through their respective counsel, have entered into a settlement of the claims asserted against Defendants in the above-captioned putative class action (the “Action”), the terms of which are set forth in a Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (the “Settlement”), dated as of December 7, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Lead Plaintiff has moved, pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, for an Order, among other things, preliminarily approving the Settlement and the settlement embodied therein, certifying a Class solely for the purposes of settlement, and providing for notice to potential members of the Class; and

WHEREAS, the Court has read and considered the Settlement and the exhibits thereto, including the proposed Notice of Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; the

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Summary Notice of Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement; the Proof of Claim Form and the [Proposed] Order and Judgment, and found that substantial and sufficient grounds exist for entering this Preliminary Approval Order;

*and the Letter Agreement dated December 18, 2015,*

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. The Court, for purposes of this Preliminary Approval Order, hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement, and all capitalized terms used herein, unless otherwise defined, shall have the same meanings as ascribed to them in the Settlement. As in the Settlement, unless otherwise explicitly specified herein, all time periods set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order will be computed in calendar days and pursuant to the terms of Rule 6(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

2. The Court preliminarily approves the Settlement, including all provisions therein and exhibits attached thereto, as fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class, subject to further consideration at the Final Approval Hearing,

*including the terms of the Letter Agreement dated December 18, 2015. The changes specified in that letter Agreement should be made in the relevant documents.*

3. The Court hereby preliminarily certifies the following class for the purposes of settlement only (the "Class"), pursuant to Rule 23(a) and Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure: all persons and entities who purchased the common stock of Orthofix International N.V. ("Orthofix") between March 2, 2010 and July 29, 2013, inclusive (the "Class Period") and were damaged thereby. Excluded from the Class are: (1) Defendants and members of the immediate family of any Defendant; (2) any entity in which any Defendant has or, during the Class Period, had a controlling interest; (3) the officers and directors of Orthofix during the Class Period; and (4) the legal representatives, agents, executors, heirs, successors, or assigns of any of the foregoing excluded persons or entities, who assert any interest in Orthofix common stock through or on behalf of any such excluded persons or entities. Also excluded from the Class are

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any putative Class Members who exclude themselves by filing a request for exclusion in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Notice of Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement.

4. With respect to the Class, the Court preliminarily finds, for purposes of settlement only, that the prerequisites for class certification under Rule 23(a) and Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure have been satisfied, in that: (a) the number of Class Members is so numerous that joinder of all Class Members is impracticable; (b) there are questions of law and fact common to the Class Members; (c) Lead Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class's claims; (d) the Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel have and will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class; (e) the questions of law and fact common to the Class Members predominate over any individual questions; and (f) a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

5. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and for the purposes of the settlement only, Lead Plaintiff is preliminarily appointed as class representative for the Class and Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC, previously appointed Lead Counsel, is preliminarily appointed counsel for the Class.

6. The Court approves the form, substance and requirements of the Notice of Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement (the "Notice") (annexed hereto as Exhibit A-1); the Summary Notice of Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Settlement ("Summary Notice") (annexed hereto as Exhibit A-2) (Exhibits A-1 and A-2 are collectively referred to as the "Settlement Notices"); and the Proof of Claim Form (annexed hereto as Exhibit A-3), and finds that the procedures established for publication, mailing and distribution of the Settlement Notices and Proof of Claim Form substantially in the manner and form set forth in Paragraph 7 of this

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Preliminary Approval Order are in full compliance with the notice requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; Section 21D(a)(7) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Securities Exchange Act”), as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the “PSLRA”), 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4(a)(7); the Constitution of the United States (including the Due Process clause); and any other applicable law, and constitute the best notice practicable under the circumstances and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all persons or entities entitled thereto.

7. The Court approves the appointment of Strategic Claims Services as the Claims Administrator who, under the supervision of Lead Counsel and subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, shall supervise and administer the notice procedure, as well as the processing of Claims, as more fully set forth below:

a. No later than twenty-one (21) days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order (the “Notice Date”), the Claims Administrator shall cause a copy of the Notice and Proof of Claim Form, substantially in the form annexed hereto as Exhibits A-1 and A-3, respectively, to be mailed by first-class mail, postage pre-paid, to all members of the Class at the address of each such person as set forth in the records of Orthofix’s stock transfer agent, or who otherwise can be identified through reasonable effort. For the purpose of providing notice to the Class, Orthofix shall, within ten (10) days following the entry of this Preliminary Approval Order, provide or cause to be provided to the Claims Administrator (at no cost to the Settlement Fund, Lead Counsel or the Claims Administrator) its shareholder lists as maintained by its stock transfer agent during the Class Period, in electronic form or such other form as is reasonably available to Orthofix;

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- b. The Summary Notice, substantially in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit A-2, shall be published once in *Investor's Business Daily* and on *PR Newswire* no later than fourteen (14) days after the Notice Date; and
- c. The Settlement, the Notice, and the Proof of Claim Form shall also be placed on a website (the "Settlement Website") dedicated to the administration of the Settlement on or before the Notice Date.
8. The Claims Administrator shall use reasonable efforts to give notice to nominee owners such as brokerage firms and other persons or entities who purchased Orthofix common stock during the Class Period as record owners but not as beneficial owners. Nominees who purchased Orthofix common stock for beneficial owners who are Class Members are directed to: (a) request within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notice additional copies of the Notice and the Proof of Claim Form from the Claims Administrator for such beneficial owners; or (b) send a list of the names and addresses of such beneficial owners to the Claims Administrator within fourteen (14) days after receipt of the Notice. If a nominee elects to send the Notice and Proof of Claim Form to beneficial owners, such nominee is directed to mail the Notice and Proof of Claim Form within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the additional copies of the Notice and Proof of Claim Form from the Claims Administrator, and upon such mailing, the nominee shall send a statement to the Claims Administrator confirming that the mailing was made as directed, and the nominee shall retain the list of names and addresses for use in connection with any possible future notice to the Class. Upon full compliance with this Preliminary Approval Order, including the timely mailing of the Notice and Proof of Claim Form to beneficial owners, such nominees may seek reimbursement of their reasonable expenses actually incurred in complying with this Preliminary Approval Order by providing the Claims Administrator with proper documentation supporting the expenses for

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which reimbursement is sought and reflecting compliance with these instructions, including timely mailing of the Notice and Proof of Claim Form, if the nominee elected or elects to do so. Such properly documented expenses incurred by nominees in compliance with the terms of this Preliminary Approval Order shall be deemed Notice and Administration Costs and paid from the Settlement Fund consistent with the terms of the Settlement.

9. No later than thirty-five (35) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, Lead Counsel shall cause to be filed with the Clerk of this Court affidavits or declarations of the person or persons under whose general direction the mailing of the Notice and Proof of Claim Form, the publication of the Summary Notice and the creation of the Settlement Website and posting of relevant documents thereto shall have been made, showing that such mailing, publication, website creation and postings have been made in accordance with this Preliminary Approval Order.

**HEARING: RIGHT TO BE HEARD**

10. The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on *April 28*, 2016, at *4<sup>30</sup>* p.m., in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl St., Courtroom 12B, New York, New York 10007, for the following purposes: (i) to determine whether the proposed settlement of the Action on the terms and conditions provided for in the Settlement is fair, reasonable, adequate and in the best interests of the Class and should be approved by the Court; (ii) to determine whether the Judgment, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit B to the Settlement, should be entered; (iii) to determine, for purposes of the settlement embodied in the Settlement, whether the Class should be finally certified; whether Lead Plaintiff should be finally appointed as representative for the Class; and whether Lead Counsel should be finally appointed as counsel for the Class; (iv) to determine whether the Plan of Allocation is

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reasonable and should be approved; (v) to determine whether Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses incurred by Lead Counsel and Lead Plaintiff should be granted; and (vi) to consider any other matters that may properly be brought before the Court in connection with the Settlement.

11. Papers in support of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation and Lead Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses shall be filed no later than thirty-five (35) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, and any papers in further support thereof shall be filed no later than seven (7) days before the Final Approval Hearing. If an objection is filed pursuant to Paragraph 12 below, any reply papers shall be filed no later than seven (7) days before the Final Approval Hearing.

12. Any member of the Class may appear at the Final Approval Hearing and show cause why the proposed settlement as embodied in the Settlement should or should not be approved as fair, reasonable, adequate and in the best interests of the Class, or why the Judgment should or should not be entered thereon, and/or to present opposition to the Plan of Allocation or to the application of Lead Counsel for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses. However, no Class Member or any other person shall be heard or entitled to contest the approval of the terms and conditions of the Settlement, or, if approved, the Judgment to be entered thereon approving the same, or the terms of the Plan of Allocation or the application by Lead Counsel for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses, unless that Class Member (i) has served written objections, by hand, first-class mail postage pre-paid or electronic mail, upon the following counsel for receipt no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing:



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**Lead Counsel for the Class**

***Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC***

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***King & Spalding LLP***

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New York, NY 10036  
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*Attorneys for Orthofix International N.V.*

*Attorneys for Defendant Emily V. Buxton*

***Lankler Siffert & Wohl LLP***

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shahzeblari@paulhastings.com

*Attorneys for Defendant Robert S. Vaters*

*Attorneys for Defendant Brian McCollum*

and (ii) filed said written objections with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. Any such written objection served and filed as set forth above must include: (a) the full name, address, and phone number of the objecting Class Member; (b) a list and documentation of all of the Class Member's transactions in Orthofix common stock during the Class Period, such as brokerage confirmation receipts or other competent documentary evidence of such transactions, including the amount and date of each purchase or sale and the price paid and/or received (including all income received thereon); (c) a written statement of all grounds for the objection accompanied by any legal support for the objection; (d) copies of any papers, briefs or other



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documents upon which the objection is based; (e) a list of all persons, if any, who will be called to testify in support of the objection, the subject of their expected testimony and the basis therefor; (f) a statement of whether the objector intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing; and (g) the objector's signature, even if represented by counsel. If the objector intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing through counsel, the objection must also state the identity of all attorneys who will appear on his, her or its behalf at the Final Approval Hearing. Unless the Court orders otherwise, no member of the Class shall be entitled to object, or otherwise be heard, except by serving and filing written objections as described above. Any person or entity who does not object in the manner prescribed above shall be deemed to have waived such objection and shall be bound by all the terms and provisions of the Settlement and by all settlement-related proceedings, orders and judgments in the Action, including the Judgment, if the Settlement is approved by the Court. By objecting to the Settlement, the Judgment, the Plan of Allocation and/or the application by Lead Counsel for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses, or otherwise requesting to be heard at the Final Approval Hearing, an objector shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the person's or entity's objection or request to be heard and the subject matter of the Settlement, including, but not limited to, enforcement of the terms of the Settlement (including, but not limited to, the release of the Released Claims as against the Released Parties provided for in the Settlement and the Judgment).

13. Any Class Member may hire their own attorney, at their own expense, to represent them in making written objections or in appearing at the Final Approval Hearing. If any Class Member chooses to hire an attorney at their own expense, that attorney must file a notice of appearance with the Court and serve it on Lead Counsel so that the notice is received twenty-one (21) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing.

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14. All Class Members shall be bound by all determinations and judgments in the Action concerning the Settlement, whether favorable or unfavorable to the Class. If the Settlement is approved, all Class Members will be bound by the Settlement, and by any judgment or determination of the Court affecting Class Members, including the Judgment and the releases contained therein, regardless of whether or not a Class Member submits a Proof of Claim Form.

15. Any Class Member may enter an appearance in the Action, at his, her or its own expense, individually or through counsel of his, her or its own choice. If they do not enter an appearance, they will be represented by Lead Counsel.

16. The Court expressly reserves the right to do the following without further notice to members of the Class: (i) reschedule the Final Approval Hearing; (ii) approve the Settlement with modification(s) approved by the Settling Parties; (iii) modify the Plan of Allocation; and (iv) award such attorney's fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses as the Court finds fair and reasonable. Lead Counsel shall cause any new date for the Final Approval Hearing to be posted on the Settlement Website. The Court retains jurisdiction of this Action to consider all further applications arising out of or otherwise relating to the Settlement; to allow, disallow or adjust on equitable grounds the Claims of any member of the Class and issue, as appropriate, a Class Distribution Order; and as otherwise warranted.

**CLAIMS PROCESS**

17. In order to be entitled to participate in the distribution(s) from the Net Settlement Fund, a Class Member must complete and timely submit a Proof of Claim Form in accordance with the instructions contained therein. To be valid and accepted, Proof of Claim Forms submitted in connection with this Settlement must be postmarked no later than one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of the entry of this Order.

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18. The Claims Administrator, subject to the supervision of Lead Counsel and the Court, will make administrative determinations concerning the acceptance and rejection of the Proof of Claim Forms submitted by Claimants pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Settlement. By submitting a Proof of Claim Form, a Claimant shall be deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the Claim submitted, and the Claim will be subject to investigation and discovery under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, provided that such investigation and discovery shall be limited to the Claimant's status as a Class Member and the validity and amount of their claim.

19. Any Class Member who does not timely submit a valid Proof of Claim Form shall not be eligible to share in the Net Settlement Fund, but nonetheless will be bound by all of the terms of the Settlement, including the releases provided for therein and in the Judgment, and shall be barred and enjoined from bringing any action, claim, or other proceeding of any kind against any Released Party concerning any Released Claim, and shall be bound by any judgment or determination of the Court affecting the Class Members.

**REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FROM THE CLASS**

20. A putative Class Member wishing to make a request for exclusion must submit such a request in written form in the manner and to the address designated in the Notice, such that it is received no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. Class Members wishing to be excluded from the Class must, in their written request, provide their (i) name, (ii) address, (iii) telephone number, (iv) number of shares of Orthofix common stock purchased or sold, (v) prices or other consideration paid or received for such shares(s), (vi) the date of each purchase or sale transaction, and (vii) a statement that the Class Member wishes to be excluded from the Class. The request for exclusion must also be signed by the person or entity

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requesting exclusion. All putative Class Members who submit valid and timely requests for exclusion in the manner set forth in this paragraph shall have no rights under the Settlement, shall not share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, and shall not be bound by the Settlement or Judgment.

21. Any member of the Class who does not request exclusion from the Class in the manner stated in this Preliminary Approval Order shall be deemed to have waived his, her or its right to be excluded from the Class, and shall forever be barred from requesting exclusion from the Class in this or any other proceeding, and shall be bound by the Settlement and the Judgment, including, but not limited to, the release of the Released Claims as against the Released Parties provided for in the Settlement and the Judgment, if the Court approves the Settlement.

**ADDITIONAL SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS**

22. The Released Parties shall have no responsibility or liability whatsoever with respect to Taxes, Notice and Administration Costs, or Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses, which shall all be paid from the Settlement Fund, subject to Court approval to the extent set forth herein or in the Settlement. Furthermore, the Released Parties shall have no responsibility or liability whatsoever with respect to the Plan of Allocation or Class Distribution Order. The Plan of Allocation, Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses and any Class Distribution Order will be considered separately from the fairness, reasonableness and adequacy of the settlement embodied in the Settlement. At or after the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will determine whether Lead Counsel's proposed Plan of Allocation should be approved, the amount of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses to be awarded to Lead Counsel and/or Lead Plaintiff and if a Class Distribution Order should be entered. Any appeal from any orders relating

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solely to the Plan of Allocation or solely to Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses or solely to a Class Distribution Order (or any of them), or any reversal or modification thereof, shall not operate to terminate the Settlement, or preclude the Judgment, if entered by the Court, from becoming Final or the Effective Date of the Settlement from occurring.

23. Only Class Members, the Claims Administrator and Lead Counsel shall have any right to any portion of, or any rights in the distribution of, the Settlement Fund, unless otherwise ordered by the Court or otherwise provided in the Settlement.

24. All funds held in the Escrow Account shall be deemed and considered to be *in custodia legis* and shall remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court until such time as such funds shall be distributed pursuant to the Settlement or returned to Orthofix pursuant to the terms of the Settlement and/or further order of the Court.

25. As set forth in the Settlement, prior to the Effective Date, the Escrow Agent, without further approval of Defendants or the Court, may pay from the Settlement Fund, subject to the direction and supervision of Lead Counsel, up to \$150,000.00 in Notice and Administration Costs actually and reasonably incurred. Prior to the Effective Date, payment by the Escrow Agent of any Notice and Administration Costs exceeding \$150,000.00 shall require notice to and agreement from Orthofix, through Orthofix's Counsel. Subsequent to the Effective Date, without further approval by Defendants, any Released Parties or the Court, the Escrow Agent, subject to the direction and supervision of Lead Counsel, may pay from the Settlement Fund all reasonable and necessary Notice and Administration Costs in excess of any amount paid prior to the Effective Date. In the event the Effective Date does not occur or the Settlement is otherwise terminated pursuant to its terms, neither Lead Plaintiff, nor Lead Counsel, nor the Escrow Agent shall have

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any obligation to repay any such Notice and Administration Costs actually and properly incurred or paid.

26. The Claims Administrator and its agents are authorized and directed to cause to be prepared any tax returns to be filed for the Settlement Fund and to cause any Taxes due and owing to be paid from the Settlement Fund without further Order of the Court, but subject to the supervision of Lead Counsel, and to otherwise perform all obligations with respect to Taxes and any reportings or filings in respect thereof as contemplated by the Settlement without further order of the Court.

27. The fact and terms of this Preliminary Approval Order and the Settlement, including the exhibits annexed thereto and the Supplemental Agreement, all negotiations, discussions, drafts and proceedings in connection with the Settlement, and any act performed or document signed in connection with the Settlement:

a. shall not be offered or received against the Released Parties, Lead Plaintiff or the other Class Members as evidence of, or be deemed to be evidence of, any presumption, concession or admission by any of the Released Parties or by Lead Plaintiff or the other Class Members with respect to the truth of any fact alleged by Lead Plaintiff or the validity, or lack thereof, of any claim that has been or could have been asserted in the Action or in any litigation, or the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in the Action or in any litigation, or of any liability, negligence, fault or wrongdoing of the Released Parties;

b. shall not be offered or received against the Released Parties as evidence of a presumption, concession or admission of any fault, misrepresentation or omission with respect to any statement or written document approved or made by any Released Party, or

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against Lead Plaintiff or any of the other Class Members as evidence of any infirmity in the claims of Lead Plaintiff and the other Class Members;

c. shall not be offered or received against the Released Parties, Lead Plaintiff or the other Class Members as evidence of a presumption, concession or admission with respect to any liability, negligence, fault or wrongdoing, or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the foregoing parties, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Settlement; provided, however, that if the Settlement is approved by the Court, the Released Parties may refer to this Settlement to effectuate the protection from liability granted them hereunder;

d. shall not be construed against the Released Parties, Defendants' Counsel, Lead Counsel or Lead Plaintiff or the other Class Members as an admission or concession that the consideration to be paid hereunder represents the amount which could be or would have been recovered after trial; and

e. shall not be construed as or received in evidence as an admission, concession or presumption against Lead Plaintiff or the other Class Members or any of them that any of their claims are without merit or that damages recoverable under the SAC would not have exceeded the Settlement Amount.

28. There shall be no distribution of any of the Net Settlement Fund to any Class Member prior to the Effective Date occurring nor until the Court approves, after appropriate notice to the Class, a Plan of Allocation in an order that has become Final and the Court enters a Class Distribution Order that has become Final.



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29. Upon the entry of this Preliminary Approval Order, pending final determination of whether the Settlement, and the settlement embodied therein, should be approved, Lead Plaintiff, all Class Members, and each of them, and anyone who acts or purports to act on their behalf, shall not institute or commence any action which asserts the Released Claims against the Released Parties.


30. In the event that the Effective Date fails to occur or the Settlement is otherwise terminated pursuant to its terms, this Preliminary Approval Order shall be null and void, and without prejudice, and none of its terms, except for Paragraphs 25-29, shall be effective or enforceable and the facts of the Settlement shall not be admissible in any trial of this Action, and the Settling Parties shall be deemed to have reverted to their respective status in this Action immediately prior to September 29, 2015, and except as otherwise expressly provided herein or in the Settlement, the parties shall proceed in all respects as if the Settlement and any related orders had not been entered, any portion of the Settlement Amount previously paid or caused to be paid by Orthofix into the Escrow Account, together with any interest earned or gains thereon, less any amounts for Taxes paid or owing with respect to such interest income and/or gains and/or for Notice and Administration Costs actually incurred and paid or payable, shall be returned by the Escrow Agent to Orthofix within fourteen (14) business days after written notification of such event by Orthofix to the Lead Counsel, all as specified in Paragraph 49 of the Settlement.

31. The Court preliminarily finds that the Escrow Account is a "Qualified Settlement Fund" within the meaning of §468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and Treasury Regulation § 1.468B-1.

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IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: December 18, 2015

  
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THE HONORABLE JOHN G. KOELTL  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE