### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS

#### IN RE: SYNGENTA AG MIR162 CORN LITIGATION

Master File No. 2:14-MD-02591-JWL-JPO

MDL No. 2591

This Document Relates to: All Cases Except:

> Louis Dryfus Company Grains Merchandising LLC v. Syngenta AG, Et al., No. 16-2788-JWL-JPO

Trans Costal Supply Company, Inc., v. Syngenta AG, et al., No. 2:14-cv-02637-JWL-JPO

The Delong Co., Inc. v. Syngenta AG, Et al., No.2:17-cv-02614-JWL-JPO

Agribase International Inc. v. Syngenta AG, et al., No. 2:15-cv-02279

### STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

#### **IN RE: SYNGENTA LITIGATION**

This Document Relates to: All Cases

## DISTRICT COURT FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Case Type: Civil Other Hon. Laurie J. Miller

FILE NO. 27-CV-15-12625 and FILE NO. 27-CV-15-3785

## NOLAN LAW GROUP'S SUBMISSION OF EXCEL SPREADSHEET IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS FEES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS

In accordance with the 7/18/18 MDL Order regarding Attorney Fee Submissions, Nolan

Law Group hereby submits the following excel spreadsheet attached hereto as EXHIBIT A that

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further supports Nolan Law Group's 7/10/18 Motion for Award of Attorneys Fees and Reimbursement of Costs and Memorandum in Support filed in *In re: Syngenta Litigation* (Case No. 27-cv-15-3785 Hennepin County, MN), (attached hereto as EXHIBIT B).

Nolan Law Group's 7/10/18 motion asked the Court to honor its contingency fee contracts with its clients and award payment of the contractually agreed upon fees & expenses on its clients' gross recoveries from any fund created to pay attorneys' fees and expenses arising out of the preliminarily approved class action. The motion further requested that in the alternative, to the extent the Court awarded attorneys representing individual claimants based on a reasonable hourly fee for time and costs incurred in the prosecution of the action, Movant requested leave to supplement its request with detailed time reports of the Firm and associated co-counsel detailing its 1,180.7 hours (reflected on the attached EXHIBIT A), and any other information or documentation the Court may require.<sup>1</sup>

It should also be noted that at the time of the filing of its fee petition, Nolan Law Group was unable to confirm whether its time (and its associated co-counsel, Winne Law Office, LLC's time) spent collecting, compiling and serving PFSs on Syngenta had been approved and submitted by MN leadership as approved Common Benefit time as part of the 7/10/18 Minnesota Co-Lead Counsel's Joint Motion of Approval of Common Benefit Award. It has since been verified that Nolan Law Group/Winne Law Office's common benefit time for PFS work was in fact approved and submitted by MN Co-lead Counsel as part of said motion (see attached EXHIBIT C) and is reflected as such on EXHIBIT A.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To the extent the Court also requires detailed time reports providing further description for the 1,180.7 hours on the Excel Spreadsheet, Nolan Law Group requests leave to immediately supplement the same.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  As described in the fee petition, Nolan Law Group is not seeking double recovery. Instead, if Movant's time for Plaintiff Fact Sheet work is ultimately approved and awarded by the Court, Movant would request that the Court deduct any approved common benefit award to Movant from any total requested or awarded pursuant to its application to ratify its contingency fee contracts.

Date: 8/3/18

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Thomas P. Routh Thomas P. Routh **NOLAN LAW GROUP** 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, 20 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL 60602 PH: (312) 630-4000 Fax: (312) 630-4011 Attorney for Nolan Law Group Clients

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was filed with the Clerk and an electronic copy served upon all counsel of record the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2018.

/s/ Thomas P. Routh Thomas P. Routh

	Nolan La	w Group (and inclu		i winne Law O	-	•	
LEGAL FEES		Approved Commo			Other W		Notes
TASK PERFORMED	TIMEKEEPER	Hours	Fees	Hours		Fees	
							Preparation of Complaints for Nolan Law Group
	Attorneys				0.60	\$240.00	
Complaint drafting	Contract Attorneys				43.00	\$17,200.00	
	Non-attorneys						See above. (11.9 hours at Litigation Manager rate of
					11.90	\$3,570.00	\$300)
	Attorneys						
Dipositive motion briefing/argument	Contract Attorneys						
	Non-attorneys						
	Attorneys						
Class certification motion briefing and argument	Contract Attorneys						
	Non-attorneys						
DISCOVERY, DEPOSITIONS, DOC REVIEW							
Plaintiff fact sheet preparation/review	Attorneys	110.10	\$44,040.00				Communications with Nolan Law Group clients re necessary PFS documents; obtained, reviewed, sorted, bate-stamped all required 2011-current documents including FSA Form 578s; all documents (such as seed purchase receipts) showing the type of corn seed each client purchased; documents showing each client's sales or contracts for sale of corn (such as sales contracts, settlement sheets and grain elevator summary reports); all documents for crop insurance related to corn for the various year (including crop insurance policies and schedules of insurance summaries), follow up with clients and 3rd parties on missing information; discussions with clients re produced documents; assistance with filling out information, including charts required in the PFS; discussions with co-counsel re status of PFS production for Nolan Law Group Clients; preparation of PFS package for service on defense; service on defense; and/or supplementation of clients' PFSs, etc.
	Contract Attorneys	508.90	\$203,560.00				See above.
	Non-attorneys	18.60	\$3,255.00				See above. (18.6 hours at Paralegal rate of \$175)
	Attorneys	10.00	,2,2,30.00				
Paper discovery (Syngenta and third parties)	Contract Attorneys						
aper ascovery (syngenica and time parties)	Non-attorneys						
	Attorneys						
Paper discovery against plaintiffs	Contract Attorneys						
	Non-attorneys						
Discovery motion practice and communications with adverse parties	Attorneys						
	Contract Attorneys						l
	Non-attorneys						
	Attorneys						
Fact depositions (Syngenta and third parties)	Contract Attorneys						
	Non-attorneys						
	Attorneys						
Defend fact depositions (of plaintiffs)	Contract Attorneys						
	Non-attorneys						1
	Attorneys						

Discovery file management						
	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
EXPERT WORK, DAUBERT MOTIONS		-		T		
Plaintiffs' expert witness work (including	Attorneys					
development of report, defense of	Contract Attorneys					
depositions)	Non-attorneys					
	Attorneys					
Defendant expert witness work (depositions)	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
	Attorneys					
Daubert motion practice (plaintiff experts)	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
	Attorneys					
Daubert motion practice (defense experts)	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
PRETRIAL PREP, TRIAL, AND POST TRIAL	•			•		
	Attorneys					
Motions in limine	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
	Attorneys					
Trial (presenting witnesses and argument)	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
	Attorneys					
Trial briefing and jury intructions	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
	Attorneys					
Other pretrial motion practice	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
	Attorneys					
Post-trial briefing	Contract Attorneys					
lost that briefing	Non-attorneys					
SETTLEMENT AND SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION						
		1	1	1		
						Various calls, discussions, written communications,
						including update letters with Nolaw Law Group
						Clients over the course of the litigation re status,
Pre-settlement communication with clients						specific client questions, and anticipated & proposed
	Attorneys			16.40	\$6 560 00	(but not yet preliminarily approved) settlement.
	Contract Attorneys			40.00	\$16,000.00	
	Non-attorneys			40.00	\$10,000.00	See above
Cattlement regatistics	Attorneys					
Settlement negotiations	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
Assisting clients in perfecting claims in settlement	Attorneys					Assisting with data former ( ) 1
						Assisting with claim forms, following up on missing
					400.000.00	data, etc. for all Nolan Law Group clients. (through
	Contract Attorneys			58.40	\$23,360.00	
					A.F	See above. (1.5 hours at Litigation Manager rate of
	Non-attorneys			1.50	\$450.00	\$300J
	Attorneys					
Preparation of fee petition	Contract Attorneys					
	Non-attorneys					
ADMINISTRATIVE				1		
Administrative work as court-annointed	Attorneys					

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leadership Non-attorneys Image: Contract Attorneys Image: Contract Attorneys   OTHER (describe in Notes) Opening electronic and hard files for all Nolan Law Group clients. Creating, maintaining, updating, and organizing all Nolan Law Group clients. Creating, maintaining, updating, and organizing all Nolan Law Group clients. Creating, maintaining, updating, and organizing all Nolan Law Group clients' data in variou, spreadsheets. Scinning and uplaading various client documents into legal database. Conferences with local coursel and coursel in regarding decisions affecting. Nolan Law Group clients, filtgraion issues and status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras at status etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MM. Filtgras etc.	Autimistrative work as court-appointed	Contract Attorneys				
OTHER (describe in Notes) Opening electronic and hard files for all Nolan Law Group clients. Creating, maintaining, updating, and organizing all Nolan Law Group clients. Creating, maintaining, updating, and organizing all Nolan Law Group clients. Scaning and uploading various client documents into legal database.   All other time spent on individual Nolan Law Group an excel spreadsheets. Scaning and uploading various client documents into legal database.   Conferences with local coursel & co-coursel regarding decisions affecting. Nolan Law Group clients, litigation sizes and status, ect. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MN filings and statu decisions and the stores and update of various client spreadsheets and files to ensure compliance with any and all deadlines. Clien spreadsheets and files to ensure compliance with any and all deadlines. Clien spreadsheets and files to ensure compliance with any and all deadlines. Clien spreadsheets and files to ensure compliance with any and all deadlines.   Attorneys 53.10 \$21,240.00 porper parties to assert clains, etc.   Contract Attorneys 296.10 \$118,440.00 See above.	leadership					
All other time spent on individual Nolan Law Group client files not specified above. (See Notes section for description.)Group Clients. Creating, maintaining, updating, and organizing all Nolan Law Group client files not specified above. (See Notes section for description.)Group Clients. Creating, maintaining, updating, and organizing all Nolan Law Group client files not specified above. (See Notes section for description.)All other time spent on individual Nolan Law Group client files not specified above. (See Notes section for description.)Image: Section Section for description.)Image: Section Section for of all ligitation issues and status, etc.Attorneys53.10\$21,240.00proper parties to assert claims, etc.Contract Attorneys296.10\$118,440.00See above.	OTHER (describe in Notes)	· · · · · ·				
Non-attorneys   \$300. 1.1 hours at Paralegal rate of \$175).     22.10   \$6,492.50	All other time spent on individual Nolan Law Group client files not specified above. (See Notes section for	Contract Attorneys		296.10	\$21,240.00 \$118,440.00	Group clients. Creating, maintaining, updating, and organizing all Nolan Law Group client data in various spreadsheets. including entering all clients' data into an excel spreadsheet. Scanning and uploading various client documents into legal database. Conferences with local counsel & co-counsel regarding decisions affecting Nolan Law Group clients, litigation issues and status, etc. Regular review, uploading of MDL and MN filings and status of all litigations, ECF notifications, class and participation discussions. Calendared events/deadlines pursuant to Court Orders and update of various client spreadsheets and files to ensure compliance with any and all deadlines. Client specific issues and questions, including multiple deaths of clients, preparation of motions to substitute, questions re various farminig entities, proper parties to assert claims, etc. See above. See above. (21.0 hours at Litigation Manager rate of \$300. 1.1 hours at Paralegal rate of \$175).

EXPENSES PAID	Amount	Notes
Common Benefit Assessment Fees		
Postage	\$330.32	Client letters and requests for PFS documents
Photocopying	\$687.60	Client documents
Hotels		
Meals		
Mileage		
Air Travel		
Court Fees	\$2,486.00	Filing Fees
Transcript Fees		
Groud Transportation		
Expert/Consulting Fees Not Included in Common Benefit		
Special Master Fees		
Miscellaneous (Describe)		

τοται	\$3 503 92	
TOTAL	JJ,JUJ.JZ	

## STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

## DISTRICT COURT FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

#### **IN RE: SYNGENTA LITIGATION**

This Document Relates to: All Cases Case Type: Civil Other Hon. Laurie J. Miller

FILE NO. 27-CV-15-12625 and FILE NO. 27-CV-15-3785

#### MOTION OF NOLAN LAW GROUP FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEY FEES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS

Pursuant to ¶17 of the 4/10/18 MDL-2591 Order Preliminarily Approving the Settlement, as well as ¶¶2.25, 7.2.1, 7.2.2 and 7.2.3.2 of the Agrisure Viptera/Duracade Class Settlement Agreement in *In Re: Syngenta AG MIR 162 Corn Litigation* (MDL-2591) and *In Re: Syngenta Litigation*, (Fourth Judicial District Court, Hennepin County, Minnesota, File Nos. 27-CV-15-3785 & 27-cv-15-12625), Nolan Law Group on behalf of itself and other associated co-counsel law firms (herein collectively referred to as "Movant") for thirty one (31) Nolan Law Group clients identified in the attached Memorandum in Support, hereby respectfully seeks payment of the contractually agreed upon fees & client expense reimbursement of \$3,503.92 based on their clients' gross recoveries from any fund created to pay attorneys' fees and expenses arising out of the recent preliminarily approved class action in the Syngenta Litigation.<sup>1</sup>

In the alternative, Movant understands that some individual claimant attorneys may request payment from the Fund based on an hourly fee for reasonable time and costs incurred in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>As described in the memorandum in support, at the present time it remains unclear if Movant's time and expenses associated with complying with the Minnesota Plaintiff Fact Sheet order for its clients is or will be approved or submitted by Minnesota plaintiffs' leadership as "common benefit" time, or what portion, if any, will ultimately be approved by the Court as "common benefit" time. Irrespective, Movant is not seeking double recovery. Instead, if Movant's time for Plaintiff Fact Sheet work is approved and submitted by plaintiffs' leadership for common benefit consideration and if such common benefit work is approved and awarded by the Court, Movant would request that the Court deduct any approved common benefit award from any total requested or awarded pursuant to this application.

the prosecution of the actions, including non-approved common benefit time. To the extent the Court awards attorneys representing individual claimants based on a reasonable hourly fee for time and costs incurred in the prosecution of the action (instead of ratification of their contingency fee agreements), Movant requests leave to supplement this request with detailed time reports of the Firm and associated co-counsel, which total well over 1,000 hours of attorney time, and any other information or documentation the Court may require.

This motion is supported by the accompanying memorandum in support, the declaration of counsel, and corresponding invoice for expenses in the amount of \$3,503.92.

Date: 7/10/18

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Thomas P. Routh Thomas P. Routh **NOLAN LAW GROUP** 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, 20 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL 60602 PH: (312) 630-4000 Fax: (312) 630-4011 Attorney for Nolan Law Group Clients

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was filed with the Clerk and an electronic copy served upon all counsel of record this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

/s/ Thomas P. Routh Thomas P. Routh

## STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

## DISTRICT COURT FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

#### **IN RE: SYNGENTA LITIGATION**

This Document Relates to: All Cases Case Type: Civil Other Hon. Laurie J. Miller

FILE NO. 27-CV-15-12625 and FILE NO. 27-CV-15-3785

#### <u>MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION OF NOLAN LAW GROUP FOR AWARD</u> OF ATTORNEY FEES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS

Pursuant to ¶17 of the 4/10/18 MDL-2591 Order Preliminarily Approving the Settlement, as well as ¶¶2.25, 7.2.1, 7.2.2 and/or 7.2.3.2 of the Agrisure Viptera/Duracade Class Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") in *In Re: Syngenta AG MIR 162 Corn Litigation* (MDL-2591) and *In Re: Syngenta Litigation*, (Fourth Judicial District Court, Hennepin County, Minnesota, File Nos. 27-CV-15-3785 & 27-cv-15-12625), the Nolan Law Group on behalf of itself and other associated co-counsel law firms (herein collectively referred to as "Movant" and/or the "Firm") for the thirty one (31) Nolan Law Group Clients identified herein respectfully seeks payment of the contractually agreed upon fees & expense reimbursement of \$3,503.92 based on their clients' gross recoveries from any fund created to pay attorneys' fees and expenses arising out of the recent preliminarily approved class action in the Syngenta Litigation.

In the alternative, Movant understands that some individual claimant attorneys may request payment from the Fund based on an hourly fee for reasonable time and costs incurred in the prosecution of the actions, including non-approved common benefit time. To the extent the Court awards attorneys representing individual claimants based on a reasonable hourly fee for time and costs incurred in the prosecution of the action (instead of ratification of their contingency fee agreements), Movant requests leave to supplement this request with detailed time reports of the Firm and associated co-counsel, which total well over 1,000 hours of attorney

time, and any other information or documentation the Court may require.

## NOLAN LAW GROUP CLIENTS

Nolan Law Group represents the following claimants (herein collectively referred to as

"Clients") in the Minnesota state court litigation against Syngenta on a contingency basis:

- James F. Barr [27-cv-15-20154]
- Barr Heritage Farm, LLC [27-cv-15-20154]
- Patricia Campion, as Representative of Decedent, James P. Campion [27-cv-15-2015]
- Brian Code [27-cv-15-20156]
- Luke Code, Inc. [27-cv-15-20156]
- Joseph E. Colgan [27-cv-15-20156]
- Michael W. Cox [27-cv-15-20156]
- Fehrenbacher Family Limited Partnership [27-cv-15-20156]
- GF & BF, Inc. [27-cv-15-20156]
- Sally Guth [27-cv-15-20156]
- K & K Farms [27-cv-15-20156]
- H & D Farms [27-cv-15-20156]
- Gerald W. Hickey [27-cv-15-20156]
- William G. Hickey [27-cv-15-20156]
- Donald McCauley [27-cv-16-5291]
- Grant McCauley [27-cv-16-5291]
- Meaker Farms, Inc. [27-cv-15-20156]
- Robert Meaker [27-cv-15-20156]
- Bonnie L. Miller [27-cv-16-5291]
- Robert Groter [27-cv-16-5291]
- Morrisey Farms [27-cv-15-20156]
- Philip Morrisey [27-cv-15-20156]
- Nancy Morrisey, as Representative of Decedent Robert Morrisey) [27-cv-15-20156]
- Johanna L. Mueller (on behalf of Decedent Charles F. Mueller) [27-cv-15-20157]
- Charles Jason Mueller [27-cv-15-20157]
- Brad J. Nelson [27-cv-15-20156]
- Michael D. Rediger [27-cv-15-20157]
- Phillip L. Schaffer [27-cv-15-20156]
- MRI Farms, LLC [27-cv-15-20156]
- Bryan L. Scott [27-cv-15-20156]
- James W. Young [27-cv-15-20156]

Co-counsel who assisted in the prosecution of the Nolan Law Group cases includes Winne Law Office, LLC, Borgess Law, LLC, and Kosieradzki Smith Law Firm, LLC.<sup>1</sup> Copies of these retainer agreements have not been filed but are available for inspection upon request. Background regarding Nolan Law Group and associated co-counsel is set forth in the supporting Declarations of counsel attached hereto.

In the written fee agreements, counsel agreed to advance all court costs and litigation expenses in this matter. If and when clients received a recovery, the clients agreed to pay one third (33.33%) of any recovery as a contingent fee, as well as expenses. Said clients were retained in 2015, well before the MDL Court certified the case as a class action in September, 2016 and the preliminary approval of the certified class settlement in April, 2018.

#### **PROSECUTION OF CLAIMS ON BEHALF OF NOLAN LAW GROUP CLIENTS**

Movant incurred and continues to incur substantial costs and litigation expenses in pursuit of its clients' claims. Specifically, Movant (including co-counsel firms) incurred well over 1,000 hours of attorney time, the vast majority of which was tracked contemporaneously. Movant's expenses total \$3,503.92. (See attached expenses spreadsheet and Declaration of counsel.)

Movant (including co-counsel firms) investigated each individual case, filed lawsuits on behalf of Clients and addressed numerous client-specific issues, such as client deaths and proper party substitutions or issues. In pursuit of Clients' claims, to comply with the Court's order for discovery, and to advance each client's individual case and the litigation as a whole, Movant also spent hundreds of hours obtaining various relevant documents from 2011 to present necessary to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>These co-counsel firms may have also acted as lead, local and/or co-counsel for other non-Nolan Law Group clients not included in this fee/expense application, which may be addressed in separate petitions filed by said firms. However, this application, the expenses submitted on behalf of this application, and the over 1,000 hours of attorney time referenced herein pertain solely to these 31 Nolan Law Group clients.

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prove each Client's claim, including from third parties such as the FSA, corn seed suppliers, corn purchasers, and crop insurers. For example, necessary discovery obtained by Movant for said clients included documents reflecting the number and location of all corn acres, variety of corn grown and/or seed purchased, ownership/lease of the land, contracts for the sale of corn, the number of bushels produced, how the bushels were priced (seasonal pool, pricing pool, booking contract, basis contract, hedged to arrive contract, case sale, or other contract), date the corn was priced, the price per bushel, the name and location of the buyer, the FSA # of the farm the corn was grown on, terms and condition of all sales contracts, and any and all crop insurance data. These documents, often totaling hundreds of pages, not only had to be obtained from various 3rd parties, but then sorted and carefully reviewed to identify and extract the necessary and relevant data. In many cases, this information was not obvious from the documents themselves and investigation and communication the required additional producing third party. For example, seed receipts/invoices might only a reflect an internal numeric description which required investigation and/or follow up with the supplier regarding the seed type, or sales documents might not necessarily reflect how exactly the corn was priced and/or the terms. Often times produced documents would also be missing certain information or data for various years, again requiring follow up to obtain the necessary information. Once obtained, reviewed, sorted and relevant data extracted and verified by the client, this data had to produced to the Defendants.

In addition to advancing the claims over the past three years, Movant has kept its Clients regularly informed and answered any and all questions, concerns or requests for information.

Despite the apparent lack of clarity and information from leadership as to fees (as described herein), Movant continues to expend time and resources on behalf of its Clients. Even

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though their Clients are part of the class, Movant continues in good faith to answer questions and give guidance on the proposed settlement and claim form, point out deficiencies in their answered claim forms, and ensure the proper submission of the claim forms in accordance with the requirements of the settlement. As the settlement process continues to advance in the following months or even years, Movant's clients will likely continue to turn to the counsel it hired and has relied upon for three years for ongoing assistance, updates, questions and/or concerns.

#### TIME AND EXPENSES INCURRED ON BEHALF OF NOLAN LAW GROUP CLIENTS

For over three years, Movant has prosecuted and advanced its Clients' claims in good faith and devoted substantial time and expense. When individual cases are prosecuted and advanced it maintains pressure on defendants benefiting the entire litigation and all members as a whole. In addition, the discovery process, such as the completion of Plaintiff Fact Sheets, provides critical information, including information necessary to understand the size, scope and extent of the litigation and assists in settlement discussions.

An award of reasonable attorney's fees and reimbursement of expenses is authorized pursuant to Rule 23.08 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(h) even if Movant was not designated as Class Counsel. *See e.g.* Fed. Civ. Proc. R. 23, comment to subdivision (h) ("This subdivision...applies when such awards are authorized by law or by agreement of the parties. Against that background, it provides a format for all awards of attorney fees and nontaxable costs in connection with a class action, not only the award to class counsel. In some situations, there may be a basis for making an award to other counsel whose work produced a beneficial result for the class, such as attorneys who acted for the class before certification but were not appointed class counsel, or attorneys who represented objectors

to a proposed settlement under Rule 23(e) or to the fee motion of class counsel. Other situations in which fee awards are authorized by law or by agreement of the parties may exist.") *See also Faricy Law Firm, P.A. v. API, Inc. Asbestos Settlement Tr.*, 912 N.W.2d 652 (Minn. 2018), (Holding that a contingent fee agreement is a factor to be considered when awarding reasonable attorneys fees.)

Movant requests payment of its agreed upon contingency fee of one-third (33 1/3%) plus expenses as to each of Movant's Clients be paid from the Fund to be created from the preliminarily approved class action settlement.

In the alternative, Movant understands that some individual claimant attorneys may request payment from the Fund based on an hourly fee for reasonable time and costs incurred in the prosecution of the actions, including non-approved common benefit time. To the extent the Court awards attorneys representing individual claimants based on a reasonable hourly fee for time and costs incurred in the prosecution of the action (instead of ratification of their contingency fee agreements), Movant requests leave to supplement this request with detailed time reports of the Firm and associated co-counsel, which total well over 1,000 hours of attorney time, and any other information or documentation the Court may require.

#### A. Common Benefit Time for Plaintiff Fact Sheet Work

On 3/23/18, Movant was first informed by Minnesota plaintiffs' leadership that time and expenses complying with the Minnesota Plaintiff Fact Sheet ("PFS") Order would be considered Common Benefit Work and that said time should be submitted for review and submission by said leadership as part of its common benefit petition. No further details concerning the process, procedure or criteria were provided by plaintiffs' leadership.

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Therefore, Movant submitted time incurred solely in complying with the PFS order for the Nolan Law Group Clients. This time and expense submission did <u>not</u> include any other time spent on the individual case files, including for example, the hundreds of hours or expenses spent calls with clients, update letters, dealing with client-specific issues, such as client deaths, etc.

On July 4, 2018 Movant received the results of an audit of the submitted PFS time and expenses for the Nolan Law Firm clients and were advised in a cover letter that any objections would need to be provided in writing by July 8, 2018. Movant immediately tried to reach plaintiffs' leadership in an attempt to advise of inconsistencies and errors in their audit and its need to file an objection. However, on July 5, 2018, plaintiffs' leadership advised that firms did not need to provide their objections (or declarations in support) by July 8, 2018 but may still need to do so at an unidentified date in the future, (which Movant intends to do).

As such, it remains unclear at the time of this filing if Movant's time and expenses associated with complying with the PFS order for the Nolan Law Group Clients is or will be approved or submitted by leadership, or what portion, if any, will ultimately be approved by the Court(s).

Irrespective, Movant is not seeking double recovery. Instead, if Movant's time for PFS work is approved and submitted by plaintiffs' leadership for common benefit consideration and if such common benefit work is approved and awarded by the Court(s), Movant would request that the Court deduct any approved common benefit award from any total requested or awarded pursuant to this fee/expense application.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, Movant respectfully asks this Court for payment of fees and reimbursement of expenses totaling \$3,503.92 based on their clients' gross recoveries from any

fund created to pay attorneys' fees and expenses arising out of the recently preliminarily approved class action in the Syngenta Litigation.

Date: 7/10/18

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Thomas P. Routh Thomas P. Routh **NOLAN LAW GROUP** 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, 20 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL 60602 PH: (312) 630-4000 Fax: (312) 630-4011 Attorney for Nolan Law Group Clients

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was filed with the Clerk and an electronic copy served upon all counsel of record this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

/s/ Thomas P. Routh Thomas P. Routh

## STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

## DISTRICT COURT FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

#### **IN RE: SYNGENTA LITIGATION**

This Document Relates to: All Cases Case Type: Civil Other Hon. Laurie J. Miller

FILE NO. 27-CV-15-12625 and FILE NO. 27-CV-15-3785

## DECLARATION OF THOMAS P. ROUTH IN SUPPORT OF THE NOLAN LAW GROUP FEE AND EXPENSE APPLICATION

I, THOMAS P. ROUTH, declare as follows:

1. I am over the age of twenty-one years old and make this declaration based on my personal knowledge. If called as a witness, I could and would testify competently to the facts contained herein, which are true and correct.

2. I am the licensed attorney with Nolan Law Group (hereinafter "the Firm") and am authorized to submit this declaration on the Firm's behalf.

3. I have been admitted to the Illinois bar, as well as U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, since 1996. I have experience with many national, mass tort, and/or class action litigations involving aviation disasters, toxic torts, medical drugs, medical devices, and product defects.

4. I submit this declaration in further support of the Firm's Motion and Memorandum in Support pursuant to ¶17 of the 4/10/18 MDL-2591 Order Preliminarily Approving the Settlement, as well as ¶¶2.25, 7.2.1, 7.2.2 and 7.2.3.2 of the Agrisure Viptera/Duracade Class Settlement Agreement in *In Re: Syngenta AG MIR 162 Corn Litigation* (MDL-2591) and *In Re: Syngenta Litigation*, (Fourth Judicial District Court, Hennepin County, Minnesota, File Nos. 27-CV-15-3785 & 27-cv-15-12625).

5. The Firm, together with associated co-counsel, represents thirty-one (31) clients identified the Memorandum in Support (herein "Nolan Law Group Clients") in the Syngenta Litigation filed in Hennepin County, Minnesota.

Said clients were retained in 2015 before the MDL Court certified the case as a class action in September, 2016 and the preliminary approval of the certified class settlement in April, 2018.

7. The written fee agreements were on a contingency basis. The Firm agreed to advance all court costs and litigation expenses in this matter. If and when clients received a recovery, the clients agreed to pay one third (33.33%) of any recovery as a contingent fee, as well as expenses, and further agreed to division of those between the Firm and associated co-counsel.

8. The Firm is and remains lead counsel on these cases and is authorized to request payment of the contractually agreed upon fees & expense reimbursement based on its clients' gross recoveries from any fund created to pay attorneys' fees and expenses arising out of the recently preliminarily approved class action in the Syngenta Litigation (the "Fund") and to submit all time and expenses for Nolan Law Group Clients.

9. The Firm and Winne Law Office, LLC submitted time and expenses associated with complying with the Minnesota Plaintiff Fact Sheet ("PFS") order for the Nolan Law Group Clients as suggested by Minnesota plaintiffs' leadership in March, 2018 conference call. This submission did *not* include any time or expenses spent on behalf of any individual clients other than time spent complying with the Plaintiff Fact Sheet requirements. However, as described in the Firm's memorandum in support, at the present time it remains unclear whether the time and expenses associated with complying with the Minnesota Plaintiff Fact Sheet order for Nolan Law Firm clients is or will be approved or submitted by Minnesota plaintiffs' leadership, or what

portion, if any, will ultimately be approved by the Court. Neither the Firm, nor associated cocounsel who has authorized the Firm to submit all time and expenses on behalf of Nolan Law Group Clients, are seeking double recovery. Instead, if time and expenses for Plaintiff Fact Sheet work for Nolan Law Group Clients is approved and submitted by plaintiffs' leadership for common benefit consideration and if such common benefit work is approved and awarded by the Court, the Firm requests that the Court deduct any approved common benefit award from any total requested or awarded pursuant to this Application.

10. Through its representation thus far, over 1,000 hours of attorney time has been expended and \$3,503.92 in client costs have been incurred for the Firm's clients.

11. If additional information is required from the Court in order to consider the Firm's motion and/or supporting materials, including but not limited to detailed time reports of the Firm and associated co-counsel, the Firm requests leave to amend or supplement its motion as may be necessary.

I declare under penalty of perjury that everything I have stated in this document is true and correct.

Executed this 10th day of July, 2018 in Chicago, Illinois.

<u>/s/ Thomas P. Routh</u> Thomas P. Routh **NOLAN LAW GROUP** 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, 20 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL 60602 PH: (312) 630-4000 Fax: (312) 630-4011

# NOLAN LAW GROUP CLIENT EXPENSES

Name of Individual Who Incurred Expense	Date of Expense	Detailed Description	Amount of Expense
Nolan Law			
Group	1/21/2016	Filing Fees for Mueller et al (\$431), Barr (\$431), H & D et al (\$431)	\$1,293.00
Nolan Law Group	1/21/2016	Service Fees for Mueller, Barr & H & D	\$1,193.40
Nolan Law Group	5/26/2016	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (715 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$107.25
Nolan Law Group	6/14/2016	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (768 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$115.20
Nolan Law Group	6/20/2016	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (384 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$57.60
Nolan Law Group	6/21/2016	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (252 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$37.80
Nolan Law Group	6/22/2016	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (120 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$18.00
Nolan Law Group	7/6/2016	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (1,540 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$231.00
Nolan Law Group	7/8/2016	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (173 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$25.95
Nolan Law Group	7/10/2016	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (363 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$54.45
Nolan Law Group	9/13/2016	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (18 letters at \$.475)	\$8.46
Nolan Law Group	9/14/2016	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (10 letters at \$.475)	\$4.70
Nolan Law Group	9/19/2016	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (1 letter at \$.475)	\$0.48
Nolan Law Group	9/23/2016	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (2 letters at \$.475)	\$0.95

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Nolan Law Group	9/28/2016	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (1 letter at \$.475)	\$0.48
Nolan Law Group	10/3/2016	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (2 letters at \$.475)	\$0.95
Nolan Law Group	10/11/2016	Postage Charges for sending out letters (13 letters at \$.475)	\$6.11
Nolan Law Group	10/17/2016	Postage Charges for sending out client letter (7 letters at \$.475)	\$3.29
Nolan Law Group	11/4/2016	Letters to co-counsel (4 letters x .465)	\$1.86
Nolan Law Group	11/21/2016	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (1 letter at \$.475)	\$0.48
Nolan Law Group	12/2/2016	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (3 letters at \$.475)	\$1.43
Nolan Law Group	1/16/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (5 letters at \$.465)	\$2.33
Nolan Law Group	1/25/2017	FedEx #15073 Syngenta	\$22.55
Nolan Law Group	1/30/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (12 letters at \$.465)	\$5.58
Nolan Law Group	2/3/2017	Postage (.67) for Update Client Letters (x24 letters) and including notice.	\$16.08
Nolan Law Group	2/17/2017	Copy Costs for Clients Letters (10 pgs x 24 letters) @ 15 cents per pg	\$36.00
Nolan Law Group	5/10/2017	Postage (sending out update letters .465 x 27 = \$12.55)	\$12.55
Nolan Law Group	6/6/2017	Postage (sending out update letters .465 x 27 = \$12.55)	\$12.55
Nolan Law Group	8/30/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (6 letters at \$.465)	\$2.79
Nolan Law Group	9/5/2017	Photocopying of individual PFS and all corresponding documents (18 pages at \$.15 per page)	\$2.70
Nolan Law Group	9/19/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (1 letter at \$.465)	\$0.47

Nolan Law	9/19/2017	Photocopying of correspondence PFS documents (1 page at \$.15)	¢0.15
Group Nolan Law			\$0.15
Group	9/25/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (5 letters at \$.465)	\$2.79
Nolan Law Group	9/25/2017	Photocopying of correspondence PFS documents (10 pages at \$.15)	\$1.50
Nolan Law Group	9/26/2017	Postage expense sending out requests for additional documents. (9 letters at \$.465)	\$4.18
Nolan Law Group	10/3/2017	Postage Charges for sending out letters for additional documents (5 letters at \$.465)	\$2.33
Nolan Law Group	10/3/2017	Postage Charges for sending out additional document requests (3 letters)	1.40
Nolan Law Group	10/4/2017	Postage for sending out 23 update letters	10.69
Nolan Law Group	10/5/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (14 letters at \$.465)	\$6.51
Nolan Law Group	10/6/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (19 letters at \$.465)	\$8.84
Nolan Law Group	10/9/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (2 letters at \$.465)	\$0.93
Nolan Law Group	10/12/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (11 letters at \$.465)	\$5.12
Nolan Law Group	10/15/2017	Postage Charges for sending out document requests (12 letters at \$.465)	\$5.58
Nolan Law Group	10/17/2017	Postage for co-counsel letter	\$0.47
Nolan Law Group	4/18/2018	Postage for sending out update letters with attachements ( $\$1.88 \times 24 = \$45.12$ )	\$45.12
Nolan Law Group	5/22/2018	Mass Mailing Expenses- Postage (109 stamps x .47 = \$51.23)	\$51.23
Nolan Law Group	5/29/2018	Mass Mailing Expenses- Copies (294 x .15 = \$44.10)	\$44.10
Nolan Law Group	5/29/2018	Postage for client letters (Postage: 26 letters x $.47 = $12.22$ )	\$12.22

Nolan Law Group	6/6/2018	Postage for client letters and return evelope: $12 \times .47 = $5.64$ )	\$5.64
Nolan Law Group	6/19/2018	Letter to Claims Administrator with Claims Packages. (UPS Postage: \$18.72)	\$18.72
		TOTAL:	\$3,503.92

	Total	
FIRM	Total Hours Submitted	Total Lodestar Submitted
Keaton	30.20	\$5,737.50
Kelly	251.95	\$180,367.50
Kirk	219.85	\$100,390.00
Kittelsen Barry	134.00	\$24,200.00
ККНВ	142.75	\$21,748.75
Kraft Walser	96.00	\$15,489.00
Kruse & Dakin	3.00	\$600.00
Kuhlman Lucas	105.60	\$46,020.00
Lee Lewis	123.00	\$37,875.00
Liles	112.50	\$33,750.00
Loftis Barnard	28.00	\$10,600.00
Lowe Eklund Wakefield	958.00	\$332,375.00
Maggio Thompson	168.30	\$46,282.50
Mailander	12.80	\$2,550.00
Maloney	0.00	\$0.00
Manske	39.10	\$7,820.00
March McMillan	90.70	\$19,954.00
Martz Lucas	190.20	\$32,464.00
Masching	376.70	\$84,757.50
Mauro Archer	20,895.00	\$3,759,075.00
Meier Bradicich	45.25	\$13,575.00
Menzer	30.30	\$15,150.00
Mercho Caughey	202.50	\$56,248.50
Meshbesher	792.50	\$396,250.00
Mid-West Ag. Solutions	9.05	\$776.50
Miller, Michael	989.40	\$791,520.00
Miltner Reed	376.60	\$75,944.00
Moore Sussler	35.20	\$7,920.00
Morgan Meyers	37.20	\$5,610.00
Morrissey	244.83	\$13,320.20
Muske Law	136.40	\$22,320.00
Myers Hockemeyer	21.70	\$4,340.00
Nelson Kelley	98.99	\$29,697.00
Nolan	508.90	\$203,560.00
O'Bear	294.25	\$51,411.50
O'Brien David	14.05	\$12,645.00
Odom	63.90	\$20,245.00
O'Hanlon	4.50	\$1,125.00
O'Koon	10.80	\$2,430.00
Ouderkirk	105.71	\$30,434.00
Overboe	552.30	\$249,597.50
Pagel Weikum	33.00	\$6,930.00
Patton Brown	58.50	\$14,625.00
Patton Hoversten	1,461.70	\$206,399.20

	Total						
FIRM	Total Hours Submitted	Total Lodestar Submitted					
Weinstine	185.00	\$16,023.75					
Wilcox Williams	74.60	\$9,325.00					
Winne	128.70	\$47,295.00					
Wojtalewicz	164.10	\$100,914.00					
Wolff Ardis	124.70	\$39,537.50					
Wood Rue	200.90	\$32,502.50					
Woodard	703.70	\$211,110.00					
Woods Rogers	299.90	\$76,754.50					
Wright Schulte	2,854.28	\$636,065.00					
Wyland Humphry	180.30	\$36,060.00					
Yira	2,055.25	\$719,337.50					
Zeilinger	182.00	\$17,300.00					
TOTAL	129,631.68	\$33,848,167.98					