

If You Bought a TV, Monitor, or Notebook Computer that Contained a Flat Panel Screen, Lawsuits And Settlements May Affect You.

A Federal Court authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- Please read this notice carefully. Your legal rights are affected whether you act or don't act.
- There are lawsuits involving the price of thin film transistor liquid crystal display (“TFT-LCD”) Flat Panels purchased indirectly from the Defendants. “Indirectly” means that you purchased the TFT-LCD Flat Panel from someone other than the manufacturer of the Flat Panel.
- The lawsuits were brought as class actions on behalf of consumers, including businesses that bought a TV, monitor, or notebook computer containing a TFT-LCD Flat Panel indirectly from the Defendants, for their own use and not for resale, anytime from 1999 to 2006 (for the Statewide Classes to recover money), or anytime from 1999 to the present (for the Nationwide Class to stop Defendants’ conduct that is the subject of the lawsuits). Eight states have brought cases to recover money for their citizens and governmental entities, and for civil penalties. Defendants deny all of the claims in the lawsuits. See Question 6 below for more details.
- Settlements have been reached with seven defendants (together called the “Settling Defendants”) and the lawsuits are continuing against the remaining three defendants (together called the “Non-Settling Defendants”).
- The Settlements (totaling over \$538 million) will pay consumers in the District of Columbia and the following states: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin. The Settlements will also pay governmental entities in eight states.
- Settling Defendants have agreed not to engage in the conduct that is the subject of the lawsuits and will cooperate with the litigation against the Non-Settling Defendants. The ongoing litigation is seeking money and an order prohibiting the Non-Settling Defendants’ alleged behavior that is the subject of the lawsuits.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THESE LAWSUITS AND SETTLEMENTS	
EXCLUDE YOURSELF	You will <u>not</u> be included in the ongoing lawsuits or Settlements. You will receive no benefits, but you will retain any rights you currently have to sue the Defendants about the claims in this case.
DO NOTHING	You will be included in the litigation and be eligible to file a claim for a payment (if you qualify) at a later date. You will give up your rights to sue the Defendants about the claims in this case.
OBJECT TO SETTLEMENTS	If you do not exclude yourself you can write to the Court explaining why you disagree with the Settlements.
GO TO THE HEARING	Ask to speak in Court about your opinion of the Settlements.

These rights and options – **and the deadlines to exercise them** – are explained in this Notice.

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BASIC INFORMATION

1. What is this Notice about?

This Notice is to inform you about the status and partial settlement of ongoing litigation which may affect your rights. You have the right to know about the lawsuits and about your legal rights and options before the Court or a jury decides whether the claims being made against the Defendants on your behalf are correct, and whether to approve the Settlements.

The Court in charge is the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. The case is called *In re TFT-LCD (Flat Panel) Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 1827. The people who sued are called the Plaintiffs, and the companies they sued are called the Defendants (*see* Question 5).

2. What are the lawsuits about?

The lawsuits claim that the Defendants conspired to fix, raise, maintain or stabilize prices of TFT-LCD Flat Panels resulting in overcharges to consumers who bought products containing the TFT-LCD Flat Panels. The Defendants deny Plaintiffs' allegations or that indirect purchasers suffered any overcharge. The Court has not yet decided who is right.

3. What is a TFT-LCD Flat Panel?

TFT-LCD Flat Panels (thin-film transistor liquid display panels) are the glass display panels used in many flat screen televisions, monitors and notebook computers. Monitors have various uses, including as desktop computers and TVs. Only purchasers of TVs, monitors and notebook computers containing TFT-LCD Flat Panels are included in the Classes.

4. What is a class action?

In a class action, people called class representatives sue on behalf of a group or a "class" of people who have similar claims. In a class action, the court resolves the issues for all class members except those who exclude themselves from the Class.

WHO IS INCLUDED

5. Who are the Defendant companies?

The Defendants are manufacturers and/or suppliers of TFT-LCD Flat Panels.

The Settling Defendant companies are:

- Chimei Innolux Corp.; Chi Mei Corp.; Chi Mei Optoelectronics Corp.; Chi Mei Optoelectronics USA, Inc.; CMO Japan Co., Ltd. ("Chimei");
- Chunghwa Picture Tubes Ltd. ("Chungwha");
- Epson Imaging Devices Corp. ("Epson");
- HannStar Display Corp. ("HannStar");
- Hitachi, Ltd.; Hitachi Displays, Ltd.; Hitachi Electronic Devices (USA), Inc. ("Hitachi");

- Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.; Samsung Semiconductor, Inc.; Samsung Electronics America, Inc. (“Samsung”); and
- Sharp Corp.; Sharp Electronics Corp. (“Sharp”).

The Non-Settling Defendant companies are:

- AU Optronics Corp.; AU Optronics Corp. America, Inc. (“AU Optronics”);
- LG Display Co., Ltd.; LG Display America, Inc. (“LG”);
- Toshiba Corp.; Toshiba Mobile Display Co., Ltd.; Toshiba America Electronic Components, Inc.; Toshiba America Information Systems, Inc. (“Toshiba”); and
- Non-Settling Defendants’ U.S. affiliates.

6. How do I know if I am in the Classes?

These cases are proceeding as class actions for monetary recovery (“damages”) for consumers in 24 states and the District of Columbia, and for nationwide injunctive relief to stop the Defendants’ alleged illegal behavior and make sure that it doesn’t happen in the future (*see* Question 12).

Statewide Damages Classes: The Statewide Classes are being brought to recover money, and generally include any person or business that indirectly purchased TFT-LCD panels incorporated in TVs, monitors and/or notebook computers from one or more of the Defendants (listed in the response to Question 5) or Quanta Display Inc., from 1999 to 2006, for their own use and not for resale, while residing in the 24 states or DC. The purchase must have been made in the same state where the person or business resided.

The 24 states are: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

The Court has created two exceptions to this definition, but only for the ongoing litigation against the Non-Settling Defendants. You are not a member of the Statewide Damages Classes against the Non-Settling Defendants if: (1) you purchased a product containing a LCD panel in the United States between January 1, 1996 and December 11, 2006 directly from any of the Defendants and did not exclude yourself from the Direct Purchaser Class (*see* www.tftlcdclassaction.com for more information); or (2) you purchased a TV, monitor and/or notebook computer in Missouri or Rhode Island, while residing there, and your purchase was not primarily for your own personal, family or household use.

Nationwide Class: The Nationwide Class is being brought to stop Defendants’ alleged illegal behavior and includes any person or business that indirectly purchased in the U.S., TFT-LCD panels incorporated in televisions, monitors and/or notebook computers, from one or more of the Defendants (listed in the response to Question 5) or Quanta Display Inc., between 1999 and the present, for their own use and not for resale, and reside in the U.S. as of the date of this notice.

The specific class definitions are available at www.LCDclass.com.

7. Are the Attorneys General involved?

The Attorneys General of Arkansas, California, Florida, Michigan, Missouri, New York, West Virginia and Wisconsin are participating in these Settlements and have asserted claims: (1) on behalf of state residents under the doctrine of *parens patriae*, which allows a state to bring a lawsuit on behalf of its citizens, and/or governmental entities; and (2) for civil penalties. The claims brought by the Attorneys General arise from the same alleged conduct by the Defendants as asserted in the class actions. The

Attorneys General's lawsuits, other than California, are pending in federal court. The California Attorney General filed in California state court.

8. Why are there Settlements but the lawsuits are continuing?

Settlements have been reached with Chimei, Chunghwa, Epson, HannStar, Hitachi, Samsung and Sharp. Non-Settling Defendants (AU Optronics, LG, Toshiba and their U.S. affiliates) have **not** agreed to settle so the lawsuits continue against them.

Additional money may become available as a result of a trial or future settlements. Alternatively, the litigation may be resolved in favor of the Non-Settling Defendants, in which case no additional money would become available. There is no guarantee as to what will happen.

THE SETTLEMENTS' BENEFITS

9. What do the Settlements provide?

There are seven Settlements, totaling \$538,555,647, being presented to the Court for approval. The Settlement Fund will be used to pay individual and business consumers in the 24 states and DC. A portion of the Settlement Fund will be distributed to governmental entity consumers in the eight states with the Attorneys General Actions. In addition to the Settlement Fund, Chimei, Epson, HannStar, Hitachi and Sharp are making payments to resolve claims for civil penalties brought by the Attorneys General. More details about the anticipated distribution of the Settlement Fund are available in the Settlement Agreements and other documents available at www.LCDclass.com.

Chimei Settlement: Chimei will pay \$110,273,318 into the Settlement Fund.

Chunghwa Settlement: Chunghwa will pay \$5,305,105 into the Settlement Fund.

Epson Settlement: Epson will pay \$2,850,000 into the Settlement Fund.

HannStar Settlement: HannStar will pay \$25,650,000 into the Settlement Fund.

Hitachi Settlement: Hitachi will pay \$38,977,224 into the Settlement Fund.

Samsung Settlement: Samsung will pay \$240,000,000 into the Settlement Fund.

Sharp Settlement: Sharp will pay \$115,500,000 into the Settlement Fund.

Any interest earned will be added to the Settlement Fund. The cost to administer the Settlements as well as attorneys' fees and payments to the Class Representatives will come out of the Settlement Fund (*see* Question 20). The attorneys also may ask the Court to permit the use of money from the Settlement Fund to help finance the ongoing litigation, in accordance with the provisions of the Settlements.

10. How much money can I get?

At this time, it is unknown how much each Class Member who submits a valid claim will receive. Payments will be determined on a *pro rata* basis. This means it will be based on the number of valid

claims filed as well as on the number/type of Flat Panel product(s) you purchased. It is anticipated that a minimum payment will be made to all Class Members who submit a valid claim. It's possible that any money remaining after claims are paid will be distributed to charities, governmental entities, or other beneficiaries approved by the Court.

In order to receive a payment you will need to file a valid claim form when the claims period begins. A notice about the claims process will be made available after the conclusion of the lawsuits or as ordered by the Court.

If you want to receive a notice about the claims process or future settlements you should register at www.LCDclass.com or by calling 1-855-225-1886.

11. When will I get a payment?

No money will be distributed yet. The lawyers for the Plaintiffs will pursue the lawsuits against the Non-Settling Defendants and expect to complete the litigation before any claims are paid. The lawyers for the Plaintiffs believe that money will be paid by the Non-Settling Defendants through additional settlements or as a result of winning the lawsuits. All funds received in this case will be distributed together at the conclusion of the lawsuits or as ordered by the Court.

12. What is the injunctive relief?

Chimei, Chunghwa, HannStar, Hitachi, Samsung, and Sharp have agreed not to engage in certain conduct that would violate the antitrust laws that are at issue in these lawsuits. They also agree to establish (or maintain) a program to educate their employees about complying with the law, and report on their compliance with this requirement for a period of five years. Additionally, the Settling Defendants will cooperate with the Plaintiffs in their ongoing litigation against the Non-Settling Defendants. Epson is not a participant in the injunctive relief because it no longer sells TFT-LCD Flat Panels.

REMAINING IN THE CLASSES OR ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACTIONS

13. What am I giving up if I stay in the lawsuits?

You will give up your right to sue the Defendants on your own for the claims in this case unless you exclude yourself from the Classes or the Attorneys General Actions. You also will be bound by any decisions by the Court relating to the lawsuits and Settlements. If you reside outside of the 24 states or the District of Columbia you will retain any right you may have to sue the Defendants for monetary relief.

In return for paying the Settlement amounts, the Settling Defendants (and certain related entities defined in the Settlement Agreements) will be released from all claims relating to the facts underlying these lawsuits, as more fully described in the Settlement Agreements. The Settlement Agreements describe the released claims in detail, so read them carefully since those descriptions are binding on you. If you have any questions, you can talk to Class Counsel or the Attorneys General listed in Question 19 for free, or you can, of course, talk to your own lawyer if you have questions about what this means. The Settlement Agreements and the specific releases are available at www.LCDclass.com.

EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE CLASSES OR ATTORNEYS GENERAL ACTIONS

14. How do I get out of the Classes and Attorneys General Actions?

To exclude yourself from the Classes and Attorneys General actions (including any *parens patriae* claims), you must send a request for exclusion by mail stating that you want to be excluded from *In re TFT-LCD (Flat Panel) Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 1827. Your request for exclusion must also include your name, your address, your telephone number and your signature. You must mail your exclusion request no later than **April 13, 2012**, to:

LCD Indirect Exclusions
P.O. Box 8025
Faribault, MN 55021-9425

15. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue for the same thing later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up any right to sue the Defendants for the claims in this case.

16. If I exclude myself, can I still get benefits?

No. If you exclude yourself, you will not get any benefit as a result of the Settlements, trial or judgment in this case.

OBJECTING OR COMMENTING ON THE SETTLEMENTS

17. How do I object or comment on the Settlements?

If you have comments about, or disagree with, any aspect of the Settlements, including the maximum attorneys' fees which may be requested, use of settlement funds to pay administration and litigation costs and expenses, payments to Class Representatives, or to finance the ongoing litigation, you may express your views to the Court by writing to the address below. The written response needs to include your name, address, telephone number, the case name and number (*In re TFT-LCD (Flat Panel) Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 1827), a brief explanation of your reasons for objecting and your signature. The response must be postmarked no later than **April 13, 2012** and mailed to:

COURT	NOTICE ADMINISTRATOR
Clerk's Office United States District Court for the District of Northern California 16 th Floor 450 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102	LCD Indirect Objections P.O. Box 8025 Faribault, MN 55021-9425

18. What's the difference between excluding myself (from the Classes or Attorneys General Actions) or objecting to the Settlements?

If you exclude yourself from the Classes and Attorneys General Actions you are telling the Court that you don't want to be part of these cases and, therefore, you will not receive any benefits from them. Objecting simply means telling the Court that you don't like something about the Settlements. You can object only if you remain in the Classes and/or Attorneys General Actions. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object to the Settlements because the case no longer affects you.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

19. Do I have a lawyer representing me?

The Court has appointed Zelle Hofmann Voelbel & Mason LLP and the Alioto Law Firm to represent you as "Co-Lead Class Counsel" for the Classes. As noted above, Attorneys General of eight states are also representing consumers as *parens patriae* and/or governmental entities in their states. You do not have to pay Class Counsel or the Attorneys General separately. The attorneys will be paid by asking the Court for a share of the Settlement proceeds or recovery obtained. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, and have that lawyer appear in court for you in this case, you may hire one at your own expense.

20. How will the lawyers be paid?

At a later date, Class Counsel and the Attorneys General will ask the Court for attorneys' fees based on their work on this litigation, not to exceed one-third of the \$538,555,647 Settlement Fund, plus reimbursement of their costs and expenses. Class Counsel will also request a payment to the Class Representatives who helped the lawyers on behalf of the Classes. Class Counsel and the Attorneys General may seek additional attorneys' fees from any other settlement or recovery obtained. Any payment to the attorneys will be subject to Court approval and the Court may award less than the requested amount. The fees, costs, expenses and awards that the Court orders, plus the costs to administer the Settlement, will come out of the Settlement Fund.

When the attorneys' motion for fees, costs and expenses, and Class Representative payments is filed it will be available at www.LCDclass.com. The motion will be posted on the website at least 45 days before the Court holds a hearing to consider the request, and you will have an opportunity to comment. Register at the website or by calling 1-855-225-1886 to receive notice when the motion is filed.

THE FAIRNESS HEARING

21. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlements?

The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing at **9:00 a.m. on May 18, 2012**, at the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Courtroom 10, 19th Floor, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. The hearing may be moved to a different date or time without additional notice, so it is a good idea to check www.LCDclass.com. At this hearing the Court will consider whether each of the Settlements is fair, reasonable and adequate. If there are objections or comments, the Court will consider them at this time. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve each of the Settlements. We do not know how long these decisions will take.

22. Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel and the Attorneys General will answer any questions the Court may have. But you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you send an objection or comment, you don't have to come to Court to talk about it. As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay another lawyer to attend, but it's not required.

23. May I speak at the hearing?

You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Fairness Hearing. To do so, you must send a letter saying that it is your "Notice of Intent to Appear in *In re TFT-LCD (Flat Panel) Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 1827." Be sure to include your name, address, telephone number and your signature. Your Notice of Intent to Appear must be postmarked no later than **April 13, 2012**, and must be sent to the addresses listed in Question 17. You cannot speak at the hearing if you exclude yourself from the Classes.

THE TRIALS

24. When and where will the trials against the Non-Settling Defendants take place?

If the cases are not dismissed or settled, the Plaintiffs will have to prove their claims against the Non-Settling Defendants. The first trial, on behalf of the Class Members (excluding residents of Arkansas), is set to begin on April 23, 2012 at the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Courtroom 10, 19th Floor 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. A second trial, involving the *parens patriae* and governmental claims of the Attorneys General of Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Michigan, West Virginia and Wisconsin, is set to begin on November 5, 2012. Additional trials involving the *parens patriae* and government claims of the Attorneys General of California and New York have not been set yet.

During the trials, a decision will be reached about whether the Plaintiffs or the Non-Settling Defendants are right about the claims in the lawsuits. There is no guarantee that the Plaintiffs will win any money or benefits for consumers.

25. What are the Plaintiffs asking for from the Non-Settling Defendants?

Class Counsel are asking for money for Class Members in the 23 states and the District of Columbia (*i.e.* consumers in the states listed in Question 6, excluding residents of Arkansas). The Attorneys General are also asking for money for consumers and governmental entities in their states and for civil penalties. Both Class Counsel and the Attorneys General are seeking an order to prohibit the Non-Settling Defendants' alleged behavior that is the subject of the lawsuits.

26. Will I get money after the trials?

If the Plaintiffs obtain money or benefits as a result of a trial or settlement, you will be notified about how to ask for a share or what your other options are at that time. These things are not known right now. Important information about the case will be posted on the website, www.LCDclass.com, as it becomes available.

GET MORE INFORMATION

27. Where can I get more information?

The Notice summarizes the lawsuits and the Settlements. You can get more information about the lawsuits and Settlements at www.LCDclass.com, by calling 1-855-225-1886, or writing to LCD Class, P.O. Box 8025, Faribault, MN 55021-9425.