# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY LEXINGTON DIVISION

HANNA ALBINA and AUSTIN WILLARD, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

THE ALIERA COMPANIES, INC., TRINITY HEALTHSHARE, INC., and ONESHARE HEALTH, LLC d/b/a UNITY HEALTHSHARE, LLC,

Defendants.

Case No.: 5:20-CV-00496-JMH

#### **ELECTRONICALLY FILED**

# MOTION TO EXPEDITE RULING ON PLAINTIFFS' PENDING MOTIONS

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

COME the Plaintiffs, by counsel, on behalf of themselves and the class they seek to represent, and hereby move the Court to expedite its rulings on Plaintiffs' two pending motions; specifically, (1) Plaintiffs' Motion to Lift Stay, Deny All Pending Motions, Enter Default, and Enter Default Judgment as to The Aliera Companies, Inc. [DE 64], and (2) Plaintiffs' Motion to Certify Class Against The Aliera Companies, Inc. [DE 65]. As grounds for their motion, Plaintiffs state as follows.

It is well recognized that "trial courts have inherent power to control their dockets." Anthony v. BTR Auto. Sealing Sys., Inc., 339 F.3d 506, 516-17 (6th Cir. 2003). Plaintiffs and the class they seek to represent request this Court to exercise its discretion and expedite its ruling on Plaintiffs' pending motions.

Plaintiffs must proceed expeditiously against The Aliera Companies, Inc. ("Aliera"), in order to avoid specific prejudice to them. Aliera has already begun an expedited process of liquidating itself under Georgia law, and Plaintiffs (and the class members) have barely two months remaining to present claims under that process or forever be barred from doing so.

As explained in more thorough detail in its other pending motions, Aliera has begun winding up its business operations and has recorded a deed of Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors ("Aliera ABC"), a state-law alternative to bankruptcy recognized under Georgia law. See Ga. Code. Ann. §§ 18-2-40 to -59. The Aliera ABC is a method by which Aliera can liquidate its assets in a way which undermines the fairness afforded by the United States Bankruptcy Code. Without the protections provided by the Bankruptcy Code, Aliera's insiders, through the Aliera ABC, will have more control over the liquidation of its assets than they would in bankruptcy proceedings. Id. §§ 18-2-40, -42. Aliera has already transferred its assets to the assignee—Asset Recovery Associates Aliera, LLC—and the assignee has already notified creditors of the claims bar date of January 11, 2022. [Exh. A]. If Plaintiffs are going to have any viable claim against the remaining assets of Aliera, they must proceed with a claim as a creditor in the Aliera ABC process before the claims bar date of January 11, 2022. In order to proceed credibly, Plaintiffs must have a liquidated judgment before that date, which will require this Court to expedite its consideration of Plaintiffs' various motions.

Aliera has demonstrated its failure to defend this action, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55(a), and is in default. In holding Aliera in default and entering a default judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs, the Plaintiffs seek to represent the proposed class of other individuals victimized by Aliera's sale of sham health insurance plans marketed and disguised as an authorized health care sharing ministry ("HCSM"). At least 383 Kentucky households purchased

the illegal health plans created, marketed, and sold by Aliera through Trinity. Prior to Trinity's formation, Aliera sold other purported HCSM plans through Unity HealthShare, another entity by which Aliera perpetrated its fraud. As explained in Plaintiffs' Motion to Certify Class, the case should proceed as a class action to best pursue each of these aggrieved individuals' claims.

Time is of the essence. If Plaintiffs, and the class they seek to represent, do not obtain a liquidated judgment against Aliera well before the claims bar date of January 11, 2022, in the Aliera ABC process, they will be left without any viable means of recovering against Aliera. If Plaintiffs and the putative class make no claim in the Aliera ABC process before January 11, 2022, then they will not be able to participate and there will be no recovery for Plaintiffs and the class members against Aliera. Plaintiffs and the putative class must be able to make a claim as creditors in the Aliera ABC in order to proceed effectively. For these reasons, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the class they seek to represent, respectfully request this Court to rule expeditiously on its pending motions before this Court.

Respectfully submitted,

#### ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

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<sup>\*</sup> Admitted pro hac vice

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on November 4, 2021, I have served this document on all counsel of record through the Court's CM/ECF system, and in addition I have mailed by United States Postal Service the document to the following non-CM/ECF participants, as well as electronically mailed to Katie Goodman:

The Aliera Companies Inc. 990 Hammond Dr. NE, Suite 700 Atlanta, GA 30328

The Aliera Companies Inc. c/o CT Corporation System, Registered Agent 306 W. Main Street, Suite 512 Frankfort, Ky 40601

Assignee for The Aliera Companies, Inc., *et al.* c/o Katie Goodman Asset Recovery Associates Aliera, LLC 3155 Roswell Road NE, Suite 120 Atlanta, GA 30305 kgoodman@gggpartners.com

I further certify that I have electronically mailed the document to the Aliera's former counsel:

Benjamin B. Coulter, bcoulter@burr.com

BY: /s/ Jerome P. Prather
Jerome P. Prather, Esq.

EXHIBIT

# Asset Recovery Associates Aliera, LLC As Assignee for The Aliera Companies, Inc., Adevo LLC, Ensurian Agency LLC, Tactical Edge Solutions LLC and USA Benefits & Administrators LLC 3155 Roswell Road NE, Suite 120 Atlanta, GA 30305

October 17, 2021

Re: The Aliera Companies, Inc., Adevo LLC, Ensurian Agency LLC, Tactical Edge Solutions LLC and USA Benefits & Administrators LLC

Dear creditor or creditor representative,

On October 11, 2021, The Aliera Companies, Inc., Adevo LLC, Ensurian Agency LLC, Tactical Edge Solutions LLC and USA Benefits & Administrators LLC ("Companies") filed an Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors ("Assignment") in Fulton County, Georgia.

Pursuant to the Assignment, Asset Recovery Associates Aliera, LLC, was appointed Assignee of the Company. Generally, the Assignee, in accordance with the Assignment and Georgia law, is responsible for liquidating the assets of the Companies and distributing the proceeds to bona fide creditors of the Companies pro rata after paying administrative claims and any priority claims.

If you believe that you are owed money by the Companies, please submit the amount you believe you are owed or potentially claiming as of October 11, 2021, along with supporting documentation <u>via regular U.S. mail</u> ONLY to:

Assignee for The Aliera Companies, Inc. et. al. c/o Asset Recovery Associates Aliera, LLC 3155 Roswell Road NE, Suite 120 Atlanta, GA 30305

Such documentation must be received by January 11, 2022. Any claims received after January 11, 2022 will be **BARRED**.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me at (404) 293-0137.

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Sincerely,

Katie Goodman

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Defendants.

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**ELECTRONICALLY FILED** 

# ORDER EXPEDITING RULING AS TO PLAINTIFFS' PENDING MOTIONS

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

The Plaintiffs, having filed a Motion to Expedite the ruling on its two pending motions before this Court; specifically, (1) Plaintiffs' Motion to Lift Stay, Deny all Pending Motions, and Enter Default Judgment as to The Aliera Companies, Inc., and (2) Plaintiffs' Motion to Certify Class, the Defendant The Aliera Companies, Inc., not being represented by counsel, and the Court having considered the matter herein and otherwise being sufficiently advised,

IT IS NOW THEREFORE ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Plaintiffs' motion to expedite its ruling of Plaintiffs' pending motions is GRANTED.