

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

ALAN WILLIS, Individually and on Behalf of All)
Others Similarly Situated,) No. 2:12-cv-00604-MHW-KAJ
) CLASS ACTION
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
BIG LOTS, INC., et al.,)
)
Defendants.)
)

PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE

I. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. To recover as a member of the Class based on your claims in the action entitled *Alan Willis v. Big Lots, Inc., et al.*, No. 2:12-cv-00604-MHW-KAJ (the "Litigation"), you must complete and, on page 6 hereof, sign this Proof of Claim and Release ("Proof of Claim Form"). If you fail to file a properly addressed (as set forth in paragraph 3 below) Proof of Claim Form, your claim may be rejected and you may be precluded from any recovery from the Net Settlement Fund created in connection with the proposed Settlement of the Litigation.

2. Submission of this Proof of Claim Form, however, does not assure that you will share in the proceeds of the Settlement of the Litigation.

3. **YOU MUST MAIL OR SUBMIT ONLINE YOUR COMPLETED AND SIGNED PROOF OF CLAIM FORM, ACCOMPANIED BY COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED HEREIN, ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 8, 2018, ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:**

Big Lots Securities Litigation
c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC
Claims Administrator
P.O. Box 404066
Louisville, KY 40233-4066

Online Submissions: www.BigLotsSecuritiesSettlement.com

If you are NOT a member of the Class, as defined in the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action (the "Notice"), DO NOT submit a Proof of Claim Form.

4. If you are a member of the Class and you do not timely request exclusion in connection with the proposed Settlement, you will be bound by the terms of any judgment entered in the Litigation, including the releases provided therein, WHETHER OR NOT YOU SUBMIT A PROOF OF CLAIM FORM.

II. CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION

If you purchased the common stock of Big Lots, Inc. ("Big Lots") between March 2, 2012 and August 23, 2012, inclusive, use Part I of this form entitled "Claimant Identification" to list the claimant name, mailing address, and account information if relevant (such as for a claim submitted on behalf of an IRA, Trust, or estate account). Please list the most current claimant or account name as you would like the information to appear on the check, if eligible for payment. Please also provide a telephone number and/or e-mail address, as the Claims Administrator may need to contact you with questions about the claim submitted. If your Claimant Identification information changes, please notify the Claims Administrator in writing at the address above.

If you are acting in a representative capacity on behalf of a Class Member (for example, as an executor, administrator, trustee, or other representative), you must submit evidence of your current authority to act on behalf of that Class Member. Such evidence would include, for example, letters testamentary, letters of administration, or a copy of the trust documents or other documents which provide you with the authority to submit the claim. Please also indicate your representative capacity under your signature on page 6 of this Proof of Claim Form.

NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILES: Certain claimants with large numbers of transactions may request to, or may be requested to, submit information regarding their transactions in electronic files. If you have a large number of transactions and wish to file your claim electronically, you must contact the Claims Administrator at edata@gilardi.com to obtain the required file layout.

III. CLAIM FORM

Use Part II of this form entitled "Schedule of Transactions in Big Lots Common Stock" to supply all required details of your transaction(s) in Big Lots common stock. If you need more space or additional schedules, attach separate sheets giving all of the required information in substantially the same form. Sign and print or type your name on each additional sheet.

On the schedules, provide all of the requested information with respect to **all** of your purchases and **all** of your sales of Big Lots common stock between March 2, 2012 and November 20, 2012, inclusive, whether such transactions resulted in a profit or a loss. You must also provide all of the requested information with respect to **all** of the shares of Big Lots common stock you held at the close of trading on March 1, 2012, August 23, 2012, and November 20, 2012. Failure to report all such transactions may result in the rejection of your claim.

List these transactions separately and in chronological order, by trade date, beginning with the earliest. You must accurately provide the month, day, and year of each transaction you list.

The date of covering a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of purchase of Big Lots common stock. The date of a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of sale of Big Lots common stock.

Copies of stockbroker confirmation slips, stockbroker statements, or other documents evidencing your transactions in Big Lots common stock should be attached to your claim. If any such documents are not in your possession, please obtain a copy or equivalent documents from your broker because these documents are necessary to prove and process your claim. Failure to provide this documentation could delay verification of your claim or result in rejection of your claim.

Must Be Postmarked (if Mailed)
or Received (if Submitted Online)
No Later Than October 8, 2018

BIW

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

Alan Willis v. Big Lots, Inc., et al.,

No. 2:12-cv-00604-MHW-KAJ

PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE

Please Type or Print in the Boxes Below
Do NOT use Red Ink, Pencil, or Staples

Official
Office
Use
Only

PART I: CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION

Last Name	M.I.	First Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Last Name (Co-Beneficial Owner)	M.I.	First Name (Co-Beneficial Owner)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

IRA
 Joint Tenancy
 Employee
 Individual
 Other _____ (specify)

Company Name (Beneficial Owner - If Claimant is not an Individual) or Custodian Name if an IRA

Trustee/Asset Manager/Nominee/Record Owner's Name (If Different from Beneficial Owner Listed Above)

Account#/Fund# (Not Necessary for Individual Filers)

Last Four Digits of Social Security Number	or	Taxpayer Identification Number
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>

Telephone Number (Primary Daytime)	Telephone Number (Alternate)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Email Address

MAILING INFORMATION

Address

Address

City	State	Zip Code
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Foreign Province	Foreign Postal Code	Foreign Country Name/Abbreviation
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

FOR CLAIMS PROCESSING ONLY	OB <input type="text"/>	CB <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> ATP <input type="radio"/> KE <input type="radio"/> ICI	<input type="radio"/> BE <input type="radio"/> DR <input type="radio"/> EM	<input type="radio"/> FL <input type="radio"/> ME <input type="radio"/> ND	<input type="radio"/> OP <input type="radio"/> RE <input type="radio"/> SH	MM / DD / YYYY	FOR CLAIMS PROCESSING ONLY
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IV. SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION OF COURT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I (We) submit this Proof of Claim Form under the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement dated as of May 16, 2018 (“Stipulation”) described in the Notice. I (We) also submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Eastern Division with respect to my (our) claim as a Class Member and for purposes of enforcing the release set forth herein. I (We) further acknowledge that I am (we are) bound by and subject to the terms of any judgment that may be entered in the Litigation. I (We) agree to furnish additional information to the Claims Administrator to support this claim if requested to do so. I (We) have not submitted any other claim in connection with the purchase of Big Lots common stock and know of no other person having done so on my (our) behalf.

V. RELEASE

1. I (We) hereby acknowledge full and complete satisfaction of, and do hereby fully, finally, and forever settle, release, and discharge from the Released Claims each and all of the Released Persons as provided in the Stipulation.

2. “Related Parties” means each of Defendants’ present and former parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, predecessors, successors, joint venturers and assigns, and each of their respective officers, directors, employees, partners, controlling shareholders, principals, trustees, attorneys, auditors, accountants, investment bankers, underwriters, consultants, agents, insurers, re-insurers, spouses, estates, related or affiliated entities, any entity in which a Defendant has a controlling interest, any members of any Defendant’s immediate family, any trust of which any Defendant is the settlor or which is for the benefit of any Defendant and/or member(s) of his family, and each of the heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns of the foregoing.

3. “Released Claims” means any and all rights, liabilities, suits, debts, obligations, demands, damages, losses, judgments, matters, issues, claims (including Unknown Claims as defined below), and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law or equity, whether accrued or unaccrued, fixed or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, whether arising under federal, state, local, statutory, common law, foreign law, or any other law, rule, or regulation, and whether class and/or individual in nature, concerning, based on, arising out of, or in connection with both: (i) the purchase of Big Lots common stock by Plaintiffs or any Class Member during the Class Period; and (ii) the allegations, transactions, acts, facts, matters, occurrences, disclosures, statements, SEC filings, representations, omissions, or events that were or could have been alleged or asserted in the Litigation. Released Claims do not include claims to enforce the Settlement.

4. “Released Persons” means each and all of the Defendants and their Related Parties.

5. “Unknown Claims” means any of the Released Claims which Plaintiffs or any Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in such party’s favor at the time of the release of the Released Persons, and any of the Defendants’ Released Claims that the Released Persons do not know or suspect to exist in his, her or its favor at the time of the release of the Class Representatives, Plaintiffs, each and all of the Class Members and Plaintiffs’ Counsel, which, if known by such party, might have affected such party’s settlement with and release of the Released Persons or Class Representatives, Plaintiffs, each and all of the Class Members and Plaintiffs’ Counsel, or might have affected such party’s decision not to object to this Settlement. With respect to any and all Released Claims and the Defendants’ Released Claims, upon the Effective Date, the Class Representatives and Defendants shall expressly, and each of the Class Members and Released Persons shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Order and Final Judgment shall have, expressly waived to the fullest extent permitted by law, the provisions, rights, and benefits of California Civil Code §1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him or her must have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor.

Class Representatives and Defendants shall expressly, and each of the Class Members and Released Persons shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Order and Final Judgment shall have, expressly waived any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable or equivalent to California Civil Code §1542. The Class Representatives, Class Members, and the Released Persons may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those which such party now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims and the Defendants’ Released Claims, but the Class Representatives and Defendants shall expressly, and each Class Member and Released Person, upon the Effective Date, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Order and Final Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever settled and released any and all Released Claims, or the Defendants’ Released Claims, as the case may be, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct that is negligent, reckless, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law, or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts. The Class Representatives and Defendants acknowledge, and the Class Members and Released Persons shall be deemed by operation of the Order and Final Judgment to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and a key element of the Settlement of which this release is a part.



6. This release shall be of no force or effect unless and until the Court approves the Stipulation and the Settlement becomes effective on the Effective Date.

7. I (We) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have not assigned or transferred or purported to assign or transfer, voluntarily or involuntarily, any matter released pursuant to this release or any other part or portion thereof.

8. I (We) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have included information about all of my (our) transactions in Big Lots common stock which are the subject of this claim, as well as the opening and closing positions in such securities held by me (us) on the dates requested in this Proof of Claim Form.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing information supplied by the undersigned is true and correct.

Executed this _____ day of _____ in _____
(Month/Year) (City/State/Country)

(Sign your name here)

(Sign your name here)

(Type or print your name here)

(Type or print your name here)

(Capacity of person(s) signing, e.g.,
Beneficial Purchaser, Executor or Administrator)

(Capacity of person(s) signing, e.g.,
Beneficial Purchaser, Executor or Administrator)

**ACCURATE CLAIMS PROCESSING TAKES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.**

Reminder Checklist:

- 1. Please sign the above release and declaration.
- 2. If this claim is being made on behalf of Joint Claimants, then both must sign.
- 3. Remember to attach copies of supporting documentation, if available.
- 4. **Do not send** originals of certificates.
- 5. Keep a copy of your Proof of Claim Form and all supporting documentation for your records.
- 6. If you desire an acknowledgment of receipt of your Proof of Claim Form please send it Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested.
- 7. If you move, please send your new address to the address below.
- 8. **Do not use red pen or highlighter** on the Proof of Claim Form or supporting documentation.

THIS PROOF OF CLAIM FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE OR MAILED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 8, 2018, ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:

Big Lots Securities Litigation
c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC
Claims Administrator
P.O. Box 404066
Louisville, KY 40233-4066
www.BigLotsSecuritiesSettlement.com

