

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Zepeda v. Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group, LLC, et al., Case No. 18-CH-02140 (Cook Co. Il.)

For more information, visit www.KimptonBIPASettlement.com.

Para una notificación en Español, visitar www.KimptonBIPASettlement.com.

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO A CASH PAYMENT FROM A CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT IF YOU WERE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE YOUR BIOMETRIC INFORMATION (E.G. FINGERPRINTS, ETC.) FOR EMPLOYEE TIMEKEEPING PURPOSES TO KIMPTON HOTEL & RESTAURANT GROUP, LLC AT ANY TIME BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 2012 AND JULY 31, 2018.

This is a court-authorized notice of a proposed class action settlement.

This is not a solicitation from a lawyer and is not notice of a lawsuit against you.

WHY DID I GET THIS NOTICE?

This is a court-authorized notice of a proposed settlement in a class action lawsuit, *Zepeda. v. InterContinental Hotels Group, Inc. and Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group, LLC.*, Case No. 18-CH-02140, pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois before the Honorable David B. Atkins. The Settlement would resolve a lawsuit brought on behalf of persons who allege that Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group, LLC (“Kimpton”) or Six Continents Hotels Inc., incorrectly sued as InterContinental Hotels Group, Inc. (together “Defendants”) required their employees to provide their biometric information (e.g. fingerprints, etc.) for timekeeping purposes without first providing them with legally-required written disclosures and obtaining written consent. If you received this notice, you have been identified as someone who may have been required to submit your biometric information (e.g. fingerprints, etc.) to Kimpton at Kimpton Hotel Palomar Chicago, Kimpton Hotel Burnham Chicago, Kimpton Hotel Monaco Chicago, The Kimpton Gray Hotel, or the Kimpton Allegro Hotel for timekeeping purposes between January 1, 2012, and July 31, 2018. The Court has granted preliminary approval of the Settlement and has conditionally certified the Settlement Class for purposes of settlement only. This notice explains the nature of the class action lawsuit, the terms of the Settlement, and the legal rights and obligations of the Settlement Class Members. Please read the instructions and explanations below so that you can better understand your legal rights.

WHAT IS THIS LAWSUIT ABOUT?

The Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act (“BIPA”), 740 ILCS 14/1, et seq., prohibits private companies from capturing, obtaining, storing, transferring, and/or using the biometric identifiers and/or information, such as fingerprints, of another individual for any purpose, including timekeeping, without first providing such individual with certain written disclosures and obtaining written consent. This lawsuit alleges that Defendants violated the BIPA by requiring their current and/or former employees to submit their fingerprints for timekeeping purposes between January 1, 2012, and July 31, 2018 without first providing the requisite disclosures or obtaining the requisite consent. Defendants contest these claims and deny that they violated the BIPA.

WHY IS THIS A CLASS ACTION?

A class action is a lawsuit in which an individual called a “Class Representative” brings a single lawsuit on behalf of other people who have similar claims. All of these people together are a “Class” or “Class Members.” Once a Class is certified, a class action Settlement finally approved by the Court resolves the issues for all Settlement Class Members, except for those who exclude themselves from the Settlement Class.

WHY IS THERE A SETTLEMENT?

To resolve this matter without the expense, delay, and uncertainties of litigation, the Parties have reached a Settlement, which resolves all claims against Defendants and their affiliated entities. The Settlement requires Defendants to pay money to the Settlement Class, as well as pay settlement administration expenses, attorneys’ fees and costs to Class Counsel, and an incentive award to the Class Representative, if approved by the Court. The Settlement is not an admission of wrongdoing by Defendants and does not imply that there has been, or would be, any finding that Defendants violated the law.

QUESTIONS? VISIT WWW.KIMPTONBIPASETTLEMENT.COM OR CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-339-7458.

The Court has already preliminarily approved the Settlement. Nevertheless, because the settlement of a class action determines the rights of all members of the class, the Court overseeing this lawsuit must give final approval to the Settlement before it can be effective. The Court has conditionally certified the Settlement Class for settlement purposes only, so that members of the Settlement Class can be given this notice and the opportunity to exclude themselves from the Settlement Class, to voice their support or opposition to final approval of the Settlement, and to submit a Claim Form to receive the relief offered by the Settlement. If the Court does not give final approval to the Settlement, or if it is terminated by the Parties, the Settlement will be void, and the lawsuit will proceed as if there had been no settlement and no certification of the Settlement Class.

WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT CLASS?

You are a member of the Settlement Class if, at any time between January 1, 2012, and July 31, 2018, you were required to provide your biometric information (e.g. fingerprints, etc.) for timekeeping purposes to Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group, LLC at a Kimpton hotel within the state of Illinois. If you provided your biometric information (e.g. fingerprints, etc.) for timekeeping purposes at any time during this time period, then you may visit the settlement website, www.KimptonBIPASettlement.com, to submit a claim for cash benefits.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

(1) Accept the Settlement.

To accept the Settlement, you must submit a Claim Form by **December 5, 2018**. You may obtain a Claim Form at www.KimptonBIPASettlement.com, and you may submit your Claim Form online at the same website, via email at Info@KimptonBIPASettlement.com or to the Settlement Administrator via U.S. Mail at Kimpton BIPA Settlement, c/o KCC Settlement Administrator, P.O. Box 404002, Louisville, KY 40233-4002. If the Settlement is approved and your claim is deemed valid, a check will be mailed to you. ***Submitting a valid and timely Claim Form is the only way to receive a payment from this Settlement, and is the only thing you need to do to receive a payment.***

(2) Exclude yourself.

You may exclude yourself from the Settlement. If you do so, you will not receive any cash payment, but you will not release any claims you may have against Defendants and the Releasees (as that term is defined in the Settlement Agreement) and are free to pursue whatever legal rights you may have by pursuing your own lawsuit against the Releasees at your own risk and expense. To exclude yourself from the Settlement, you must mail a signed letter to the Settlement Administrator at Kimpton BIPA Settlement, c/o KCC Settlement Administrator, P.O. Box 404002, Louisville, KY 40233-4002, postmarked by **November 6, 2018**. You may also exclude yourself online at www.KimptonBIPASettlement.com. The exclusion letter must state that you exclude yourself from this Settlement and must include the name and case number of this litigation, as well as your full name, address, telephone number, and a statement that you wish to be excluded.

(3) Object to the Settlement.

If you wish to object to the Settlement, you must submit your objection in writing to the Clerk of the Court of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Courtroom 2102, Chicago, Illinois 60602. The objection must be received by the Court no later than **November 6, 2018**. You must also send a copy of your objection to the attorneys for all Parties to the lawsuit, including Class Counsel (Myles McGuire, Evan M. Meyers, David L. Gerbie, and William P. Kingston, MCGUIRE LAW, P.C., 55 West Wacker Drive, 9th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60601), as well as the attorneys representing Defendants (Michael J. Burns and Thomas E. Ahlering, SEYFARTH SHAW LLP, 233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 8000, Chicago, IL 60606), postmarked no later than **November 6, 2018**. Any objection to the proposed Settlement must include (i) your full name, address, and telephone number; (ii) the case name and number of this Litigation; (iii) the date range during which you were employed by Defendants; (iv) all grounds for the objection, with factual and legal support for the stated objection, including any supporting materials; (v) the identification of any other objections you have filed, or have had filed on your behalf, in any other class action cases in the last four years; and (vi) your signature. If you hire an attorney in connection with making an objection, that attorney must also file with the Court a notice of appearance by the objection deadline of **November 6, 2018**. If you do hire your own attorney, you will be solely responsible for payment of any fees and expenses the attorney incurs on your behalf. If you exclude yourself from the Settlement, you cannot file an objection.

QUESTIONS? VISIT WWW.KIMPTONBIPASETTLEMENT.COM OR CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-339-7458.

You may appear at the Final Approval Hearing, which is to be held on **December 5, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.**, in Courtroom 2102 of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602, in person or through counsel to show cause of why the proposed Settlement should not be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate. Attendance at the hearing is not necessary; however, persons wishing to be heard orally in opposition to the approval of the Settlement, the request for attorneys' fees and expenses, and/or the request for an incentive award to the Class Representative are required to indicate in their written objection their intention to appear at the hearing on their own behalf or through counsel and to identify the names of any witnesses they intend to call to testify at the Final Approval Hearing, as well as any exhibits they intend to introduce at the Final Approval Hearing.

(4) Do Nothing.

If you do nothing, you will receive no money from the Settlement Fund, but you will still be bound by all orders and judgments of the Court. Unless you exclude yourself from the Settlement, you will not be able to file or continue a lawsuit against the Releasees regarding any of the Released Claims. *Submitting a valid and timely Claim Form is the only way to receive a payment from this Settlement.*

To submit a Claim Form, or for information on how to request exclusion from the class or file an objection, please visit the Settlement website, www.KimptonBIPASettlement.com, or call 1-866-339-7458.

WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

Cash Payments. Defendants have agreed to create a \$500,000.00 Settlement Fund for the Class Members. All Settlement Class Members are entitled to submit a Claim Form in order to receive a payment out of the Settlement Fund. If the Settlement is approved, each Settlement Class Member who submits a timely Claim Form that is deemed valid will be entitled to an equal payment out of the Settlement Fund. The exact amount of each Class Member's payment is unknown at this time; it may be as much as \$500.00 or more, but it may be less depending on several factors, including how many Settlement Class Members return valid Claim Forms and the costs of the other expenses to be paid from the Settlement Fund. The Settlement Administrator will issue a check to each Class Member who submits a valid Claim Form following the final approval of the Settlement. All checks issued to Settlement Class Members will expire and become void 90 days after they are issued. Additionally, the attorneys who brought this lawsuit (listed below) will ask the Court to award them attorneys' fees of up to forty percent of the Settlement Fund, plus reasonable costs, for the substantial time, expense and effort expended in investigating the facts, litigating the case and negotiating the Settlement. The Class Representative also will apply to the Court for a payment of up to \$2,500.00 for his time, effort, and service in this matter.

WHAT RIGHTS AM I GIVING UP IN THIS SETTLEMENT?

Unless you exclude yourself from this Settlement, you will be considered a member of the Settlement Class, which means you give up your right to file or continue a lawsuit against Defendants and their related entities, agents, and vendors (as defined in the Settlement Agreement), and relating to the use of the biometric Time-Keeping System at a Kimpton hotel between January 1, 2012, and July 31, 2018. Giving up your legal claims is called a release. The precise terms of the release are in the Settlement Agreement, which is available on the settlement website. Unless you formally exclude yourself from this Settlement, you will release your claims whether or not you submit a Claim Form and receive payment. If you have any questions, you can talk for free to the attorneys identified below who have been appointed by the Court to represent the Settlement Class, or you are welcome to talk to any other lawyer of your choosing at your own expense.

WHEN WILL I BE PAID?

The Parties cannot predict exactly when (or whether) the Court will give final approval to the Settlement, so please be patient. However, if the Court finally approves the Settlement, you will be paid as soon as possible after the court order becomes final, which should occur within approximately 60 days after the Settlement has been finally approved. If there is an appeal of the Settlement, payment may be delayed. Updated information about the case is available at www.KimptonBIPASettlement.com, or you can call the Settlement Administrator at **1-866-339-7458**, or contact Class Counsel at the information provided below.

WHEN WILL THE COURT RULE ON THE SETTLEMENT?

The Court has already given preliminary approval to the Settlement. A final hearing on the Settlement, called a Final Approval Hearing, will be held to determine the fairness of the Settlement. At the Final Approval Hearing, the Court will also consider whether to make final the certification of the Class for settlement purposes, hear any proper objections and arguments to the Settlement, as well as any requests for an award of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses and a Class Representative Incentive Award that may be sought by Class Counsel. The Court will hold the Final Approval Hearing on December 5, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. at the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Courtroom 2102, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

If the Settlement is given final approval, the Court will not make any determination as to the merits of the claims against Defendants or their defenses to those claims. Instead, the Settlement's terms will take effect and the lawsuit will be dismissed on the merits with prejudice. Both sides have agreed to the Settlement in order to achieve an early and certain resolution to the lawsuit, in a manner that provides specific and valuable benefits to the members of the Settlement Class.

If the Court does not approve the Settlement, if it approves the Settlement and the approval is reversed on appeal, or if the Settlement does not become final for some other reason, you will not be paid at this time and Class Members will receive no benefits from the Settlement. Plaintiff, Defendants, and all of the Class Members will be in the same position as they were prior to the execution of the Settlement, and the Settlement will have no legal effect, no class will remain certified (conditionally or otherwise), and the Plaintiff and Defendants will continue to litigate the lawsuit. There can be no assurance that if the Settlement is not approved, the Settlement Class will recover more than is provided in the Settlement, or indeed, anything at all.

WHO REPRESENTS THE CLASS?

The Court has approved the following attorneys to represent the Settlement Class. They are called "Class Counsel." You will not be charged for these lawyers. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer instead, you may hire one at your own expense.

Myles McGuire Evan M. Meyers David L. Gerbie William P. Kingston MCGUIRE LAW, P.C. 55 W. Wacker Drive, 9 th Floor Chicago, IL 60601 mmcguire@mcgpc.com emeyers@mcgpc.com dgerbie@mcgpc.com wkingston@mcgpc.com Tel: 312-893-7002
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WHERE CAN I GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

This notice is only a summary of the proposed Settlement of this lawsuit. More details are in the Settlement Agreement which, along with other documents, can be obtained at www.KimptonBIPASettlment.com. If you have any questions, you can also call the Settlement Administrator at **1-866-339-7458** or Class Counsel at the numbers or email addresses set forth above. In addition to the documents available on the case website, all pleadings and documents filed in court may be reviewed or copied in the Office of the Clerk. Please do not call the Judge or the Clerk of the Court about this case. They will not be able to give you advice on your options.