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S.C. SUPREME COURT

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Supreme Court

APPEAL FROM SPARTANBURG COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas

J. Mark Hayes, II, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 2017-CP-42-00219
Appellate Case No. 2025-000346

Jo Ann Blackwell, Michelene Brooks, and Samuel H. Owens, Jr., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,..... Respondents,

v.

Mary Black Health System, LLC, d/b/a Mary Black Memorial Hospital; CHSPSC, LLC; Professional Account Services, Inc ..... Petitioners.

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Petitioners Mary Black Health System, LLC, d/b/a Mary Black Memorial Hospital; CHSPSC, LLC; and Professional Account Services, Inc. (collectively, "Petitioners") and Respondents Jo Ann Blackwell, Michelene Brooks, and Samuel H. Owens, Jr. (collectively, "Respondents") respectfully submit this Joint Status Report in compliance with the Court's Order dated December 17, 2025.

After the filing of the Parties' last Joint Status Report, dated October 16, 2026, the circuit court held a final Fairness Hearing in open court on October 27, 2026, to consider and determine whether to finally approve the settlement and enter judgment thereon. The Class Members were given notice of the Fairness Hearing, and they were given the opportunity to object and/or exclude themselves from the settlement. Despite a robust, comprehensive notice program, no Class

Member filed an objection or requested exclusion. After considering the Settlement Agreement, the Declaration filed by the Claims Administrator (reporting on the notice and claims administration process), and all documents submitted by the Parties, and after hearing from Class Counsel, Counsel for Defendants, and the Claims Administrator during the Fairness Hearing, the circuit court found the settlement to be fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests of the Class and ordered that the settlement be given final approval.

The circuit court's Final Approval Order and Final Judgment was electronically filed on October 29, 2026, and a copy of the Final Approval Order and Final Judgment is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. If no appeals are taken (the Parties do not expect any), the Effective Date of the Settlement will be November 28, 2026, Defendants will pay the Settlement Payment into the Escrow Account within twenty-one (21) business days of the Effective Date, and the Claims Administrator will thereafter make distributions from the Settlement Fund pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement. A final accounting will be filed with the circuit court after all disbursements have been made by the Claims Administrator.

The Parties respectfully request the Court continue to hold this appeal in abeyance until the Parties notify the Court that the Settlement Payment has been paid into the Escrow Account pursuant to the terms of the approved Settlement Agreement.

The Parties will continue to provide this Court with status updates every 30 days—or sooner if events warrant.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Katon E. Dawson

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November 5, 2026