

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
CENTRAL DIVISION**

M.B., et al.,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. 2:17-cv-04102-NKL
)	
Jennifer Tidball, et al.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

**ORDER DIRECTING CLASS NOTICE OF PLAINTIFFS’ MOTION FOR
ATTORNEYS’ FEES AND EXPENSES**

This matter comes before the Court on Plaintiffs’ Unopposed Motion for Approval of Class Notice of Plaintiffs’ Motion for Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses. In their Unopposed Motion, Plaintiffs move the Court to: (a) authorize and approve the form and manner of a Notice of Plaintiffs’ Motion for Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses to be sent to Class members, pursuant to Rule 23(h)(1); and (b) set the deadline for written objections to Plaintiffs’ Motion for Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses by persons who are Class members or legal representatives of Class members.

The Court has reviewed and evaluated the proposed form and manner of notice and finds it reasonable. Accordingly, the Motion is **GRANTED** and the Court orders as follows:

1. Notice to Class Members

The Notice of Plaintiffs’ Motion for Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses in *M.B., et al. v. Tidball, et al.*, attached hereto as Exhibit A (the “Notice”), is approved. Nothing in this order requires Defendants to respond or provide legal advice to any member of the Class, any guardian ad litem

or advocate, or any other person or entity in connection with Plaintiffs' Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses. Defendants may refer any outside inquiries or questions about the Notice to Class counsel.

On or before December 6, 2019, the parties shall take the following steps to notify Class members and their legal representatives of Plaintiffs' Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, as follows:

- a. Counsel for the Class shall post a copy of this order, the Notice, and all briefing on Plaintiffs' Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses on the Children's Rights website and maintain this posting on the website until December 20, 2019.
- b. Defendants shall post a copy of the Notice on the Department of Social Services ("DSS") website and maintain this posting on the website until December 20, 2019.
- c. Defendants shall post a copy of the Notice in the Children's Division ("CD") main office, CD regional offices, and each county office in a conspicuous place.
- d. As to the following, Class Counsel will send via email the Notice, ask that the Notice be posted in locations most likely to be seen by Class Members and/or their legal representatives, and ask that the information remain posted until December 20, 2019:
 - i. The Presiding Judge of each Missouri Circuit Court, or if the Circuit has a Family or Juvenile Court, the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile or Family Court; and
 - ii. The office of the Chief Juvenile Officer for each Missouri judicial circuit.

- e. To facilitate part (d), above, Defendants will send Class Counsel the list of email addresses gathered for purposes of distributing notice of the parties' proposed Settlement Agreement to the same entities and individuals. Dkt. No. 282.
- f. The parties will file with the Court, on or before December 9, 2019, an affidavit certifying compliance with the notice requirements of this order.
- g. Any objections must be submitted by Class Members on or before December 27, 2019 in the manner specified in the Notice.
- h. Counsel for the Class will submit to the Court all written submissions received from Class members, their legal representatives, or other interested parties, and any written responses by Class Counsel to such submissions, on or before December 30, 2019.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

s/ Nanette K. Laughrey
NANETTE K. LAUGHREY
United States District Judge

Dated: December 4, 2019
Jefferson City, Missouri