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12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
13 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
14 OAKLAND DIVISION

15 VISWANATH V. SHANKAR, Individually) Case No. 4:14-cv-01680-PJH
and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,)
16) CLASS ACTION
Plaintiff,)
17)
vs.) DECLARATION OF DOUGLAS R.
18) BRITTON IN SUPPORT OF (1) LEAD
IMPERVA, INC., et al.,) PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR FINAL
19) APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION
Defendants.) SETTLEMENT AND APPROVAL OF PLAN
20) OF ALLOCATION, AND (2) LEAD
COUNSEL'S MOTION FOR AN AWARD
21) OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES
AND AWARD TO LEAD PLAINTIFF
22) PURSUANT TO 15 U.S.C. §78u-4(a)(4)

DATE: January 31, 2018
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
CTRM: 3

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1 I, DOUGLAS R. BRITTON, declare as follows:

2 1. I am a member of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP (“Robbins Geller” or “Lead
3 Counsel”), counsel for Court-appointed Lead Plaintiff Delaware County Employees Retirement
4 System (“Delaware County” or “Lead Plaintiff”). I was actively involved in prosecuting this action
5 (the “Litigation”), am familiar with the proceedings, and have personal knowledge of the matters set
6 forth herein based on my active supervision and participation in all material aspects of the Litigation.

7 2. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure (“Rule”) 23, I submit this declaration in
8 support of: (a) final approval of the Stipulation of Settlement dated August 30, 2017 (ECF No. 143)
9 (“Stipulation” or “Settlement”),¹ which provides for an all-cash recovery of \$19,000,000 on behalf
10 of the Class to resolve this securities class action against all Defendants; (b) approval of the
11 proposed Plan of Allocation; and (c) approval of Lead Counsel’s application for an award of
12 attorneys’ fees and expenses, including an award to Lead Plaintiff for its time representing the Class
13 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §78u-4(a)(4).²

14 **I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

15 3. This class action seeks recovery from Imperva and certain of its senior executives for
16 violations of §§10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”). The
17 operative complaint alleges that Defendants made false and misleading statements and omissions
18 relating to Imperva’s competitive position against International Business Machines Corporation
19 (“IBM”). *See generally* Third Amended Complaint for Violation of the Federal Securities Laws
20 (ECF No. 64) (“Third Amended Complaint”).

21
22 ¹ The Stipulation resolves the claims asserted against Defendants Shlomo Kramer (“Kramer”) and
23 Terrence J. Schmid (“Schmid”) (together, the “Individual Defendants”) and Imperva, Inc.
24 (“Imperva” or the “Company”) (collectively, the “Defendants”). All capitalized terms not otherwise
defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Stipulation.

25 ² Pursuant to the October 11, 2017 Order Preliminarily Approving Settlement and Providing for
26 Notice (ECF No. 147) (“Notice Order”), the Court certified the Litigation as a class action on behalf
27 of all Persons and entities who purchased or otherwise acquired Imperva securities between May 2,
28 2013 and April 9, 2014, inclusive. Excluded from the Class are the Defendants and their immediate
families, the directors and officers of Imperva at all relevant times, and their legal representatives,
heirs, successors or assigns. Also excluded from the Class are those Persons who timely and validly
request exclusion from the Class.

1 4. This case has been vigorously litigated from its commencement in April 2014 through
2 its settlement, which was reached in principle on July 5, 2017. The Settlement was achieved only
3 after Lead Counsel, *inter alia*: (a) conducted a thorough pre-discovery investigation where it
4 reviewed a massive public record (including media reports, press releases, the Company's SEC
5 filings, and numerous analyst reports) and, through its investigators, interviewed numerous witnesses
6 around the country, including former employees of Imperva; (b) withstood forceful briefing and oral
7 argument in Defendants' multiple motions to dismiss; (c) successfully challenged Defendants'
8 pleaded defenses in their Answer and Amended Answer; (d) fully briefed and argued Lead
9 Plaintiff's motion for class certification and participated in extensive discovery related to that
10 motion, including defending the depositions of Lead Plaintiff's representative, investment manager,
11 and market efficiency expert, and taking the deposition of Defendants' price impact expert;
12 (e) worked with experts and consultants specializing in materiality, loss causation, damages, data
13 security technology, and the customer relationship management system used by Imperva;
14 (f) engaged in numerous contentious meet and confers regarding discovery requests and the
15 production of electronically-stored information, ultimately resulting in the production of over half a
16 million pages of documents; (g) reviewed, organized, and analyzed the produced documents to
17 assemble the evidence supporting the claims and countering the defenses; (h) moved to compel the
18 production of relevant documents; (i) deposed Imperva pursuant to Rule 30(b)(6) twice, and
19 prepared for upcoming depositions; (j) assessed the risks of prevailing on the claims at summary
20 judgment and trial, as well as assessed the Class' ability to collect on a final judgment, if obtained;
21 and (k) participated in a full-day mediation after exchanging evidentiary-based mediation statements
22 and continued after the mediation with considerable settlement negotiations with the substantial
23 assistance of the Honorable Layn R. Phillips (Ret.), a respected and experienced mediator. The
24 efforts that were required to complete these tasks were significant.

25 5. The Settlement is the product of hard-fought litigation and takes into consideration
26 the risks specific to the case. The Settlement is also the result of extensive arm's-length negotiations
27 between the parties, facilitated by Judge Phillips. These negotiations were conducted by experienced
28 and capable counsel for Lead Plaintiff and Defendants with a full understanding of both the strengths

1 and weaknesses of their respective positions. The Settlement represents a substantial recovery in
2 light of the significant risks Lead Plaintiff faced, including awaiting a decision on its motion for
3 class certification, prevailing against any summary judgment motions, bringing the action to trial,
4 and ultimately collecting on any judgment upheld after appeals.

5 6. Lead Counsel believes that the Settlement represents a very good result for the Class,
6 especially given the pending class certification motion and the highly contested factual disputes that
7 may have been resolved against Lead Plaintiff and the Class. Indeed, this result was obtained
8 despite the dismissal at the motion to dismiss phase of several alleged misstatements and the
9 dismissal of Imperva's CEO, Shlomo Kramer. Had discovery continued, Lead Counsel believes that
10 further evidence would have been uncovered supporting Lead Plaintiff's claims that Imperva had
11 misrepresented and omitted its ability to compete against IBM with its flagship data security product.
12 Yet, the substantial investigation and discovery, extensive motion practice, detailed legal research,
13 and the Court's rulings informed Lead Counsel that, while it believed the case was meritorious, the
14 case also had weaknesses to be carefully considered in determining the course of action (*i.e.*,
15 whether to settle and on what terms, or to litigate through further proceedings, including a decision
16 regarding class certification, further discovery, summary judgment, and trial).

17 7. Defendants' arguments in motions and during settlement discussions made it clear
18 that there were unsettled factual and legal issues – many of which could have been the subject of
19 expert testimony – that Lead Plaintiff and the Class would face in motions for summary judgment
20 and at trial. Any of these factual or legal issues could have been decided against Lead Plaintiff and
21 the Class, resulting in no recovery or a smaller recovery than that obtained in the Settlement. Lead
22 Plaintiff and Lead Counsel carefully considered all of these issues, and the risks attendant to them, in
23 deciding to settle on the terms set forth in the Stipulation.

24 8. Lead Counsel conferred with Lead Plaintiff on whether to accept the Settlement and
25 on what terms. Balancing all the circumstances and risks both sides faced were the Litigation to
26 continue, Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel concluded that settlement on the terms agreed upon was
27 in the best interests of the Class. The Settlement confers a substantial, immediate benefit to the
28 Class, and eliminates the significant risks continued litigation posed. It is respectfully submitted that

1 the Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate; Lead Counsel should be
2 awarded attorneys' fees of 25% of the \$19,000,000 Settlement Amount, litigation expenses of
3 \$346,800.96, plus interest on both amounts at the same rate and for the same period as earned by the
4 Settlement Fund; Lead Plaintiff should be awarded \$10,960.00 as reimbursement for the time its
5 representatives devoted to the case as permitted by under the Private Securities Litigation Reform
6 Act of 1995 ("PSLRA"); and the Plan of Allocation should be approved as fair, reasonable, and
7 adequate, as it was developed with Lead Plaintiff's economic expert and tracks the theory of
8 damages asserted.

9 9. Lead Counsel has, as described below, vigorously prosecuted this Litigation on a
10 wholly contingent basis for over three years and has advanced or incurred all litigation expenses. By
11 doing so, Lead Counsel has long shouldered the risk of an unfavorable result. Since the beginning of
12 this case, Lead Counsel has received no compensation for its investment of over 8,400 hours of
13 attorney and other professional and paraprofessional time or for the litigation expenses it has
14 incurred.

15 10. Lead Counsel's request for 25% of the \$19,000,000 Settlement Amount is fair and
16 reasonable both to the Class and to Lead Counsel and thus warrants the Court's approval. It is
17 within the range of fees frequently awarded in these types of actions and is justified in light of the
18 substantial benefits conferred on the Class, the risks undertaken, the quality of representation, and
19 the nature and extent of the legal services provided.

20 11. Lead Counsel should also be awarded its litigation expenses and charges of
21 \$346,800.96, which were reasonably and necessarily incurred in prosecuting the Litigation over the
22 last three-plus years. This amount includes fees and expenses for: (a) a private investigative firm to
23 locate and interview non-party witnesses; (b) consultants and experts whose services Lead Counsel
24 required to successfully prosecute and resolve this case; (c) court reporters and videographers
25 assisting in depositions; (d) transportation and lodging for Lead Counsel to attend Court
26 appearances, client meetings, depositions, expert consultations, and the mediation; (e) online factual
27 and legal research; (f) creating and managing a database of over half a million pages of documents;
28 and (g) convening the mediation.

1 12. As described in detail herein, these expenses and charges were reasonably and
2 necessarily incurred to plead Lead Plaintiff's claims, respond to Defendants' motions to dismiss,
3 move to certify the Class, conduct appropriate discovery, research the legal issues arising throughout
4 the Litigation, assess the case's strengths and weaknesses, and, after vigorous prosecution, obtain the
5 successful Settlement on the terms proposed. Because of the formidable legal services provided by
6 Lead Counsel, as well as other factors bearing on the reasonableness of the Settlement as described
7 herein, Lead Counsel respectfully requests that the Court grant final approval of the Settlement,
8 approve the Plan of Allocation, and award Lead Counsel its requested attorneys' fees and litigation
9 expenses, as well as the reimbursement of Lead Plaintiff's time and expenses pursuant to 15 U.S.C.
10 §78u-4(a)(4).

11 **II. SUMMARY OF LEAD PLAINTIFF'S ALLEGATIONS**

12 13. The Third Amended Complaint, the operative complaint, alleges that Defendants
13 violated §§10(b) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder. Lead
14 Plaintiff alleges that during the Class Period, Defendants made certain materially false and
15 misleading statements about Imperva's win ratio against its main competitor IBM and the ways in
16 which IBM competed with Imperva. According to the Third Amended Complaint's allegations,
17 these statements had the effect of artificially inflating the Company's stock price during the Class
18 Period. Lead Plaintiff alleges that once the falsity of these statements and omissions was publicly
19 revealed, the price of Imperva common stock dropped significantly, causing Imperva investors
20 substantial financial harm.

21 **III. PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

22 14. The following sections contain a summary of the principal events that occurred
23 during the course of this Litigation and the legal services provided by Lead Counsel. The Litigation
24 was highly contentious, involving significant disputes during all phases. Defendants vigorously
25 challenged the pleadings, class certification, and the proper scope of discovery.

26 15. As described below, extensive briefing was required to sustain and maintain the
27 claims asserted through the pleading and class certification stages. Lead Counsel met and conferred
28 extensively with defense counsel and exchanged detailed communications regarding the multiple

1 disputes that arose. Although discovery was still ongoing at the time the Settlement was reached, as
2 a result of these disputes and communications, significant attorney and staff time was required to
3 obtain responsive documents. There is no doubt that with depositions upcoming, discovery would
4 have continued to be contentious and require additional attorney time to obtain the necessary
5 evidence to support Lead Plaintiff's claims. Moreover, many more hours would have been spent
6 completing expert discovery and preparing the case for summary judgment and trial.

7 16. These efforts, described in more detail below, contributed to the over 8,400 hours of
8 attorney time necessary to develop Lead Plaintiff's claims in the manner that led Defendants to agree
9 to the Settlement.

10 **A. The Complaints and Motions to Dismiss**

11 17. On April 11, 2014, Viswanath V. Shankar filed the original complaint in this Court
12 seeking recovery on behalf of purchasers or acquirers of Imperva securities during the period May 2,
13 2013 and April 9, 2014, inclusive. ECF No. 1. Pursuant to the PSLRA, the Beaver County
14 Employees Retirement Fund, Bucks County Employees Retirement Fund, Chester County
15 Employees Retirement Fund, and Delaware County collectively moved on June 10, 2014, as the
16 "Pennsylvania Retirement Fund Group" for appointment as lead plaintiff, and for approval of their
17 counsel as lead counsel. ECF No. 18. On August 5, 2014, the three funds in the Pennsylvania
18 Retirement Fund Group filed a supplemental declaration expressing their decision that Delaware
19 County serve as the sole lead plaintiff. ECF No. 28.

20 18. Following a hearing on the motion for lead plaintiff held on July 23, 2014, the Court
21 entered an order on August 7, 2014, appointing Delaware County as lead plaintiff, and approving its
22 choice of Robbins Geller as lead counsel. ECF No. 29. Lead Plaintiff actively participated in all
23 significant aspects of the case, and throughout the entirety of the Litigation. Lead Counsel
24 communicated on a regular basis with Lead Plaintiff regarding the status of the case. Lead Plaintiff
25 was also provided with copies of significant pleadings and Court orders filed in the Litigation.
26 Periodically, Lead Counsel and Lead Plaintiff held telephone conferences to discuss the status of the
27 Litigation and the Court's rulings. Lead Plaintiff also produced documents and prepared for and
28

1 gave testimony in a deposition. Lead Plaintiff was also kept apprised of all settlement negotiations
2 with Defendants and ultimately approved the Settlement.³

3 **1. The Amended Complaint**

4 19. On October 10, 2014, after an extensive investigation where Lead Counsel reviewed a
5 massive public record (including media reports, press releases, the Company's SEC filings, and
6 numerous analyst reports) and, through its investigators, interviewed numerous witnesses, Lead
7 Plaintiff filed its detailed Amended Complaint. ECF No. 33. In the Amended Complaint, Lead
8 Plaintiff alleged that Defendants made false and misleading statements and omissions regarding:
9 (a) Imperva's win ratio against IBM and the ways in which IBM competed, (b) Imperva's technical
10 superiority, and (c) the Company's guidance for the first quarter of 2014.

11 20. On January 6, 2015, Defendants filed a motion to dismiss the Amended Complaint.
12 ECF No. 36. They argued that the Amended Complaint failed to adequately plead: (a) that
13 Imperva's guidance for the first quarter of 2014 was false and misleading; (b) that Defendants'
14 public statements regarding Imperva's competition with IBM and others were false and misleading;
15 (c) that Defendants' public statements regarding Imperva's technological capabilities were false and
16 misleading; (d) sufficient facts giving rise to a strong inference of scienter; (e) a causal connection
17 between the alleged fraud and Lead Plaintiff's losses; and (f) a primary violation under §10(b)
18 sufficient to support control-person liability under §20(a).

19 21. Defendants further argued that what Lead Plaintiff characterized as false and
20 misleading quarterly guidance was protected under the PSLRA's safe harbor provision for forward-
21 looking statements. Defendants also argued that what Lead Plaintiff characterized as false and
22 misleading statements regarding Imperva's technological capabilities were inactionable statements
23 of corporate optimism or "puffery." Regarding scienter, Defendants argued, *inter alia*, that: (a) the
24 Amended Complaint did not sufficiently plead facts giving rise to a strong inference of actual
25 knowledge that the quarterly guidance was unreasonable; (b) Defendant Kramer's acquisition of

26 _____
27 ³ See Declaration of Edward E. O'Lone in Support of Motion for Final Approval of Class Action
28 Settlement and Application for an Award of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses and Lead Plaintiff's
Expenses Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §78u-4(a)(4) ("O'Lone Decl."), submitted herewith.

1 Imperva shares during the Class Period negated an inference of scienter; and (c) the “core
2 operations” doctrine did not apply. Defendants supported their motion with a request for judicial
3 notice of various public disclosures. ECF No. 37.

4 22. On February 20, 2015, Lead Plaintiff filed an opposition to Defendants’ motion to
5 dismiss, which required significant time to research and draft. ECF No. 43. In opposing
6 Defendants’ motion to dismiss, Lead Plaintiff also responded to Defendants’ request for judicial
7 notice. ECF No. 44. Lead Plaintiff sought to strike two exhibits on the basis they were extrinsic to
8 the Amended Complaint and to several other exhibits offered for the truth asserted in those
9 documents – namely that Imperva’s post-Class Period success warranted dismissal. Because other
10 post-Class Period statements by Imperva executives revealed systemic problems occurring during
11 the Class Period, Lead Plaintiff argued that reliance on the documents put forward in Defendants’
12 request for judicial notice was improper.

13 23. On March 27, 2015, Defendants filed their replies in support of their motion to
14 dismiss and their request for judicial notice. ECF Nos. 48-49. Lead Counsel continued to evaluate
15 the arguments and research the case law referenced in the motion to dismiss briefing to prepare for
16 the hearing held on May 13, 2015. That preparation included the creation of a slideshow
17 presentation, which Lead Counsel used during oral argument to reinforce the critical points in the
18 opposition to the motion to dismiss.

19 24. On September 17, 2015, the Court granted Defendants’ motion to dismiss, with leave
20 to amend. ECF No. 53. The Court held that “[w]hile the statement about ‘beat[ing] IBM four out of
21 five times’ is certainly capable of objective verification, plaintiff has not pled any facts indicating
22 that Imperva was not actually beating IBM four out of five times.” *Id.* at 10. The Court noted,
23 though, that the Amended Complaint succeeded in undermining Defendants’ stated reasons for
24 losing deals to IBM. *Id.* And the Court found that, though inadequately particularized in the
25 Amended Complaint, Lead Plaintiff could attempt to show Defendants’ guidance was false and
26 misleading based on Imperva’s past revenue growth. But the Court ruled that the Amended
27 Complaint provided no basis for finding statements regarding Imperva’s technological superiority
28 were false or misleading. Accordingly, the Court granted Lead Plaintiff the opportunity to amend

1 the Amended Complaint to support the misrepresentations regarding Imperva's competitive success
2 against IBM and its guidance for the first quarter of 2014, but barred Lead Plaintiff from attempting
3 to resuscitate the statements regarding Imperva's technological superiority. The Court specified that
4 while Lead Plaintiff could include new facts supporting its allegations in the Second Amended
5 Complaint, Lead Plaintiff could not allege any false and misleading statements in addition to those
6 that had been alleged in the Amended Complaint.

7 **2. The Second Amended Complaint**

8 25. After Lead Counsel conducted further investigation, Lead Plaintiff filed the Second
9 Amended Complaint on October 15, 2015, that, among other things, removed alleged false
10 statements regarding Imperva's technical superiority and added certain new allegations. ECF
11 No. 55. The Second Amended Complaint also included certain statements by Imperva's new CEO,
12 Anthony Bettencourt, made after the Amended Complaint's filing, regarding Imperva's competitive
13 stance during the Class Period. *Id.* As a result of its supplemental investigation, Lead Plaintiff also
14 filed a motion for leave to allege additional false statements and to modify the class period. ECF
15 No. 56. This motion was dismissed without prejudice in an order in which the Court clarified that
16 should Lead Plaintiff seek to amend the complaint with additional misrepresentations, it must file a
17 motion attaching the entire proposed pleading. ECF No. 57.

18 **3. The Third Amended Complaint**

19 26. With that instruction, on October 23, 2015, Lead Plaintiff filed a motion for leave to
20 file a third amended complaint. ECF No. 59. Lead Plaintiff argued that amendment was proper
21 under Rule 15, as amendment was neither futile nor prejudicial, and Lead Plaintiff had not acted in
22 bad faith or committed undue delay. Defendants opposed the motion, contending that the expanded
23 class period would be unduly prejudicial, that Lead Plaintiff could have included the additional
24 allegations at the beginning of the case, and that Lead Plaintiff provided no new facts establishing
25 the falsity of the statements regarding Imperva's win/loss ratio to IBM. ECF No. 61. Lead Plaintiff
26 filed a reply on November 13, 2015. ECF No. 62.

27 27. On December 23, 2015, the Court granted in part Lead Plaintiff's motion for leave to
28 file a third amended complaint. ECF No. 63. The Court permitted Lead Plaintiff to allege two

1 additional false and misleading statements, but denied an extension of the class period. In
2 accordance with that order, Lead Plaintiff filed its Third Amended Complaint on January 13, 2016.
3 ECF No. 64.

4 28. On February 10, 2016, Defendants moved to dismiss the Third Amended Complaint.
5 ECF No. 67. Although Defendants raised similar arguments to their first motion to dismiss, in light
6 of Lead Plaintiff's more fulsome allegations relating to Imperva's competition against IBM and its
7 guidance, Defendants' motion targeted why the Third Amended Complaint still had not particularly
8 alleged those statements' falsity.

9 29. Lead Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion on March 2, 2016, and Defendants replied
10 on March 16, 2016. ECF Nos. 70-71. Thereafter, Lead Counsel extensively prepared for oral
11 argument, reviewing the alleged facts and factual support, the relevant case law, and the briefed
12 arguments. Lead Counsel also created a second slideshow presentation to supplement its oral
13 argument. Thus, for the second time, on March 30, 2016, the Court heard oral argument on a motion
14 to dismiss.

15 30. On May 16, 2016, the Court denied in part Defendants' motion to dismiss the Third
16 Amended Complaint. ECF No. 74. Crediting Lead Plaintiff's allegations that Mr. Bettencourt
17 revealed Imperva had lost 203 seven-figure deals to IBM before his arrival (therefore, overlapping
18 with the Class Period), the Court found "it strains credulity to believe that Imperva was winning four
19 out of five deals against IBM when the statements were made." *Id.* at 9. The Court agreed that the
20 "core operations" theory applied for alleging scienter, since statements regarding Imperva's
21 competitive success against "IBM, its primary competitor, go[] to the heart of Imperva's business."
22 *Id.* at 13. And since Imperva had "acknowledged the role of pricing in losing deals to IBM," when
23 Imperva's stock dropped as a result of missing its earnings projection, loss causation was sufficiently
24 alleged. *Id.* at 14.

25 31. However, the Court was concerned that Lead Plaintiff had rectified the shortcomings
26 regarding the guidance allegations merely by "cherry-picking" financial data. Thus, it held that
27 allegations regarding Defendants' false and misleading guidance statements were "fraud by
28 hindsight" and dismissed those statements. *Id.* at 16. Because of those statements' dismissal,

1 Defendant Kramer was dismissed as a §10(b) defendant, with only §20(a) liability remaining against
2 him.

3 **B. Defendants' Answers**

4 32. On June 20, 2016, Defendants filed their Answer to the Third Amended Complaint,
5 denying all material allegations and raising 25 purported affirmative defenses. ECF No. 78. Lead
6 Counsel wrote to Defendants' counsel raising several issues with respect to the sufficiency of the
7 Answer, including Defendants' failure to properly provide Lead Plaintiff with fair notice of the
8 nature of their defenses, Defendants' improper use of denials as "affirmative" defenses, and
9 Defendants' failure to provide a definite response to a paragraph in the Third Amended Complaint.
10 In response, Defendants agreed to amend their Answer.

11 33. Defendants raised 16 purported affirmative defenses in their Amended Answer. ECF
12 No. 92. However, the Amended Answer still did not provide facts sufficient to provide fair notice to
13 Lead Plaintiff, nor did it remediate the indefinite response. Only after prolonged and contentious
14 meet and confers did Defendants agree to amend again, filing their Second Amended Answer to the
15 Third Amended Complaint on September 7, 2016. ECF No. 96.

16 34. Due to Lead Counsel's diligent advocacy, Defendants' Second Amended Answer
17 included only 6 affirmative defenses pleaded with supporting facts, down from the original 25
18 defenses originally asserted. Defendants also provided a definite response to the paragraph in
19 question from the Third Amended Complaint.

20 **C. Mediation Process**

21 35. Following the closing of the pleadings, the parties entered the discovery phase of the
22 Litigation. However, in order to allow the parties an opportunity to evaluate the strengths and
23 weaknesses of their positions before expending additional time and resources on discovery and
24 taking on the commensurate risk in continuing the Litigation, the parties agreed to meet for a
25 mediation assisted by Judge Phillips.

26 36. Additionally, the parties agreed that to better inform the mediation process,
27 Defendants would make an initial rolling production, but the parties would otherwise stay the
28 Litigation to commit time to preparing for the mediation. Accordingly, on November 16, 2016, the

1 Court approved the parties' stipulation "to stay the remaining deadlines associated with class
2 certification, and hold off on class related discovery, in order to allow the parties sufficient time to
3 complete certain agreed merits-based discovery in support of the planned mediation," scheduled for
4 February 16, 2017. ECF No. 101.

5 37. Accordingly, Defendants produced over 95,700 pages of documents in rolling
6 productions based on Lead Plaintiff's initial document requests to Defendants. Upon production,
7 Lead Counsel dedicated many hours to reviewing, organizing, and analyzing these documents to
8 garner evidence supporting the Class' claims and to decide which documents to include as exhibits
9 to Lead Plaintiff's comprehensive mediation statement. After diligently reviewing the production,
10 Lead Counsel then spent significant time drafting the mediation statement and creating a formal
11 slideshow presentation to highlight the strength of the Class' claims even at that early juncture in
12 discovery.

13 38. On February 3, 2017, the parties exchanged mediation statements. After reviewing
14 Defendants' mediation statement, Lead Counsel spent considerable time reviewing their evidence
15 and preparing counter-arguments to raise at the mediation. On February 16, 2017, the parties met
16 with Judge Phillips for a full-day mediation. Yet despite these efforts, the parties were unable to
17 resolve the case at that time.

18 39. Thereafter, intermittent and informal discussions continued through the mediator as
19 the parties vigorously litigated the case. However, the parties were unable to reach a resolution until
20 July 5, 2017, when the parties agreed, with Lead Plaintiff's consultation, to the terms of a
21 recommendation made by Judge Phillips.

22 **D. Merits Discovery**

23 40. Lead Counsel propounded numerous document requests and interrogatories to
24 Defendants. In response to the document requests, Defendants produced approximately 213,000
25 pages of documents. Months of contentious meet-and-confer calls and negotiations were necessary
26 for Lead Plaintiff to obtain responsive documents, and Lead Counsel spent many hours reviewing
27 and analyzing these documents. In addition, Lead Counsel twice took Imperva's deposition pursuant
28 to Rule 30(b)(6). At the time of the Settlement, Lead Counsel was in the midst of undertaking the

1 substantial task of organizing and analyzing the documents in preparation for numerous additional
2 witness depositions and for the consideration by experts in their reports, as well as to prepare for
3 summary judgment and, ultimately, trial.

4 **1. Initial Disclosures**

5 41. The parties exchanged initial disclosures pursuant to Rule 26(a)(1) on August 22,
6 2016. At that early stage in the Litigation, Lead Plaintiff identified 82 possible witnesses, including
7 individual parties and third parties, who may be relevant to Lead Plaintiff's claims. For each
8 possible witness, Lead Plaintiff gathered the contact information and discerned the possible topics
9 for which the witnesses may have discoverable information. Lead Plaintiff also identified
10 preliminary categories of potential documents.

11 42. Defendants likewise identified 15 possible witnesses and preliminary categories of
12 relevant documents. Lead Counsel made efforts to research those witnesses and consider the
13 potential evidence they might give to defend against the claims.

14 **2. Document Production**

15 **a. Lead Plaintiff's Requests**

16 43. On July 18, 2016, Lead Plaintiff served on Defendants Imperva and Schmid the First
17 Set of Requests for the Production of Documents, containing 36 requests regarding all aspects of the
18 Third Amended Complaint's claims. The requests sought documents and communications related
19 to, among other items: (a) Imperva's wins and losses of deals to IBM, particularly regarding large,
20 seven-figure deals; (b) Imperva's deal pricing; (c) Imperva's knowledge of IBM's sales approaches,
21 including discounting, product bundling, and insider relationships; (d) Imperva's ability to track its
22 competitive success against IBM; (e) Imperva's and its executives' public statements regarding
23 Imperva's success over IBM; (f) Imperva's decision to move away from its flagship database
24 security product to its cloud-based product; (g) Imperva's acquisitions made to support its cloud-
25 based product; (h) compensation plans and incentives for Imperva's sales force; (i) Board of
26 Directors materials; (j) executives' trading plans and purchase or sales of Imperva securities; and
27 (k) the resignation and termination of Imperva executives and employees.

28

1 44. Defendants served their responses to Lead Plaintiff's first set of requests on
2 September 6, 2016, objecting to nearly every request on the grounds of relevance and overbreadth,
3 but agreeing to produce certain, limited categories of responsive documents.

4 45. Lead Counsel spent significant time meeting and conferring and exchanging
5 correspondence with defense counsel to resolve Defendants' objections. As a result of these
6 negotiations, Defendants produced 95,756 pages of documents.

7 46. As previously mentioned, while the stay was in place for the mediation, Lead Counsel
8 diligently reviewed, organized, and analyzed these documents to prepare the mediation statement
9 and presentation. Once the mediation proved unsuccessful and the Court lifted the stay in place for
10 the mediation (ECF No. 105), Lead Plaintiff continued to pursue documents responsive to the first
11 set of requests through a contentious meet-and-confer process. As part of that process, Lead Plaintiff
12 successfully persuaded Defendants to revise their responses to the first set of requests in order to
13 more clearly specify the parameters of their production. The process also included extensive
14 negotiation over the search terms, custodians, and relevant time periods to be used in Defendants'
15 electronic searching for responsive documents. As a result of Lead Counsel's persistence in
16 pursuing responsive documents, Defendants produced an additional 117,058 pages of documents
17 following the mediation.

18 47. Following the lifting of the mediation stay, Lead Plaintiff also propounded further
19 requests for the production of documents. On March 6, 2017, Lead Plaintiff served on Defendant
20 Kramer a First Set of Requests for the Production of Documents. These 33 requests sought
21 Kramer's documents and communications concerning, among other items: (a) his records and
22 knowledge of deals that Imperva won and lost to IBM, particularly the large, seven-figure deals;
23 (b) his knowledge and approval of the public statements made by Defendants Imperva and Schmid
24 regarding Imperva's competitive success over IBM, and the basis for those statements; (c) his
25 resignation as CEO and communications with the new CEO, Anthony Bettencourt; (d) his trading
26 plan, his purchase and sales of Imperva securities, and his earnings on those trades; (e) earnings
27 made in companies that Imperva acquired and that he had founded; and (f) any defense to his
28 liability as a control person. Based on the review of documents already undertaken by Lead

1 Counsel, Lead Plaintiff was also able to target particular requests to Kramer seeking documents
2 backing up statements he had made in other documents Lead Counsel had uncovered.

3 48. On April 10, 2017, Defendant Kramer served his responses and objections to Lead
4 Plaintiff's first set of requests. Defendant Kramer objected to nearly every request by referring to
5 Defendants Imperva's and Schmid's revised objections to the initial document requests served on
6 them. As a result, the parties engaged in further meet-and-confer discussions regarding Defendant
7 Kramer's responses to Lead Plaintiff's document requests. At the time of the Settlement, a motion
8 to compel was pending regarding one of the requests directed to Kramer because the parties were
9 unable to resolve their differences regarding the request's relevance.

10 49. On May 19, 2017, Lead Plaintiff served three additional requests for documents in a
11 Second Set of Requests for Production of Documents directed to all the defendants. These requests
12 sought documents and communications concerning Salesforce.com, which was the application that
13 Imperva's sales force used to manage its customer relationships and log deal information, including
14 the size of the deal and its progress toward completion. Specifically, these requests sought
15 documents and communications regarding how much training Imperva's sales team received on
16 Salesforce.com and the accuracy of the data entered into the application. Additionally, the requests
17 sought documents received by third parties subpoenaed in the action.

18 50. On June 19, 2017, Defendants served their responses and objections to Lead
19 Plaintiff's second set of document requests. Defendants agreed to produce the training manual for
20 Salesforce.com and documents regarding the application's accuracy to the extent they were
21 responsive to the search parameters previously agreed on by the parties. Defendants also agreed to
22 produce non-privileged responsive documents and communications between Imperva and the third-
23 party witnesses subpoenaed in the action.

24 51. As a result of Lead Counsel's diligent efforts to pursue responsive documents,
25 requested in a total of 72 document requests, Defendants produced over 212,800 pages of
26 documents. The size of the production, and the fact that documents were produced electronically,
27 required Lead Counsel to expend significant time and expense on document hosting, storage, review,
28 and analysis. Lead Counsel utilized industry-leading Relativity software, which permitted it to

1 search, sort, categorize, tag, prioritize, highlight, and annotate documents in preparation for
2 depositions, summary judgment, expert reports, and trial. At the time of the Settlement, Lead
3 Counsel had spent hundreds of hours working in Relativity to carefully review and organize these
4 documents, as well as the documents received from third parties, in preparation for the upcoming
5 depositions and to locate necessary evidence for supporting and presenting the case.

6 **b. Defendants' Requests**

7 52. On July 29, 2016, Imperva served on Lead Plaintiff its First Request for Production of
8 Documents, comprising 46 individual requests. Lead Plaintiff objected and responded to each
9 request on August 29, 2016. The parties met and conferred regarding Imperva's requests. In
10 accordance with the parameters set out in Lead Plaintiff's responses and as additionally agreed to by
11 the parties in the meet-and-confer process, Lead Plaintiff produced over 2,000 pages of documents.
12 This production required Lead Counsel to spend significant time consulting with Lead Plaintiff to
13 search for and retrieve responsive documents, and then compiling, organizing, and preparing the
14 documents for production.

15 53. On April 13, 2017, Imperva served its Second Set of Requests for Production of
16 Documents on Lead Plaintiff. These additional two requests sought documents and communications
17 provided by any third party. Lead Plaintiff served its objections and responses on May 12, 2017, and
18 agreed to provide Defendants with the productions received from subpoenaed third parties.

19 **c. Third-Party Subpoenas**

20 54. Lead Plaintiff also made substantial efforts to research and locate relevant evidence
21 that could be obtained from non-parties, and thus served 27 third-party subpoenas for production of
22 documents. The documents obtained from these non-parties were necessary to supplement
23 Defendants' document production as Lead Plaintiff gathered evidence to support its claims.

24 55. To that end, Lead Plaintiff sought documents from the following categories of non-
25 parties: (a) analysts who covered Imperva during the Class Period; (b) investment banks who hosted
26 industry presentations and roadshows at which Imperva publicly presented; (c) prospective Imperva
27 customers whose large deals for a database security system were unsuccessful; (d) Imperva's
28 primary channel partners; and (e) IBM, Imperva's main competitor for its flagship database security

1 product, which Lead Plaintiff subpoenaed twice. Specifically, Lead Plaintiff subpoenaed the
 2 following non-parties for documents⁴:

<i>Third Party</i>	<i>Date Served</i>
Wedbush Securities Inc.	03/08/17
International Business Machines Corp.	03/09/17 & 06/08/17
Cardinal Health Systems, Inc.	03/08/17
Cerner Corporation	03/08/17
DST Systems, Inc.	03/08/17
Fiserv Inc.	03/08/17
Los Angeles Unified School District	03/14/17
Mastercard Technologies, LLC	03/08/17
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	03/08/17
BMO Capital Markets Corp.	03/08/17
Imperial Capital, LLC	03/21/17
JMP Securities, LLC	03/08/17
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.	03/07/17
RBC Capital Markets, LLC	03/08/17 & 03/16/17
Stephens Inc.	03/08/17
Sterne, Agee & Leach, Inc.	03/08/17
William Blair & Co., LLC	03/08/17
B. Riley & Co., LLC	03/20/17
Express Scripts, Inc.	03/21/17
Morgan Stanley & Co., LLC	03/20/17
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.	03/20/17
Trimble Inc.	03/21/17
UBS Securities, LLC	03/21/17
Cadre Computer Resources Co.	04/12/17 & 04/21/17
Compuquip Technologies, LLC	04/14/17 & 04/21/17
Forsythe Solutions Group, Inc.	04/14/17 & 04/21/17
Optiv Security, Inc.	04/13/17 & 04/21/17

4 With the exception of IBM, which was served on two distinct occasions, where there are two dates listed in the chart, Lead Plaintiff amended the subpoena. In the case of RBC Capital Markets, this was to correct a misidentified service address; in the case of Cadre Computer Resources, Compuquip Technologies, Forsythe Solutions, and Optiv Security, the amended subpoena revised the scope of the requests.

1 56. Lead Counsel spent significant time and effort researching and deciding who to
2 subpoena, drafting the subpoenas, meeting and conferring with the subpoenaed parties, tracking
3 down and following up with subpoenaed parties who failed to respond or insufficiently responded,
4 and reviewing and analyzing the subpoenaed productions, which together totaled over 458,000
5 pages, in order to piece together evidence in support of Lead Plaintiff's and the Class' claims.

6 57. Additionally, on September 8, 2016, Defendants subpoenaed documents from non-
7 party Emerald Asset Management, Inc. ("Emerald Asset"), who was Lead Plaintiff's investment
8 manager responsible for its Imperva purchases during the Class Period. Accordingly, Emerald Asset
9 produced nearly 8,900 pages of documents. In the course of the Litigation, Defendants argued that
10 certain of those documents called into question Lead Plaintiff's ability to prove the elements of
11 falsity and loss causation. In the context of class certification, Defendants also contended that
12 certain documents produced by Emerald Asset negated Lead Plaintiff's typicality in relation to the
13 rest of the Class since unique defenses purportedly arose from Emerald Asset's analysis of and
14 investment in Imperva. Thus, Lead Counsel diligently reviewed these documents to respond to these
15 arguments and to prepare for the defense of Emerald Asset's deposition, which Defendants
16 subpoenaed pursuant to Rule 30(b)(6) as part of their discovery related to class certification.

17 **3. Interrogatories**

18 58. On July 18, 2016, Lead Plaintiff served the first two sets of interrogatories: its First
19 Set of Interrogatories to Imperva and the First Set of Interrogatories to Schmid. Each set contained
20 eight interrogatories and sought to aid in identifying the large deals that Imperva lost to IBM,
21 witnesses familiar with the deals in which Imperva competed against IBM, witnesses who provided
22 information for Imperva's public disclosures, and reports and other sources of information
23 describing the deals lost to IBM and forming the basis for Imperva's public disclosures. On
24 September 6, 2016, Defendants responded by referencing their upcoming document production.

25 59. Lead Plaintiff also spent considerable time in responding to and verifying the
26 information for Defendants' interrogatories directed to Lead Plaintiff. On July 29, 2016, Imperva
27 served its First Set of Interrogatories to Lead Plaintiff, with 15 separate queries. Lead Plaintiff
28 propounded its objections and responses to each on August 26, 2016.

1 60. Following the stay for the mediation, on April 13, 2017, Defendants Schmid and
2 Kramer each served their First Sets of Interrogatories to Lead Plaintiff, for a total of nine
3 interrogatories. Lead Plaintiff objected to these interrogatories on May 12, 2017, because they
4 appeared to be premature contention interrogatories that sought Lead Counsel's work product. After
5 significant time conferring and corresponding with Defendants regarding the timeliness and scope of
6 the interrogatories, Lead Plaintiff served Supplemental Objections and Responses on June 12, 2017
7 to Schmid's and Kramer's interrogatories. These responses required considerable efforts by Lead
8 Counsel to gather, organize, and present responsive information.

9 61. Finally, on May 5, 2017, Defendant Schmid served his Second Set of Interrogatories
10 to Lead Plaintiff, with two interrogatories seeking Lead Plaintiff's evidence to support its claim that
11 Imperva's revenue miss at the end of the Class Period was caused by deals lost to IBM and that deals
12 lost in earlier quarters contributed to that earnings miss. Again, Lead Counsel spent considerable
13 time and effort to gather, organize, and present responsive information. It served detailed responses
14 and objections to these interrogatories on June 5, 2017.

15 **4. Depositions**

16 62. At the time of the Settlement, Lead Counsel was preparing for numerous witness
17 depositions, having already spent hundreds of hours reviewing, organizing, and analyzing
18 Defendants' and third parties' document productions. Having noticed an initial round of depositions,
19 including a Rule 30(b)(6) deposition of IBM, Lead Counsel anticipated that it would take at least the
20 maximum number of depositions allowed by the Federal Rules, if not more, and thus had already
21 started the process of negotiating with Defendants to potentially seek additional depositions.

22 63. On April 18, 2017, Lead Counsel took the deposition of Defendant Imperva pursuant
23 to Rule 30(b)(6) through its designees, Michael Mooney and Terrence Schmid. Because the
24 designated witnesses lacked sufficient information regarding one topic, Lead Counsel, after
25 correspondence with defense counsel, took Imperva's deposition again on May 26, 2017, through its
26 designee, Mark Kraynak. Had the Settlement not occurred, Lead Counsel had noticed and prepared
27 for the depositions of certain fact witnesses. The preparation for these depositions, as well as the
28 anticipated individual witness depositions, was extensive, involving a significant amount of time

1 identifying key documents to be authenticated and used in the depositions to elicit further evidence
2 in support of Lead Plaintiff's claims.

3 64. Lead Counsel also assiduously prepared for defending the Rule 30(b)(6) depositions
4 of Lead Plaintiff's designated representative, Edward E. O'Lone, taken on March 23, 2017, and
5 Emerald Asset's designated representative, Derek L. Fisher, taken on March 21, 2017. Both
6 depositions took place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Defendants attempted through these
7 depositions to obtain evidence allowing them to contest both the merits of the claims and Lead
8 Plaintiff's motion for class certification. Accordingly, Lead Counsel dedicated significant time in
9 preparing for these depositions by carefully reviewing the relevant documents, meeting with
10 Mr. O'Lone and counsel for Emerald Asset, and preparing a cross examination of the witnesses if
11 necessary to clarify their testimony.

12 **5. Discovery Disputes**

13 65. Both before and after the February 2017 mediation, the parties participated in a
14 lengthy and arduous process to arrive at an agreed-upon scope of discovery, as well as custodians,
15 search terms, and relevant periods. Lead Counsel spent hundreds of hours analyzing documents in
16 an effort to narrow the scope of discovery disputes while still aggressively pursuing Lead Plaintiff's
17 discovery rights. Defendants contested production of certain responsive documents throughout the
18 Litigation, and as a result, Lead Counsel was required to engage in extensive meet-and-confer
19 discussions with Defendants' counsel concerning their discovery responses. Despite Lead Counsel's
20 diligent and largely successful efforts to arrive at a resolution of discovery disputes without
21 intervention by the Court, not every conflict could be resolved through the meet-and-confer process.

22 66. On June 7, 2017, Lead Plaintiff moved to compel the production of documents
23 responsive to two of Lead Plaintiff's requests, namely, documents requested from Imperva regarding
24 executive departures around the end of the Class Period and documents requested from Kramer
25 concerning Imperva's shift to cloud-based security. ECF No. 129. Lead Counsel thoroughly
26 researched the legal issues arising in the motion, including the expected "right to privacy" objection
27 that Defendants had previously argued in the meet-and-confer process.

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1 67. Before Defendants could oppose the motion, the Court referred the case on June 9,
2 2017, to a Magistrate Judge for discovery purposes. ECF No. 131. Pursuant to that order, on
3 June 30, 2017, the parties submitted a joint letter brief addressing the dispute regarding the two
4 document requests and requesting discovery relief. ECF No. 135.

5 68. Also on June 30, 2017, the parties submitted a second joint letter brief addressing a
6 separate dispute regarding Defendant Schmid's interrogatory seeking the identity of witnesses
7 interviewed during Lead Counsel's investigation in connection with preparing the Third Amended
8 Complaint and the information those witnesses had provided. ECF No. 136. Lead Plaintiff argued
9 that the information sought was protected work product and that Defendant Schmid had not made the
10 required showing to overcome this protection. *Id.*

11 69. The Settlement between the parties was agreed upon prior to any oral argument or
12 decision from the Court regarding these discovery disputes.

13 **E. Class Certification Briefing and Related Expert Discovery**

14 70. Lead Counsel dedicated hundreds of hours in pursuit of certifying the Litigation as a
15 Class. In addition to drafting the motion and reply briefs in support of class certification, Lead
16 Counsel: (a) thoroughly researched and considered relevant case law; (b) reviewed and considered
17 relevant documents; (c) defended the depositions of the Lead Plaintiff's and Emerald Asset's
18 designated representatives, as discussed above; (d) reviewed and analyzed the report and rebuttal
19 report of Lead Plaintiff's expert who opined on issues related to class certification; (e) reviewed and
20 analyzed the report written by Defendants' expert who opined on whether the alleged false
21 statements impacted Imperva's share price and that the damages model proposed by Lead Plaintiff's
22 expert was deficient; (f) consulted numerous times with Lead Plaintiff's expert regarding the
23 complex economic issues related to market efficiency, price impact, and damages; (g) prepared a
24 document production on behalf of Lead Plaintiff's expert; (h) prepared for and took the deposition of
25 Defendants' expert; (i) prepared for and defended against the deposition of Lead Plaintiff's expert;
26 (j) engaged in additional briefing to prevent Defendants' administrative motion for sur-reply and
27 sought leave to respond to Defendants' objection to the expert evidence proffered in the reply brief;

28

1 and (k) prepared extensively for the oral argument held on the motion. These efforts demonstrate
2 Lead Counsel's commitment to achieving the best outcome possible on behalf of the Class.

3 71. Specifically, on October 19, 2016, Lead Plaintiff moved the Court to certify the case
4 as a class action and appoint Lead Plaintiff as class representative under Rule 23. ECF No. 98. Lead
5 Plaintiff argued that: (a) the proposed class was so numerous that joinder was impracticable;
6 (b) common questions of law and fact existed and predominated over any questions affecting
7 individual class members; (c) Lead Plaintiff was typical of the proposed class; (d) Lead Plaintiff and
8 its counsel would fairly and adequately protect the interests of the proposed class; and (e) a class
9 action was the superior means to resolve the issues raised in the case.

10 72. In support of the motion for class certification, Lead Plaintiff submitted the expert
11 report of Bjorn I. Steinholt, CFA. ECF No. 98-2. Mr. Steinholt opined that the market for Imperva
12 shares was efficient, and consequently it was reasonable for investors to rely on the integrity of the
13 market prices of Imperva's common stock during the Class Period as reflecting all publicly available
14 information about the Company. *Id.* He also opined that the event study framework for calculating
15 class-wide damages could be easily applied, as in other securities fraud actions, to quantify damages
16 in this Litigation. *Id.*

17 73. Following the filing of Lead Plaintiff's opening motion, the Court entered the parties'
18 stipulation to stay further briefing on class certification while preparing for and attending the
19 mediation. ECF No. 101. Once the mediation proved unsuccessful, the Court then approved on
20 March 8, 2017, the parties' stipulation resuming a schedule to brief class certification. ECF No. 105.

21 74. On April 3, 2017, Defendants filed their opposition to Lead Plaintiff's motion for
22 class certification. ECF No. 109. First, Defendants contended that because there was purportedly
23 neither front-end nor back-end price impact on Imperva's stock price associated with the alleged
24 misstatements, Defendants had rebutted the fraud-on-the-market presumption of reliance, and
25 therefore individual proof of reliance would predominate over any class-wide issues. Second,
26 Defendants argued that Lead Plaintiff's damages model was incapable of measuring class-wide
27 damages commensurate with Lead Plaintiff's theory of liability, as required under the Supreme
28 Court's decision in *Comcast Corp. v. Behrend*, 569 U.S. 27 (2013). They contended that the fraud-

1 related reasons for the stock drop causing investors' losses had not been disaggregated from any
2 possible non-fraudulent reasons for the stock's drop. Finally, Defendants argued that Lead Plaintiff
3 could not show that it was typical of other claimants, as required under Rule 23(a), because the
4 investment decisions made by its investment manager, Emerald Asset, were subject to unique
5 defenses.

6 75. In support of their opposition, Defendants filed the expert declaration of Allan W.
7 Kleidon, Ph.D. ECF No. 111. Dr. Kleidon opined that: (a) the alleged false and misleading
8 statements did not impact Imperva's stock price; and (b) Mr. Steinholt's damages model was
9 incapable of measuring, on a class-wide basis, those damages solely attributable to the alleged fraud.

10 76. To better understand the basis for Dr. Kleidon's opinion, Lead Plaintiff took
11 Dr. Kleidon's full-day deposition on April 26, 2017, in San Francisco, California. This deposition
12 required considerable preparation on the part of Lead Counsel to understand, with the consultation of
13 Mr. Steinholt, the complex economic analyses and opinions at issue.

14 77. On May 3, 2017, Lead Plaintiff filed its reply in support of its motion for class
15 certification. ECF No. 116. Lead Plaintiff argued that not atypical of other class members, once the
16 fraud was revealed and the artificial inflation came out of Imperva's stock price, it had reinvested in
17 Imperva. Therefore, the requirements of Rule 23(a) were met. Likewise, the requirements of Rule
18 23(b) were met since Defendants had failed to rebut the presumption of reliance as they could not
19 show that the alleged fraud had no price impact on Imperva's share price. Finally, Lead Plaintiff
20 argued that matching the disclosure causing the stock drop to the alleged misstatements was not
21 required in a damages model satisfying *Comcast*.

22 78. Lead Plaintiff's reply included the expert declaration of Mr. Steinholt to rebut
23 Dr. Kleidon's opinions. ECF No. 116-4. Steinholt argued, *inter alia*, that: (a) the event study
24 framework can be used to calculate class-wide damages; (b) the event-study framework can quantify
25 damages even if there is confounding company-specific information; and (c) Dr. Kleidon's analysis
26 failed to demonstrate evidence that the alleged false and misleading statements did not impact the
27 price of Imperva's stock.

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1 79. On May 5, 2017, Defendants deposed Mr. Steinholt. Lead Counsel met with
2 Mr. Steinholt to prepare for the deposition and also defended the deposition. Lead Counsel also
3 prepared the objections and responses to the subpoena served on Mr. Steinholt dated April 19, 2017,
4 and produced almost 900 pages of documents in advance of the deposition.

5 80. On May 10, 2017, Defendants filed a motion for leave to file a sur-reply in further
6 opposition to Lead Plaintiff's class certification motion. ECF No. 120. Defendants argued that Lead
7 Plaintiff had advanced new arguments in its reply and in Mr. Steinholt's rebuttal report. On May 15,
8 2017, Lead Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion for leave to file a sur-reply. ECF No. 122. Lead
9 Plaintiff argued that its reply in support of class certification was properly limited to arguments made
10 in Defendants' opposition to class certification. Having further consulted with Mr. Steinholt
11 regarding Defendants' contentions in their proposed sur-reply and the propriety of the evidence
12 proffered in his rebuttal report, Lead Plaintiff also filed an administrative motion for leave to
13 respond to Defendants' objections to the rebuttal report. ECF No. 121.

14 81. On May 24, 2017, the Court heard oral argument on Lead Plaintiff's class
15 certification motion. ECF No. 123. The Court's decision regarding class certification was thus
16 pending, and could have come at any time. Despite all the effort put toward certifying the Class,
17 Lead Counsel and Lead Plaintiff recognized that, as discussed further below, a decision in Lead
18 Plaintiff's favor was by no means guaranteed. This risk was carefully considered by Lead Counsel
19 and Lead Plaintiff when assessing the possibility of a settlement.

20 **F. Experts and Consultants**

21 82. Lead Counsel utilized the services of investigators and experts to assist Lead Plaintiff
22 in prosecuting the Litigation. Investigators conducted research and interviewed witnesses, which
23 assisted Lead Counsel in preparing the Third Amended Complaint's allegations and developing
24 relevant evidence. Analyses by experts assisted Lead Counsel in developing evidence supporting its
25 motion for class certification and on issues relating to damages and loss causation. Lead Counsel
26 had also consulted experts concerning database security technology and the industry, as well as the
27 customer management application Imperva used to monitor its sales.

28

1 **1. Bjorn I. Steinholt**

2 83. Lead Plaintiff retained Mr. Steinholt, an economist who has acted as a financial
3 consultant in over 50 cases, to research, analyze, and provide expert opinions on issues relating to
4 market efficiency, damages, and loss causation. He is a Managing Director at Caliber Advisors, Inc.
5 (Tasta Group), a full-service valuation and economic consulting firm with offices in San Diego,
6 California; Chicago, Illinois; and Washington D.C. He has more than 25 years of experience
7 providing capital markets consulting, including analyzing and valuing investments. Over the past 10
8 years, he has been retained on numerous occasions to provide expert opinions relating to materiality,
9 loss causation, and damages in securities class actions similar to this Litigation. He has provided
10 frequent opinions analyzing market efficiency and submitted numerous reports to federal courts that
11 outline his findings.

12 84. Lead Plaintiff utilized Mr. Steinholt's opinion on market efficiency and the ability to
13 determine class-wide damages to support its motion for class certification and in reply to
14 Defendants' opposition thereto. Mr. Steinholt based his opinions on his considerable professional
15 knowledge and experience, as well as an examination of voluminous pages of documents, which
16 included: (a) the Third Amended Complaint; (b) the Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part the
17 Motion to Dismiss; (c) Imperva's public filings with the SEC; (d) Company press releases and
18 conference call transcripts; (e) securities analyst reports regarding Imperva and its industry;
19 (f) contemporaneous media reports regarding Imperva and its industry from *Bloomberg*; (g) price
20 and volume data for Imperva common stock, and other market and industry indices; (h) Imperva
21 common stock ownership by reporting institutions during the Class Period; and (i) scholarly articles,
22 court decisions, and other relevant information. This information, and an event study constructed by
23 Mr. Steinholt, formed the basis of his opinion that the market in which Imperva common stock
24 traded throughout the Class Period was impersonal, open, well-developed, and efficient in that the
25 market prices quickly responded to incorporate and reflect new, material information as it became
26 available.

27 85. Mr. Steinholt also met several times with Lead Counsel to discuss his opinions related
28 to class certification and to prepare for his deposition. In addition, Lead Counsel consulted with

1 Mr. Steinholt on numerous occasions on the issues of loss causation and damages. His analyses
2 helped inform theories to pursue in discovery, alternative calculations of damages given factual
3 proof, and the strengths and weaknesses of the parties' positions on these two elements. These
4 analyses assisted Lead Plaintiff in negotiating an appropriate settlement. In addition, Mr. Steinholt
5 assisted with the development of the Plan of Allocation, which governs how claims will be
6 calculated and is based on the statutory provisions of the Exchange Act. Mr. Steinholt's services in
7 these proceedings were critical and contributed materially to the benefits achieved for the Class.

8 **2. Other Experts**

9 86. Lead Plaintiff also retained the consulting services of professionals in data security
10 technology and customer relationship management. Because the Third Amended Complaint
11 involved false and misleading statements regarding Imperva's technical capabilities, Lead Counsel
12 consulted with Pugent Sound Technology to assist in Lead Counsel's understanding of the data
13 security products relevant to the case. In addition, because Lead Plaintiff alleged that certain
14 statements regarding Imperva's win ratio against IBM were false and misleading, it was important to
15 understand the way in which Defendants tracked sales opportunities and results. Because
16 Defendants used a customer relationship management ("CRM") application offered by
17 Salesforce.com to monitor potential deals, Lead Counsel consulted with SalesLogistix, a specialist in
18 Salesforce.com, to better understand the purported bases for Defendants' statements.

19 **3. Investigators**

20 87. Lead Plaintiff retained the services of independent private investigators at
21 L.R. Hodges & Associates, Ltd. to identify, locate, and contact former Imperva employees. These
22 investigators were able to contact and interview multiple former Imperva employees to ascertain
23 information relating to the claims alleged in this Litigation. Information ascertained in the
24 investigators' interviews with these former Imperva employees assisted Lead Plaintiff in forming the
25 allegations in the Third Amended Complaint and to assemble proof of Lead Plaintiff's claims.

26 **IV. THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE CASE**

27 88. After over three years of litigation, entailing multiple complaints, extensive motion
28 practice, including motions to dismiss and for class certification, in-depth analysis of a voluminous

1 document production, a comprehensive mediation statement, taking or defending several
2 depositions, and assembling evidence for further depositions, expert reports, and anticipated
3 summary judgment motions, Lead Counsel believes that it has a thorough understanding of the
4 strengths and weaknesses of its claims in the Litigation. Although Lead Counsel expected further
5 discovery would uncover additional evidence supporting the Third Amended Complaint's claims,
6 Lead Counsel also realized that considerable risks existed as the case proceeded, including the
7 possibility that the Class would recover nothing. Lead Counsel and Lead Plaintiff carefully
8 considered the risks during the mediation, discovery process, and class certification briefing,
9 evaluating whether a settlement was in the best interests of the Class.

10 89. With class certification fully briefed and both sides awaiting a decision by the Court,
11 overcoming this hurdle was the most immediate and critical next step for Lead Plaintiff. While Lead
12 Counsel was confident that all of Rule 23's elements were met and the Class would be certified,
13 Defendants' arguments to the contrary created significant uncertainty as to whether the Litigation
14 would go forward as a class action. Specifically, success at this stage would have required the Court
15 to reject Defendants' argument that because the disclosure at the end of the Class Period did not
16 directly correct the alleged false statements regarding Imperva's win rate over IBM, Lead Plaintiff
17 could neither show back-end price impact nor establish a viable damages model. Were these
18 arguments to be found persuasive, the Court could have found that Lead Plaintiff had not established
19 that class-wide issues predominated over individual issues and denied the motion. Moreover, given
20 the still-developing law regarding defendants' burden to show an absence of price impact at class
21 certification, there was a real risk that even had the Court granted the class certification motion,
22 Defendants would have attempted to appeal the decision for Ninth Circuit consideration.

23 90. Likewise, even if certified as a Class, there would always be the risk that the Court
24 might not maintain this Litigation, or particular claims, on a class-wide basis through trial. This risk
25 is exacerbated by the fact that adverse factual developments that might frustrate the continued
26 maintenance of a class action or intervening changes in the law that could have the same
27 consequence, are, by their very nature, unpredictable. Thus, while Lead Counsel believes that it
28

1 could have maintained certification through trial, it recognized the risk that certification could be
2 reviewed or modified.

3 91. Besides overcoming the class certification hurdle, Lead Plaintiff faced significant
4 risks to establishing liability, especially considering that the case had been substantially narrowed
5 following the dismissal of Mr. Kramer as a §10(b) defendant as well as the dismissal of many
6 statements, including Imperva's 1Q14 guidance. Had the Litigation continued, Defendants may
7 have been successful in obtaining evidence to show that Defendants' remaining statements regarding
8 its win rates against IBM were immaterial to investors' decisions to purchase Imperva stock.
9 Depending on the evidence uncovered in the remainder of discovery, Lead Plaintiff may have also
10 faced the argument that while the alleged misstatements regarding Imperva's dominance over IBM
11 were potentially misleading, they were not literally false if only considering the number of deals,
12 regardless of their size in dollar amount. The false statements also gave rise to a technical defense
13 possibly requiring Lead Plaintiff to prove that a deal was truly lost to IBM in "head to head"
14 competition, as opposed to competing with a number of competitors that included IBM or IBM
15 simply retaining a client. Determining deal by deal whether it was "won" or "lost" so as to prove the
16 falsity of the alleged misstatements would have been a difficult and contested exercise, highly
17 dependent on contextual factors put to the jury. Moreover, as Defendants repeatedly contended, the
18 alleged false statements were made against a backdrop of quarter after quarter of financial growth for
19 Imperva, with only one quarter – the last quarter of the Class Period – suffering missed earnings
20 because of customer orders that Defendants claimed were merely delayed rather than lost to IBM.
21 Lead Plaintiff faced significant risk that the Court, on summary judgment, or the jury, at trial, could
22 find convincing Defendants' argument that the last quarter of the Class Period was a mere blip in
23 Imperva's growth, rather than the fraud alleged.

24 92. Proving scienter would be equally difficult since a defendant's state of mind in a
25 securities case is often the most difficult element of proof and one which is rarely supported by
26 direct evidence or an admission. Here, there was no admission of wrongdoing for Lead Plaintiff to
27 rely on nor even an external investigation by the government to point to, as is often the case in
28 securities fraud litigation. Thus, it was quite possible that Lead Plaintiff would depose all

1 Defendants and others with knowledge about the facts, and yet obtain insufficient evidence to satisfy
2 its burden of proof on this element at trial. Despite the evidence Lead Plaintiff had amassed to show
3 the Individual Defendants’ day-to-day, hands-on involvement in the business, pinpointing when the
4 Individual Defendants knew about Imperva’s inability to win four out of five deals over IBM could
5 be contingent on inexact recordkeeping and varying standards for counting a deal “lost” rather than
6 “delayed.” Moreover, though Lead Plaintiff intended to point to Defendant Kramer’s sale of
7 Imperva shares before the stock drop as evidence of scienter, since Kramer continued to hold the
8 majority of his Imperva shares, Defendants claimed any motive to commit fraud was negated. And,
9 whether the facts demonstrating Kramer’s scienter would have any weight in finding Imperva’s
10 scienter was questionable given Kramer’s dismissal at the motion to dismiss. Clearly, the question
11 of scienter was not without risk to Lead Plaintiff.

12 93. Establishing loss causation would also be challenging. The corrective disclosure did
13 not specifically correct the statements regarding Imperva’s win rate over IBM, and, in fact,
14 maintained that win rates “remained consistent.” While Lead Plaintiff intended to present evidence
15 that the earnings miss was the result and, therefore, tacit recognition of Imperva’s inability to beat
16 IBM four out of five times, Defendants were likely to develop evidence that confounding factors –
17 such as customer delays and sales execution challenges – caused Imperva’s earnings miss and stock
18 price decline at the end of the Class Period. Defendants also argued that even if the disclosure
19 regarding “intensifying competition” could be connected to IBM, Lead Plaintiff would not be able to
20 disaggregate the minimal decline regarding that disclosure, if any, from the disclosures attributable
21 to Imperva’s earnings miss and its failure to hold an analyst conference call following the
22 announcement. Taking into consideration the challenges Defendants’ arguments and evidence
23 would bring to Lead Plaintiff’s ability to prove each element of securities fraud, Lead Plaintiff
24 determined that an outcome bringing certain, immediate relief to the Class with this Settlement was
25 in the best interest of the Class.

26 94. Likewise, whether Lead Plaintiff’s experts would survive *Daubert* challenges –
27 particularly those experts who are necessary to prove elements of the Third Amended Complaint’s
28 claims, such as loss causation or damages – also is a risk that Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel

1 considered. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel also recognized that Defendants would present expert
2 testimony purportedly demonstrating the absence of a causal link between the stock price decline
3 and the disclosure at the end of the Class Period, as well as an expert to challenge Lead Plaintiff's
4 damages assessment. The resulting "battle of the experts" would not only be costly, even at
5 summary judgment, but could, had the Litigation been taken to trial, result in confusion to a jury
6 tasked with evaluating complicated and competing expert testimony. The reaction of a jury to
7 competing expert testimony is highly unpredictable, and Lead Counsel recognizes the possibility that
8 a jury could be swayed by Defendants' expert testimony and find that there were no damages or only
9 a fraction of the amount of damages Lead Plaintiff contended were suffered by the Class. Thus, the
10 amount of damages that would actually be recovered at trial even if successful on liability issues was
11 uncertain.

12 95. For the Class to ultimately prevail on its claims, it would have to survive Defendants'
13 inevitable motion – or even motions – for summary judgment. Summary judgment would pose a
14 number of risks to the Class. Defendants, just like Lead Plaintiff, would present their strongest
15 evidence to the Court. Lead Plaintiff would have to demonstrate to the Court that a genuine issue of
16 material fact existed with regard to each element of its securities claims. Defendants would
17 undoubtedly bolster their motion for summary judgment with any exculpatory evidence that arose
18 during merits discovery. The time, expense, and uncertainty of continuing to prosecute this
19 Litigation through trial, then, supported the conclusion that the Settlement provided a fair and
20 reasonable outcome for the Class.

21 96. Given the complex and multifaceted nature of the issues, trying this Litigation before
22 a jury would be extremely complex, unpredictable, and could take weeks to complete. A successful
23 jury verdict would likely simply result in Defendants filing post-trial motions and appeals to limit or
24 overturn the verdict. The post-trial motion and appeals process would likely span several years,
25 during which time the Class would receive no payment. In addition, an appeal of any verdict would
26 carry with it the risk of reversal, in which case the Class would receive nothing despite having
27 prevailed at trial.

28

1 97. In summary, there were several significant risks involved in proceeding further in this
2 Litigation, each of which was carefully considered by Lead Counsel in consultation with Lead
3 Plaintiff, in making the determination to settle on the agreed terms. After a careful assessment of
4 these risks, the evidence, and the circumstances of the case, it is Lead Counsel's belief that the
5 Settlement is in the best interest of Lead Plaintiff and the Class.

6 **V. SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AND TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT**

7 98. During the course of the Litigation, the parties agreed to mediate before Judge
8 Phillips and participated in a full-day mediation session in Oakland, California on February 16,
9 2017. *See III.C, supra.* Lead Plaintiff submitted a detailed mediation statement and addressed the
10 merits of its case, but the mediation ultimately ended without a resolution. In June 2017, Judge
11 Phillips issued a mediator's recommendation in an effort to help the parties resolve the matter and
12 settle the Litigation. After additional months of discovery and fully briefing class certification, the
13 parties finally reached this Settlement on July 5, 2017, by accepting the mediator's recommendation
14 in the amount of the Settlement.

15 99. Lead Counsel is actively engaged in complex federal civil litigation, particularly the
16 litigation of securities class actions. Our experience in the field allowed us to identify the complex
17 issues involved in this case and to formulate strategies to effectively prosecute them. We believe
18 that our reputations as attorneys who will zealously carry a meritorious case through to trial and
19 appeals, as well as our demonstrated ability to vigorously develop the evidence in this case, placed
20 us in a strong position in settlement negotiations with the Defendants.

21 100. Upon approval of the Stipulation by the Court and entry of a judgment that becomes a
22 final judgment, and upon satisfaction of the other conditions to the Settlement, the Settlement Fund
23 will pay for certain administrative expenses, including: (a) notice and administration expenses;
24 (b) taxes assessed against the income earned on the Settlement Fund and related tax expenses; and
25 (c) Lead Counsel's fees and litigation expenses and the costs and expenses of Lead Plaintiff, to the
26 extent awarded by the Court. The balance of the Settlement Fund (the "Net Settlement Fund") will
27 be distributed to Class Members who submit valid Proof of Claim and Release forms according to
28 the Plan of Allocation.

1 **VI. THE SETTLEMENT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CLASS AND**
2 **WARRANTS APPROVAL**

3 101. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe that they could have prevailed on the merits
4 of the case. Defendants, however, were just as adamant that the claims would fail. There was also a
5 very real risk, as discussed in detail above, that Lead Plaintiff and the Class would not prevail at
6 summary judgment or trial. Had the Litigation successfully reached trial, the Class faced the risk
7 that the jury would not be convinced that Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions were
8 misleading, were material, that they should have been disclosed, that they were made with the
9 requisite intent, or that they caused investors' losses. There was also the risk that the jury would
10 reduce the damages award for the reasons described above. And, even if the Class prevailed at trial,
11 Defendants would likely appeal, which would take years to resolve and would carry the risk of
12 reversal.

13 102. Having considered all of the foregoing and evaluated Defendants' defenses, it is the
14 informed judgment of Lead Counsel, based on all proceedings to date and its extensive experience in
15 litigating class actions under the federal securities laws, that the Settlement of this matter upon a
16 payment of \$19 million in exchange for a mutual release of all claims, and on the other terms set
17 forth in the Stipulation, is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. Lead
18 Plaintiff which, among other things, actively monitored the Litigation, reviewed the pleadings,
19 consulted with Lead Counsel, produced documents, and sat for a deposition in connection with class
20 certification, was kept well-apprised of the settlement negotiations and also agreed that the
21 Settlement is in the best interest of the Class. *See* O'Lone Decl., ¶¶3-6.

22 **VII. THE COURT'S NOTICE ORDER**

23 103. Pursuant to this Court's October 11, 2017 Notice Order, ECF No. 147, the Court-
24 approved Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action (the "Notice") was mailed to
25 all Class Members who could be identified with reasonable effort commencing on October 23, 2017,
26 and a Summary Notice was published in the national edition of *The Wall Street Journal* and over the
27 *Business Wire* on November 6, 2017. The Notice advised the Class of the terms of the Settlement,
28 Plan of Allocation, and the fee and expense application, as well as their settlement options, including

1 the procedure for objecting to any aspect of the Settlement. While the time to file objections,
2 January 3, 2018, has not passed, to date, Lead Counsel is not aware of any Class Member filing an
3 objection to the Settlement, Plan of Allocation, or request for an award of attorneys' fees and
4 expenses. Lead Plaintiff will respond to any objections on or before January 17, 2018.

5 **VIII. THE PLAN OF ALLOCATION**

6 104. The Net Settlement Fund will be distributed to Class Members who, in accordance
7 with the terms of the Stipulation, are entitled to a distribution and who submit a valid and timely
8 Proof of Claim and Release form. Class Members' claims will be calculated under the Plan of
9 Allocation set forth in the Notice mailed to Class Members, if the plan is approved by the Court.
10 The Plan of Allocation, which was prepared in consultation with Mr. Steinholt, is based on Lead
11 Plaintiff's damages theory and includes the proposed plan for allocating the Net Settlement Fund
12 among eligible Class Members. The Plan of Allocation provides that a Class Member will be
13 eligible to participate in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund only if the Class Member has an
14 overall net loss on all of his, her, or its transactions in Imperva securities during the Class Period and
15 the Class Member would receive at least \$10.00.

16 **IX. LEAD COUNSEL'S APPLICATION FOR AN AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' 17 FEES AND EXPENSES IS REASONABLE UNDER THE RELEVANT 18 FACTORS**

19 105. The successful prosecution of this action required Lead Counsel and its
20 paraprofessionals to perform 8,411.70 hours of work and incur \$346,800.96 in litigation expenses, as
21 detailed in the accompanying Declaration of Douglas R. Britton Filed on Behalf of Robbins Geller
22 Rudman & Dowd LLP in Support of Application for Award of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses
23 ("Robbins Geller Decl."). Based on the extensive efforts on behalf of the Class, as described above,
24 Lead Counsel is applying for compensation from the Settlement Fund on a percentage basis, and
25 requests a fee in the amount of 25% of the Settlement Amount, plus interest.

26 106. The percentage-of-the-fund method is the appropriate method of compensating
27 counsel in PSLRA class actions because, among other things, it aligns the lawyers' interest in being
28 paid a fair fee with the interest of the class in achieving the maximum recovery in the shortest
amount of time under the circumstances. As set forth in the accompanying memorandum in support

1 of Lead Counsel’s application for an award of attorneys’ fees and expenses, numerous courts have
2 applied the percentage-of-the-fund method in awarding fees and doing so is consistent with §201 of
3 the PSLRA. *See* 15 U.S.C. §78u-4(a)(6). In light of the nature and extent of the Litigation, its
4 diligent prosecution, the complexity of the factual and legal issues presented, and the other factors
5 described above and in the accompanying application for attorneys’ fees and expenses, Lead
6 Counsel believes that the requested fee of 25% of the Settlement Amount, plus interest, is fair and
7 reasonable.

8 107. A 25% fee award is consistent with the Ninth Circuit benchmark percentage awarded
9 by courts in this District and around the country. It is also justified by the specific facts and
10 circumstances in this case and the substantial risks that Lead Counsel faced in successfully
11 prosecuting this Litigation.

12 **A. The Requested Fee Is Supported by the Lead Plaintiff**

13 108. Lead Plaintiff actively monitored the Litigation and consulted with Lead Counsel
14 during the course of settlement negotiations. Lead Plaintiff spent considerable time and effort
15 fulfilling its duties and responsibilities as Lead Plaintiff, including reviewing various pleadings and
16 other documents, collecting materials produced in discovery, verifying information in
17 interrogatories, providing deposition testimony, participating in discussions with Lead Counsel
18 regarding significant developments in the Litigation, and keeping informed about the scheduling and
19 progress of mediation. Lead Plaintiff supports Lead Counsel’s request for a fee of 25% of the
20 Settlement Amount, which favors granting the requested fee award. *See* O’Lone Decl., ¶5.

21 109. Likewise, the reaction of the rest of the Class to the Settlement supports the requested
22 fee. As of this filing, no known objectors have come forward.

23 **B. The Requested Fee Is Supported by the Effort Expended and Results
24 Achieved**

25 110. As set forth herein, the \$19 million cash Settlement is a substantial and certain award
26 for the Class, achieved as a result of extensive prosecutorial and investigative efforts, complicated
27
28

1 motion practice, contentious discovery disputes, analysis of voluminous evidence, and the successful
2 procurement and defending of deposition testimony, as detailed herein.⁵

3 111. This successful result was largely due to the persistent efforts of Lead Counsel, a
4 nationally recognized leader in litigating securities class actions and complex litigation. Lead
5 Counsel is comprised of highly experienced and specialized professionals able and willing to
6 prosecute even the most difficult cases through to trial and any subsequent deals.

7 112. Nevertheless, as discussed in greater detail above, this case was fraught with
8 significant risk factors concerning liability and damages. Opposing Lead Counsel were extremely
9 skilled and respected defense attorneys from Fenwick & West LLP, a highly reputable firm known
10 for its talented and forceful advocacy in complex litigation. Thus, Lead Plaintiff's success was by
11 no means assured. Defendants disputed whether the alleged misrepresentations and omissions were
12 even actionable, whether Defendants made the misrepresentation and omissions with the requisite
13 intent, and whether the fraud caused investors any losses. Defendants also vigorously disputed
14 whether the action should be certified as a class. Were this Settlement not achieved, lengthy and
15 expensive litigation would have continued, including further fact depositions, expert discovery,
16 summary judgment briefing, trial, and any appeals therefrom, with ultimate success far from certain.

17 113. As a result of this Settlement, thousands of Class Members will benefit and receive
18 compensation for their losses and avoid the very substantial risk of no recovery in the absence of a
19 settlement. These factors also support Lead Counsel's request for 25% of the Settlement Amount.

20 **C. The Complexity of This Action's Factual and Legal Questions**
21 **Supports the Requested Fee Award**

22 114. From the outset, this action was an especially difficult and highly uncertain securities
23 case, with no assurance whatsoever that the Litigation would survive Defendants' attacks on the

24 ⁵ The \$19 million Settlement represents approximately 8.3% of the Class' maximum estimated
25 damages of \$228 million after trial. The total recovery rate would increase to nearly 12% had the
26 Court accepted Defendants' argument opposing Lead Plaintiff's motion for class certification that
27 "the earliest potential date to consider for commencing any class period is November 20, 2013, when
28 "under *Halliburton II*, the win rate statement made on May 21 (as well as those made on December
10, 2013 and March 5, 2014) had no price impact, and therefore is not subject to class treatment."
ECF No. 109 at 2.

1 pleadings, motions for summary judgment, trial, and appeal. As described above, the Litigation
2 presented a number of sharply contested issues of both fact and law, and Lead Plaintiff faced
3 formidable defenses to liability and damages. Although Lead Plaintiff's suit ultimately survived
4 Defendants' motions to dismiss, it was narrowed substantially and very difficult issues remained at
5 class certification and as to key elements of the remaining securities fraud claims. The substantial
6 risks and uncertainties made it far from certain that any recovery, let alone \$19 million, would
7 ultimately be obtained.

8 **D. The Risk of Contingent Class Action Litigation Supports the**
9 **Requested Fee Award**

10 115. As set forth in the accompanying application for attorneys' fees and expenses, a
11 determination of a fair fee should include consideration of the contingent nature of the fee, the
12 financial burden carried by Lead Counsel, and the difficulties that were overcome in obtaining the
13 Settlement.

14 116. This action was prosecuted by Lead Counsel on a contingent fee basis. Lead Counsel
15 committed over 8,400 hours of attorney and paraprofessional time and incurred \$346,800.96 in
16 expenses in prosecuting the Litigation, as set forth in the accompanying Robbins Geller Declaration.
17 Lead Counsel fully assumed the risk of an unsuccessful result. Lead Counsel has received no
18 compensation for its services during the course of this Litigation and has incurred very significant
19 expenses in litigating for the benefit of the Class. Any fees or expenses awarded to Lead Counsel
20 have always been at risk and are completely contingent on the result achieved. Because the fee to be
21 awarded in this matter is entirely contingent, the only certainty from the outset was that there would
22 be no fee without a successful result, and that such a result would be realized only after a lengthy
23 and difficult effort.

24 117. At the same time, Lead Counsel was faced at every step with determined opposition.
25 Under these circumstances, Lead Counsel is justly entitled to the award of a reasonable percentage
26 fee based on the common fund obtained for the Class. A 25% fee, plus expenses, is fair and
27 reasonable under the circumstances present here.
28

1 118. There are numerous cases, including many handled by our firm, where class counsel
2 in contingent fee cases such as this, after expenditure of thousands of hours of time and incurring
3 significant costs, have received no compensation whatsoever. Class counsel who litigate cases in
4 good faith and receive no fees whatsoever are often the most diligent members of the plaintiffs' bar.
5 The fact that defendants and their counsel know that the leading members of the plaintiffs' bar are
6 able to, and will, go to trial even in high-risk cases like this one gives rise to meaningful settlements
7 in actions such as this. The losses suffered by class counsel in other actions where insubstantial
8 settlement offers were rejected, and where class counsel ultimately received little or no fee, should
9 not be ignored. Lead Counsel knows from personal experience that despite the most vigorous and
10 competent of efforts, attorneys' success in contingent litigation is never assured. For example, in *In*
11 *re Oracle Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No C 01-00988 SI, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 50995 (N.D. Cal. June 16,
12 2009), *aff'd*, 627 F.3d 376 (9th Cir. 2010), a case that Lead Counsel prosecuted, the court granted
13 summary judgment to defendants after eight years of litigation, and after plaintiff's counsel incurred
14 over \$6 million in expenses, and worked over 100,000 hours, representing a lodestar of more than
15 \$30 million.

16 119. Lawsuits like this one are expensive to litigate. Those unfamiliar with the efforts
17 required to litigate class actions often focus on the aggregate fees awarded at the end but ignore the
18 fact that those fees fund enormous overhead expenses incurred during the course of many years of
19 litigation, are taxed by federal and state authorities, are used to fund the expenses of other contingent
20 cases prosecuted by class counsel, and help pay the salaries of the firms' attorneys and staff.

21 120. As discussed in greater detail above, this case was fraught with significant risk factors
22 concerning liability and damages. Lead Plaintiff's success was by no means assured. Defendants
23 disputed whether Lead Plaintiff could even establish liability and would no doubt contend, as the
24 case proceeded to trial, that even if liability existed, the amount of damages was substantially lower
25 than Lead Plaintiff claimed. Were this Settlement not achieved, and even if Lead Plaintiff prevailed
26 at trial, Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel faced potentially years of costly and risky appellate
27 litigation. It is also possible that a jury could have found no liability or no damages. Lead Counsel
28

1 therefore believes that based upon the substantial risk factors present that an award of attorneys' fees
2 of 25% of the Settlement Amount is reasonable.

3 **X. CONCLUSION**

4 121. For all the foregoing reasons, Lead Counsel respectfully requests that the Court
5 approve the Settlement and the Plan of Allocation, award Lead Counsel fees of 25% of the
6 Settlement Amount and its litigation expenses of \$346,800.96, plus interest on both amounts at the
7 same rate and for the same period as that earned on the Settlement Fund until paid, and approve the
8 award of \$10,960.00 to Lead Plaintiff under 15 U.S.C. §78u-4(a)(4).

9 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the
10 foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 20th day of December, 2017, at San Diego, California.

11
12 s/ Douglas R. Britton
DOUGLAS R. BRITTON

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on December 20, 2017, I authorized the electronic filing of the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the e-mail addresses denoted on the attached Electronic Mail Notice List, and I hereby certify that I caused to be mailed the foregoing document or paper via the United States Postal Service to the non-CM/ECF participants indicated on the attached Manual Notice List.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on December 20, 2017.

s/ Douglas R. Britton
DOUGLAS R. BRITTON

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Mailing Information for a Case 4:14-cv-01680-PJH Shankar v. Imperva, Inc. et al

Electronic Mail Notice List

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Manual Notice List

The following is the list of attorneys who are **not** on the list to receive e-mail notices for this case (who therefore require manual noticing). You may wish to use your mouse to select and copy this list into your word processing program in order to create notices or labels for these recipients.

- (No manual recipients)