



If You Are a Washington Consumer Who Bought a Television or Monitor Between March 1, 1995 and November 25, 2007 That Contained a Cathode Ray Tube

You May Be Eligible to Participate in a Settlement.

- The Washington State Attorney General authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer. Please read this Notice carefully, as it explains whether you are eligible to submit a claim for payment from the Settlement Fund.
- On behalf of Washington governmental entities and as *parens patriae* on behalf of Washington consumers, the Washington State Attorney General brought an antitrust lawsuit involving the price of cathode ray tubes (“CRTs”). The complaint alleged that the Defendants participated in an unlawful conspiracy to fix, raise, maintain, or stabilize prices of CRTs, resulting in damages to consumers who bought televisions and computer monitors containing a CRT component part.
- The Washington State Attorney General reached settlements with the seven CRT manufacturers named as Defendants in the lawsuit for a total settlement of over \$39 million. The Defendants did not admit to the allegations in the complaint, but agreed to the settlement terms.
- The settlement benefits Washington consumers (individuals and businesses) and Washington governmental entities that purchased one or more CRT monitor(s) or CRT television(s) (1) from a retailer (or someone other than the manufacturer of the CRT component part) and (2) for their own use and not for resale.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS	
SUBMIT A CLAIM	If you submit a claim by May 16, 2019, you may be eligible to receive a payment.
DO NOTHING	If you do nothing, you will not receive any payment from this Settlement Fund.

Basic Information

1. What is this Notice about?

This Notice is to inform you about the settlement of litigation and the creation of a Settlement Fund to benefit Washington business and individual consumers and Washington governmental entities.

2. What is this lawsuit about?

The Washington State Attorney General alleged that the named CRT manufacturers participated in cartel meetings in which they allegedly exchanged price information and agreed to fix CRT prices and manipulate the supply to artificially increase prices. The complaint alleged that the conduct of the Defendant manufacturers resulted in overcharges to Washington consumers who bought televisions and monitors containing CRTs.

The Defendants agreed to settle the lawsuit without admitting to the allegations in the complaint.

The settlement is on behalf of Washington governmental entities and Washington individual and business consumers who purchased CRT televisions and CRT monitors from a retailer (or someone other than the company that manufactured the CRT component part).

The Court in charge was the King County Superior Court, Washington. The case is called *State of Washington v. LG Electronics, Inc., et al.*, No. 12-2-15842-8 SEA. The State of Washington is the Plaintiff in this action, and the companies it sued are the Defendants (*see* Question 6).

3. What is a CRT?

A CRT is a vacuum tube that was used to display images in televisions and computer monitors. Before LCD, Plasma, and LED display technologies became popular, CRTs were the main technology used in these devices.

4. What is *parens patriae* authority?

The doctrine of *parens patriae* allows the Washington State Attorney General to bring a lawsuit under the antitrust laws on behalf of the citizens of the State of Washington to recover damages. The Washington State Attorney General may also seek injunctive relief and civil penalties.

5. How do I know if I may recover damages in the Washington State Attorney General's *parens patriae* action?

Washington consumers: The Washington State Attorney General reached a settlement on behalf of Washington consumers. You are eligible to participate in the settlement if you or your business:

- purchased a CRT monitor or CRT television between March 1, 1995 and November 25, 2007; and
- resided or had headquarters in Washington at the time of purchase; and
- purchased the CRT monitor or CRT television from a retailer (or someone other than the manufacturer of the CRT component part); and
- purchased the CRT monitor or CRT television for your own use and not for resale.

6. Who are the Defendant companies?

The Defendants are the following manufacturers and/or suppliers of CRTs:

- Chunghwa (Chunghwa Picture Tubes, Ltd.);
- Hitachi (Hitachi, Ltd., Japan Displays, Inc. *f/k/a* Hitachi Displays, Ltd., Hitachi Electronics Devices (USA), Inc., Hitachi America, Ltd., Hitachi Asia, Ltd.);
- LG (LG Electronics Inc.);
- Panasonic (Panasonic Corp., Panasonic Corp. of North America, MT Picture Display, Ltd.);
- Philips (Philips North America LLC *f/k/a* Philips North America Electronics Corporation, Koninklijke Philips N.V., Philips Taiwan Limited *f/k/a* Philips Electronics Industries (Taiwan), Ltd.);
- Samsung (Samsung SDI Co., Ltd. *f/k/a* Samsung Display Device Co., Ltd., Samsung SDI America, Inc., Samsung SDI Mexico S.A. de C.V., Samsung SDI Brasil Ltda., Shenzhen Samsung SDI Co., Ltd., Tianjin Samsung SDI Co. Ltd., Samsung SDI (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.);
- Toshiba (Toshiba Corp., Toshiba America Electronic Components, Inc.).

Settlement Information

7. What do the settlements provide?

There are seven settlements, totaling over \$39 million:

- **Chunghwa** will pay \$125,000 into the Settlement Fund;
- **Hitachi** will pay \$275,000 into the Settlement Fund;
- **LG** will pay \$1,500,000 into the Settlement Fund;
- **Panasonic** will pay \$450,000 into the Settlement Fund;
- **Philips** will pay \$7,000,000 into the Settlement Fund;
- **Samsung** will pay \$29,000,000 into the Settlement Fund;
- **Toshiba** will pay \$1,300,000 into the Settlement Fund.

Any interest earned will be added to the Settlement Fund. The cost to administer the settlements as well as the Washington State Attorney General's attorney fees and costs will come out of the Settlement Fund.

A fixed portion of the Settlement Fund will be distributed to the state governmental entities that participated in the lawsuit. Claims from individual and business consumers will be paid out of the remainder of the Settlement Fund.

8. How much money will I get?

The amount you or your business could expect to receive will vary depending on the number of CRT television(s) and/or CRT monitor(s) purchased, up to a maximum of \$20 per CRT monitor and \$6 per CRT television.

However, your recovery could be a smaller amount than the maximum because there is a limited amount of money in the Settlement Fund. The amount paid per CRT television and CRT monitor and the number of claims allowed per consumer will depend on the number of claims submitted. It is also possible that all or a portion of the fund will be distributed to charities, governmental entities, or other beneficiaries depending on the number of claims submitted.

In order to receive a payment, you will need to file a valid claim by May 16, 2019. The Claim Form provides additional details on how to submit a claim. Further information is available at www.crtsettlement.atg.wa.gov or by calling 1-800-332-9084.

9. When will I get a payment?

As soon as possible after the payment period closes on May 16, 2019.

How to Get a Payment

10. How can I get a payment?

If you meet the requirements described in Question 5 and you want to participate in the settlements, you must complete and submit a Claim Form. The Claim Form can be found at www.crtsettlement.atg.wa.gov. **Claims must be filed by the claimant, and not by a third-party, with payments to go directly to the claimant.**

We urge you to submit a Claim Form online at www.crtsettlement.atg.wa.gov. If you choose to submit your claim online, you must do so on or before **May 16, 2019**.

If you do not file online, you can file a paper Claim Form by mail. You can obtain a Claim Form by calling, toll-free, 1-800-332-9084. If you choose to submit a Claim Form by mail, it must be postmarked by May 16, 2019, and mailed to:

Washington CRT Claims
c/o A.B. Data, Ltd.
P.O. Box 173069
Milwaukee, WI 53217

Note: You may see third-party websites offering claims management services in exchange for a fee. Those websites are not authorized by the Washington State Attorney General and are not an official part of the claims administration process. **You do not need to pay a fee to participate in this settlement.**

11. May I have a third-party file claims on my behalf?

No, claims must be filed by the claimant, and not by a third-party, with payments to go directly to the claimant.

Participation in the Settlement

12. What am I giving up by filing a claim?

Under the antitrust laws, the Washington State Attorney General has the exclusive authority to sue for damages suffered by Washington consumers who purchase products from an intermediate retailer or someone other than the manufacturer who violated the antitrust laws. Because Washington consumers have no private right of action against the Defendant manufacturers in this case, Washington consumers do not waive any right of action under Washington law by participating in this settlement.

Further, in return for paying the settlement amounts, the Defendants have been released from all claims relating to the facts underlying this lawsuit, as more fully described in the Settlement Agreements. That release applies whether or not a claim is filed.

If you have questions, you may call 1-800-332-9084, or you can talk to your own lawyer at your own expense. The Settlement Agreements are available at www.crtsettlement.atg.wa.gov.

13. May I opt out of this lawsuit or settlement?

While you may choose not to file a claim, there is no basis or mechanism for opting out of this lawsuit or settlement. The lawsuit was brought and settled on behalf of all Washington consumers.

14. Can I submit an incomplete Claim Form by the deadline and supply further information later?

No. In order to be a valid claim, your Claim Form must be complete at the time of filing. You should not leave any part of the Claim Form blank or include inaccurate information that you intend to update later. If you determine you have made a mistake on your Claim Form after submitting it, please call the claims administrator at 1-800-332-9084 to address the issue.

The Lawyers Representing You

15. Do I have a lawyer representing me?

As noted above, the Washington State Attorney General is representing consumers as *parens patriae*. The Washington State Attorney General is also representing Washington governmental entities. You do not have to pay the Washington State Attorney General separately. If you wish to seek the advice of your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

16. How will the lawyers be paid?

Under the terms of the settlements, a portion of the Settlement Fund will be awarded to the office of the Washington State Attorney General for its fees and costs, including the cost of administering the settlements.

More Information

17. Where can I get more information?

The Notice summarizes the lawsuit and the settlements. You can get more information about the lawsuit and settlements at www.crtsettlement.atg.wa.gov. You may also contact A.B. Data, the claims administrator hired by the Washington State Attorney General, by calling 1-800-332-9084, or writing to Washington CRT Claims, c/o A.B. Data, Ltd., P.O. Box 173069, Milwaukee, WI 53217.