SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

This Settlement Agreement and Release ("Settlement Agreement") is made and entered into by and between (1) Plaintiffs Keith Raymond and Timothy Strunk (collectively, "Plaintiffs"; each a "Plaintiff"), on behalf of themselves individually and as representatives of the proposed Settlement Classes (defined below); (2) Defendant Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC, d/b/a Medpay Assurance LLC ("Avectus"); and (3) Defendant Bon Secours Mercy Health, Inc. ("Mercy Health"). Plaintiffs, Avectus, and Mercy Health are collectively referred to as the "Parties," each of which is a "Party." This Settlement Agreement is intended by the Parties to fully, finally, and forever resolve, discharge, and settle all released rights and claims to the extent set forth below, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, on August 27, 2015, Plaintiffs commenced the putative class action lawsuit styled *Keith Raymond, et al., v. Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 1:15-cv-00559 (the "**Litigation**"), filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio (the "**Court**"); and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2015, Mercy Health filed a Motion to Dismiss for Failure to State a Claim and then on August 25, 2017, filed its Answer; and

WHEREAS, on November 24, 2015, Avectus filed a Motion to Dismiss for Failure to State a Claim and then on August 25, 2017, filed its Answer; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2023, the Parties, including Settlement Class Counsel (defined below), participated in a settlement conference with the Court, during which they engaged in arm's-length settlement discussions with the assistance of the Court and, as a result of those settlement discussions, agreed to the structure of this settlement; and

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WHEREAS, Settlement Class Counsel—as counsel for Plaintiffs—have undertaken substantial investigation and discovery in the Litigation (defined below), including review of thousands of pages of documents produced by Avectus and Mercy Health, defending the depositions of Plaintiffs, and taking the depositions of individuals employed by Avectus or Mercy Health; and

WHEREAS, the Parties are willing to enter into this Settlement Agreement to settle the claims of the Settlement Classes because of, among other reasons, the attendant expense, risks, difficulties, delays, and uncertainties of continued litigation; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Settlement Class Counsel have concluded, based on their investigation, that this Settlement Agreement provides fair, reasonable, and adequate relief to the Settlement Classes, and is in the best interest of the Settlement Classes, after having considered (a) the benefits that the Settlement Classes will receive from the settlement of the Litigation, (b) the attendant risks of continuing the Litigation, and (c) the desirability of permitting the settlement to be consummated on the terms set forth below, subject to approval of the Court; and

WHEREAS, Avectus and Mercy Health aver that they have acted lawfully and in compliance with all applicable statutes, regulations, and laws; deny all claims asserted against them in the Litigation; deny that class certification would be appropriate if the case were litigated rather than settled; deny all allegations of wrongdoing and liability asserted by Plaintiffs and the Settlement Classes; and deny that anyone was harmed by the alleged relevant conduct; but nevertheless desire to settle the Released Claims (defined below) on the terms and conditions set forth in this Settlement Agreement solely for the purpose of avoiding the burden, expense, risks and uncertainty of continuing the proceedings in the Litigation, without in any way acknowledging any wrongdoing, fault, liability, or damages to Plaintiffs or the Settlement

Classes or conceding that they engaged in the alleged conduct or the truth of any other allegations in any complaint filed in the Litigation;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED, by and among the Parties, that all Released Claims shall be fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, and released as to all the Released Persons and the Litigation shall be dismissed with prejudice on the merits, on the terms set forth below, subject to the approval of the Court.

The recitals stated above are true and accurate, and are hereby made a part of the Settlement Agreement.

I. **DEFINITIONS**

As used in this Settlement Agreement, the terms defined below or in the preceding RECITALS or first paragraph of this Settlement Agreement shall have the meanings assigned to them when capitalized in the same fashion.

1.1. "**Attorneys' Fees**" means the attorneys' fees and expenses applied for by Settlement Class Counsel under this Settlement Agreement and approved by the Court.

1.2. **"Approved Claimant"** means a Settlement Class Member who timely submits an approved Claim Form.

1.3. "Claimant" means a Settlement Class Member who submits a Claim Form.

1.4. "Claim Deadline" means 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the 45th day from the Notice Date.

1.5. "Claim Form" means the documents attached hereto as Exhibits B-1 and B-2.

1.6. "Class Settlement Payment" or "Settlement Payment" means a payment to a Settlement Class Member as set forth in Section VIII of this Settlement Agreement.

1.7. "Counsel for Avectus" means Ronald D. Holman, II; Michael J. Zbiegien, Jr.; and Chad R.Ziepfel of Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP.

1.8. "**Counsel for Mercy Health**" means Kris M. Dawley, John P. Gilligan, and Kristina Dahmann of Ice Miller LLP.

1.9 "Defense Counsel" means Counsel for Avectus and Counsel for Mercy Health.

1.10. "Effective Date" is the date on which the Final Approval Order and the Court's order regarding Attorneys' Fees have all become final, and is the first business day after (a) the time provided in the applicable rules of procedure within which an appeal may be filed has lapsed if no appeal of either the Final Approval Order or the Court's order regarding Attorneys' Fees has been filed, or (b) if one or more timely appeals have been filed, all such appeals are finally resolved, with no possibility of further appellate review, resulting in final judicial approval of this Settlement. For purposes of this definition, the term "appeal" includes proceedings for a writ of certiorari.

1.11. "**Escrow Account**" means the interest-bearing account to be established by the Settlement Administrator consistent with the terms and conditions described in this Agreement.

1.12. "**FDCPA**" means the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act and related administrative regulations.

1.13. **"Financial Institution**" means a federally insured financial institution selected by Settlement Class Counsel, subject to Court approval.

1.14. "**Final Approval**" means the approval of the Settlement Agreement by the Court at or after the Final Approval Hearing, and entry on the Court's docket of the Final Approval Order.

1.15. "**Final Approval Hearing**" means the hearing at which the Court will consider and finally decide whether to approve this settlement, enter final judgment, and make such other rulings as are contemplated by this Settlement Agreement. The Final Approval Hearing shall not be

scheduled on a date less than 90 days following the mailing of the notice mandated by 28 U.S.C. § 1715.

1.16. "**Final Approval Order**" means an order and judgment entered by the Court, giving Final Approval of the Settlement, dismissing the Litigation with prejudice, and entering a judgment in accordance with the terms set forth in this Settlement Agreement.

1.17. "**Gross Settlement Amount**" means the sum of money provided in Section VII and shall not exceed \$3,500,000.

1.18. "**Healthcare Billing Statutes**" means Ohio Rev. Code 1751.60, et seq., and related administrative regulations and similar statutes and regulations under the laws of other States or the United States.

1.19. "Litigation" means the lawsuit styled *Keith Raymond, et al., v. Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 1:15-cv-00559, filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

1.20. "Mail Notice" means the notice provided by Section 4.2.2.

1.21. "**Medical Bill Payment**" means a payment, other than a co-pay or deductible, on behalf of a Settlement Class Member made by himself, herself, or through an attorney to Mercy Health for treatment received between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023, for services covered by the Settlement Class Member's health insurance. A Medical Bill Payment does not include any payment made by any insurance company, tortfeasor, or other third party.

1.22. "**Mercy Net Settlement Amount**" means is equal to the Mercy Gross Settlement Amount (stated in Section 7.1) plus any interest on that amount less one-seventh of the following:

- a. the amount of the Court-ordered award of Settlement Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees and expenses, and/or any other Court-ordered award of fees in connection with the Settlement, together with any interest accrued thereon;
- b. the amount of any Court-ordered Service Award to Plaintiffs;

- c. all fees, costs, and expenses of the Settlement Administrator, including without limitation all costs of notice and administration;
- d. all applicable taxes; and
- e. other appropriate fees, costs, and expenses not specifically enumerated in subparagraphs (a) through (d) of this paragraph, subject to the approval of Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel or as provided under this Agreement.

1.23. "**Mercy Only Class Member**" means a Settlement Class Member who is a member of the Mercy Only Settlement Subclass.

1.24. "Mercy Only Settlement Subclass" means all heath insured persons, with a health

insurance plan accepted by Mercy Health: (1) who were patients at any Mercy Health facility in

the State of Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (2) who presented evidence of

health insurance to Mercy Health; and (3) who thereafter paid, or were requested to pay, any

amount of money for the treatment received at any Mercy Health operated facility, other than for

co-pays and deductibles; and (4) who were *not* contacted by Avectus on Mercy Health's behalf.

1.25. "Notice Date" means the date on which the Settlement Administrator first mails the Mail Notice, which date will be no later than 30 days following Preliminary Approval.

1.26. "**Notice Plan**" means the plan for disseminating notice to Settlement Class Members, as described in Section 4.

1.27. "Objection Deadline" means the date 45 days after the Notice Date.

1.28. "**OCSPA**" means the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, Ohio R.C. 1345.01, et seq. and related administrative regulations.

1.29. "Opt Out Deadline" means the date 45 days after the Notice Date.

1.30. "**Preliminary Approval**" means the preliminary approval of the Settlement by the Court, and entry on the Court's docket of the Preliminary Approval Order.

1.31. "**Preliminary Approval Order**" means the order granting preliminary approval of the Settlement Agreement, conditional certification of the Settlement Class, and approval of the method and content of notice to the Settlement Class.

1.32. **"Qualifying Communication"** means a communication requesting payment for medical treatment received at any Mercy Health operated facility in the State of Ohio, other than for co-pays and deductibles, that any health insured person received from Mercy Health and its vendors, including Avectus.

1.33. "Released Claims" means those claims released as set forth in Section XI below.

1.34. "Released Parties" means Mercy Health; Community Mercy Health Partners; Mercy Health – St. Rita's Medical Center, LLC; Mercy Health – Anderson Hospital, LLC; Mercy Health Cincinnati, LLC; Mercy Health – Clermont Hospital, LLC; Mercy Health – West Hospital, LLC; Mercy Health – Fairfield Hospital, LLC; Jewish Hospital, LLC; Mercy Health – Allen Hospital, LLC; Mercy Health Lorain, LLC; Mercy Health – Regional Medical Center, LLC; Mercy Health – Defiance Hospital, LLC; Mercy Health North, LLC; Mercy Health – St. Vincent Medical Center, LLC; Mercy Health – Tiffin Hospital, LLC; Mercy Health Youngstown, LLC; Bon Secours Mercy Health Medical Group, LLC; Avectus; Cognizant Technologies Solutions, Inc.; and their respective parents, subsidiaries, and affiliates, and the present, former and future officers, directors, partners, employees, agents, attorneys, servants, members, member entities, shareholders, predecessors, successors, affiliates, subsidiaries, parents, representatives, trustees, principals, insurers, and assigns of each, individually, jointly, and severally.

1.35. "Service Award" means the amount applied for by Settlement Class Counsel and approved by the Court to be paid to Plaintiffs Keith Raymond and Timothy Strunk for their service as named Plaintiffs in the Litigation.

1.36. "**Settlement**" means the agreement between Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and as proposed representatives of the Settlement Classes, Mercy Health, and Avectus to settle and compromise Plaintiffs' and the Settlement Class Members' claims in the Litigation fully, finally, and forever, on the terms set forth in this Settlement Agreement.

1.37. "**Settlement Administrator**" means the administrator for the Settlement Agreement that the parties will identify and propose as described in Section 3.3.

1.38. "Settlement Agreement" or "Agreement" means this Settlement Agreement and Release. 1.39. "Settlement Class" means all heath insured persons, with a health insurance plan accepted by Mercy Health: (1) who were patients at any Mercy Health facility in the State of Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (2) who presented evidence of health insurance to Mercy Health; and (3) who thereafter paid, or were requested to pay, any amount of money for the treatment received at any Mercy Health operated facility, other than for co-pays and deductibles.

1.40. "Settlement Classes" means the Settlement Class and the Mercy Only Settlement Subclass.

1.41. "Settlement Class Counsel" means Gary F. Franke and Michael D. O'Neill of Gary F.Franke Co., LPA and C. David Ewing of Ewing & Willis, LLC.

1.42. "Settlement Class Member" means a person who is a member of either the Settlement Class or the Mercy Only Settlement Subclass. Settlement Class Member shall exclude (a) all persons who would otherwise qualify for membership in the "Settlement Classes" but for the fact

that such person previously has released all claims as to Avectus and Mercy Health; (b) Avectus's and Mercy Health's respective officers, directors, and employees; (c) Avectus's and Mercy Health's respective attorneys; (d) Plaintiffs' attorneys; and (e) any judge who has presided over either mediation or disposition of this case and the members of his or her immediate family.

1.43. "Settlement Fund" means the fund established pursuant to Section VII.

1.44. "**Settlement Website**" means the internet website established and maintained by the Settlement Administrator for purposes of facilitating notice to, and communicating with, the Settlement Class and for receipt of online claims.

1.45. "Taxes" means the taxes, interest, or penalties described in Section 7.3.2.

1.46. "Tax Expenses" means the expenses described in Section 7.3.3.

II. NO ADMISSION OF LIABILITY OR ELEMENTS OF CLASS CERTIFICATION

2.1. Avectus's and Mercy Health's Denial of Wrongdoing or Liability

This Settlement Agreement, whether or not consummated, and any actions or proceedings taken pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, is for settlement purposes only and entered into solely for the purpose of avoiding possible future expenses, burdens, or distractions of litigation, and Mercy Health, Avectus, and the Released Parties specifically deny any and all wrongdoing or liability. Avectus and Mercy Health have asserted and continue to assert that they have complied with all applicable statutes, regulations, and laws. Further, Avectus and Mercy Health have asserted and continue to assert many defenses in the Litigation, and Mercy Health, Avectus, and the Released Parties specifically and expressly deny any and all fault, wrongdoing, or liability in connection with any claims which have been made or could have been made, or which are the subject matter of, arise from, or are connected directly or indirectly, with or related in any way to the Litigation, including but not limited to any violations of any federal

or state law (whether statutory or common law), rule or regulation, and Mercy Health, Avectus, and the Released Parties deny that any violation of any such law, rule, or regulation has ever occurred, as well as the validity of each of the claims and prayers for relief asserted in the Litigation.

The Parties expressly acknowledge and agree that neither the fact of, nor any provision contained in, this Settlement Agreement (whether or not it becomes final), nor any of the implementing documents or actions taken under them, shall constitute, be construed as, or be admissible in evidence as, any admission for or against Mercy Health, Avectus, the Released Parties, or Plaintiffs of the validity of any position, any claim, any status, or any fact alleged in the Litigation or any fault, wrongdoing, violation of law, or liability of any kind on the part of Mercy Health or Avectus, or any admission by any Party of any claim or allegation made in any action or proceeding by or against such Party. This Settlement Agreement, any document referred to herein, any action taken to carry out this Settlement Agreement and/or the Settlement, Avectus's and Mercy Health's willingness to enter into this Settlement Agreement, or any or all negotiations, communications, and discussions associated with the Settlement (a) shall not be admissible in any action or proceeding for any reason, other than an action to enforce the terms hereof; and (b) shall not be described as, construed as, offered, or received against the Released Parties as evidence of and/or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Released Parties of the truth of any fact alleged by Plaintiffs; the validity of any claim that has been or could have been asserted in the Litigation or in any other litigation; the appropriateness of certifying a non-settlement class; the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in the Litigation or in any other litigation; or any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing of any of the Released Parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing,

this Agreement may be admitted and considered as evidence in an action to determine insurance coverage or the apportionment of the Settlement Fund to claims asserted in the Litigation.

2.2. No Admission of Elements of Class Certification

2.2.1. Avectus and Mercy Health deny that a class should be certified other than for purposes of this Settlement and reserve their rights to appeal the class certification ruling. In the event that the Settlement Agreement does not become final for any reason, this Settlement Agreement shall not be described as, construed as, offered, or received against any of the Released Parties as res judicata, issue preclusion, law of the case, estoppel, or any other legal or equitable theory as to the propriety of certification of any class under Rule 23, either Plaintiffs' affirmatively demonstrating their compliance with Rule 23, or the Court's satisfaction after rigorous analysis that Rule 23 has been satisfied.

2.2.2. The certification of the Settlement Classes shall be binding only in the event that the Litigation is settled. Should the Court not enter the Final Approval Order or the Effective Date not occur, the certification of the Settlement Classes shall be immediately void, the Settlement Classes should be automatically decertified, and the Litigation shall proceed as though the Settlement Classes had never been certified, in which case this Settlement Agreement shall not constitute, be construed as, or be admissible in evidence as, an admission or be used for any purpose whatsoever in the Litigation or any other pending or future action. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement may be admitted and considered as evidence in an action to determine insurance coverage or the apportionment of the Settlement Fund to claims asserted in the Litigation.

III. MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY APPROVAL

3.1. On or before November 3, 2023, Plaintiffs shall file a Motion for Entry of the Preliminary Approval Order that seeks entry of an order that would, for settlement purposes only:

(a) conditionally certify the Settlement Classes under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure composed of the Settlement Class Members, appointing Plaintiffs as the representatives of those Settlement Classes and Settlement Class Counsel as counsel under Rule 23(g); (b) preliminarily approve the proposed Settlement Agreement; (c) approve the proposed notice to the Settlement Classes in a form substantially similar to the notice attached hereto as Exhibit A; and (d) appoint the Settlement Administrator. The Motion for Entry of the Preliminary Approval Order shall include (i) a proposed form of Preliminary Approval Order; and (ii) a proposed form of Mail Notice, the form of each of which shall have been agreed to among the Parties. Avectus and Mercy Health may, but are not required to, file a brief in support of the motion, within one day of the filing of that motion.

3.2. For purposes of this Settlement only, Plaintiffs, Mercy Health, and Avectus stipulate to the certification of the Settlement Classes, which is contingent upon the Court's Final Approval of the Settlement and the occurrence of the Effective Date.

3.3. Settlement Class Counsel will cause to be hired Atticus Administration LLC as the Settlement Administrator, subject to approval by the Court.

IV. NOTICE PLAN

4.1. Preparation and Production of List of Identified Settlement Class Members

4.1.1. Avectus and Mercy Health agree to use reasonable efforts, based on information in their records, to provide the Settlement Administrator, within 7 days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, a list of potential Settlement Class Members in the form and with the identifiers required by the Settlement Administrator. The class list shall include any electronic mail address of any potential Settlement Class Member known to Avectus and Mercy Health through their ordinary business processes. Avectus and Mercy Health do not agree to and shall not be required

to perform any other searches to locate potential Settlement Class Member information outside of the information maintained by Avectus and Mercy Health in their electronic records. 4.1.2. The class lists shall be used solely for the purpose of effectuating the Settlement Agreement and for no other purpose. The Settlement Administrator (and any person retained by the Settlement Administrator) shall sign a confidentiality agreement in a form agreed to by Defense Counsel and Settlement Class Counsel. The confidentiality agreement will provide that Defense Counsel, Settlement Class Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator (and any person retained by the Settlement Administrator) shall treat as confidential the names, addresses and all other identifying information concerning Settlement Class Members provided as or with the class lists. The confidentiality agreement will further provide that Defense Counsel, Settlement Class Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator (and any person retained by Defense Counsel, Settlement Class Counsel, and/or Settlement Administrator) shall use the class lists or any other information provided by or on behalf of Avectus and Mercy Health only for purposes of fulfilling the duties and responsibilities provided for under this Settlement Agreement, and shall not disclose the class lists, in whole or in part, to any other person without prior written approval by Avectus and Mercy Health.

4.2. Notice Process

4.2.1. For purposes of providing court-approved class notice and establishing that the best practicable notice has been given, the provision of class notice will be accomplished in accordance with the following provisions.

4.2.2. Mail Notice for Settlement Class Members

No later than 30 days following Preliminary Approval, the Settlement Administrator shall cause Mail Notice, in a form substantially similar to that attached hereto as Exhibit A for each

Settlement Class Member, to be sent via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, requesting either forwarding service or change service. For up to 45 days following the mailing of these notices, the Settlement Administrator will re-mail one time only the notices via standard U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to updated addresses of Settlement Class Members to the extent that the Settlement Administrator receives address change notifications from the U.S. Postal Service. If no forwarding address is available, the Settlement Administrator shall take reasonable steps to locate the Settlement Class Member for purpose of securing delivery. Any Mail Notice returned to the Settlement Administrator a second time as not deliverable and not forwarded will not be re-sent. Not later than 20 days before the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator shall cause proof of the mailing of the Mail Notices to be filed with the Court. Neither the Settlement to the Settlement Administrator shall have any further obligation to send notice of the Settlement to the Settlement Class Members. The Court may continue hearings from time to time without further notice to the individual class members, but Settlement Class Counsel must post any such continuances to the Settlement Website.

4.2.3. Internet Notice

The Settlement Administrator shall establish an internet website containing information about the Settlement. The Settlement Website will be accessible no later than 25 days after entry of the Preliminary Approval Order. The Settlement Website will set forth the following information: (a) the full text of the Settlement Agreement; (b) the Mail Notice; (c) the Preliminary Approval Order and other relevant orders of the Court; and (d) contact information for Settlement Class Counsel and the Settlement Administrator. The title and URL for the Settlement Website shall be approved by the Parties. In addition, any language or documents appearing on the Settlement Website in addition to the above-listed documents shall be approved

by the Parties. Not later than 20 days before the Final Approval Hearing, the Settlement Administrator shall cause proof of the establishment and maintenance of the Settlement Website to be filed with the Court. The Settlement Website shall be deactivated 210 days following the Effective Date.

4.2.4. Settlement Class Counsel Assistance

As necessary, the Settlement Administrator shall coordinate with Settlement Class Counsel for Settlement Class Counsel to provide telephonic support, advice, and assistance.

4.3. Expenses of Notice and Administration

4.3.1. All necessary and reasonable Settlement Administrator fees, charges, and expenses shall be paid from the Settlement Fund within 30 days of Settlement Class Counsel's and Defense Counsel's mutual receipt and approval of an invoice.

4.3.2. Within 15 days after the Claim Deadline, the Settlement Administrator will provide to Settlement Class Counsel a detailed statement of the costs that have been and will be incurred in administration.

V. VERIFICATION PROCESS

5.1. In order to be eligible to receive a Class Settlement Payment, a Settlement Class Member must submit a completed Claim Form within 45 days from the Notice Date. Only those Settlement Class Members who timely submit an approved Claim Form shall be eligible to receive a Class Settlement Payment. In order for a Claim Form submitted online to be considered timely, the Settlement Administrator must receive the completed Claim Form by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the Claim Deadline. In order for a Claim Form submitted by U.S. Mail to be considered timely, it must be postmarked on or before the Claim Deadline and received by the Settlement Administrator on or before the 14th calendar day after the Claim Deadline. These deadlines shall be set forth clearly in the Notice. The Claim Forms agreed to

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by the Parties are attached as Exhibits B-1 and B-2 and subject to Court approval are included as part of the Mail Notice under Section 4.2.2 attached hereto as Exhibit A.

5.2. In order for a Claim Form to be approved, the Claimant must meet the following criteria:

5.2.1. The Claimant must have received a Qualifying Communication;

5.2.2. The Claimant must complete in full all fields on each Claim Form submitted; and

5.2.3. Claim Forms shall be executed under penalty of perjury, but need not be notarized.

5.3. Submission by a Settlement Class Member of an incomplete Claim Form may render the Claim Form submitted by that Settlement Class Member invalid and ineligible for a Class Settlement Payment. The Settlement Administrator shall send to all Settlement Class Members who have submitted incomplete Claim Forms a notice of deficiency with instructions on how to cure the deficiency. Settlement Class Members will have 30 days from the date notice is sent to cure any identified deficiency.

5.4. Within 10 days after the deadline to submit Claim Forms, the Settlement Administrator shall provide a spreadsheet to Settlement Class Counsel and to Defense Counsel that contains sufficient information for the Parties to determine the number and amount of approved Claims. Avectus and Mercy Health shall have the right, if each or both of them so elects, to audit the Claim Forms submitted by Settlement Class Members. The Settlement Administrator shall also provide information regarding rejected Claim Forms, as well as the reasons why each Claim Form was rejected. The Settlement Administrator shall retain the original of all Claim Forms (including any envelopes with the postmarks) received from Claimants, and shall make copies or the originals available to both Settlement Class Counsel or Defense Counsel within five days upon request from either counsel.

VI. PROCEDURES FOR OPT OUTS AND OBJECTIONS

6.1. **Opt-Out Procedures for Settlement Class Members**

6.1.1. The Mail Notice and Settlement Website shall contain information and restrictions about the manner in which a Settlement Class Member may opt out of the Settlement, as well as the potential implications of doing so.

6.1.2. A Settlement Class Member may request to be excluded from the Settlement Classes by sending a written request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator with the notification: "Exclusion Requests – *Avectus and Mercy Health* Settlement Administrator." The proposed Settlement Class Member's opt-out request must contain the class member's name, original signature, current postal address and telephone number, and a specific statement that the proposed Settlement Class Member wants to be excluded from the Settlement Classes. The Parties agree that a statement to the effect that "I wish to opt out of the settlement" or "I wish to be excluded from the Settlement Website. Opt-out requests must be postmarked by the Opt Out Deadline. In no event shall Settlement Class Members be able to opt out of the Settlement Classes as a group, aggregate, or class consisting of more than one individual. Requests for exclusion that do not comply with any of the foregoing requirements are invalid.

6.2. List of Opt Outs

No later than 7 days after the Opt Out Deadline, the Settlement Administrator shall provide to Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel a complete list of all persons who have properly opted out of the Settlement. Copies of the opt-out requests shall be provided to Settlement Class Counsel and to Defense Counsel upon request.

6.3. Objections from Settlement Class Members

6.3.1. Any Settlement Class Member who does not opt out, but who instead wishes to object to the Settlement or any other matters as described in the Mail Notice may do so by filing with the Court a notice of his or her intention to object (which shall set forth the name of the Litigation, each objection and the basis therefor, and contain the objecting Settlement Class Member's name and signed verification of membership in the Settlement Class), with any papers in support of his or her position, and serve copies of all such papers upon Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel by first class mail, postage prepaid, CM/ECF Notification, or any other form of service upon counsel of record permitted by Rule 5(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Objections must be filed and served no later than the Objection Deadline.

6.3.2. Objections to Settlement Class Counsel's attorneys' fees may be filed up to 7 days after the filing of a motion for such fees to address additional information or materials in the motion. 6.3.3. The written objection must indicate whether the class member and/or his or her lawyer(s) intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing. Any lawyer who intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing must file a written Notice of Appearance of Counsel with the Clerk of the Court no later than the date set by the Court in the Preliminary Approval Order and shall include the full caption and case number of each previous class action case in which that counsel has represented an objector. The Court will consider all objections filed by the Objection Deadline.

VII. SETTLEMENT FUND

7.1. Gross Settlement Amount

In exchange for the mutual promises and covenants in this Settlement Agreement, including, without limitation, the Releases set forth in Section XI of this Settlement Agreement, within 10 calendar days following Final Approval, Mercy Health shall pay or cause to be paid the sum of \$500,000 (the "Mercy Gross Settlement Amount") into the Escrow Account and

Avectus shall pay or cause to be paid the sum of \$3,000,000 (the "Avectus Gross Settlement Amount") into the Escrow Account using the account information and wiring instructions contained in Schedule 1. The Mercy Gross Settlement Amount and the Avectus Gross Settlement Amount together constitute the Gross Settlement Amount. If the Settlement Administrator requires a portion of the administration fees to be paid on or around the Notice Date (the "Initial Payment"), then within 30 days of Preliminary Approval, Mercy Health shall cause to be paid one-seventh of the Initial Payment into the Escrow Account and Avectus shall cause to be paid six-sevenths of the Initial Payment into the Escrow Account using the account information and wiring instructions in Schedule 1. Any Initial Payment made by Mercy Health shall be counted towards the Mercy Gross Settlement Amount, and any Initial Payment made by Avectus shall be counted towards the Avectus Gross Settlement Amount. The Initial Payment shall not increase the Mercy Gross Settlement Amount, the Avectus Gross Settlement Amount, or the Gross Settlement Amount.

7.2. Creation of and Deposit Into Settlement Fund

The Settlement Administrator shall establish a qualified Escrow Account approved by Avectus and Mercy Health at the Financial Institution to hold the Settlement Fund. The Settlement Fund shall be considered a common fund created as a result of the Litigation. Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel shall direct the Settlement Administrator to make distributions from the Settlement Fund only in accordance with this Settlement Agreement and orders of the Court. The Settlement Administrator shall promptly notify the other Parties of the date of the establishment of the Escrow Account. The Settlement Fund may not be commingled with any other funds and may be held in cash, cash equivalents, certificates of deposit or instruments insured by an arm of or backed by the full faith and credit of the United States

Government. Interest earned, if any, on the Settlement Fund shall be for the benefit of the Settlement Classes in the event this Settlement Agreement is not terminated by Avectus and Mercy Health and the Effective Date otherwise occurs.

7.3. Settlement Fund Tax Status

7.3.1. The Parties agree to treat the Settlement Fund as being at all times a "qualified settlement" fund" within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1. In addition, the Settlement Administrator shall timely make such elections as necessary or advisable to carry out the provisions of this Subsection, including the "relation back election" (as defined in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-1) back to the earliest permitted date. Such elections shall be made in compliance with the procedures and requirements contained in such regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the Settlement Administrator to timely and properly prepare and deliver the necessary documentation for signature by all necessary parties, and thereafter to cause the appropriate filing to occur. 7.3.2. For the purpose of Treas. Reg. § 1.468B, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, the "administrator" shall be the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator shall timely and properly file all informational and other tax returns necessary or advisable with respect to the Settlement Fund (including, without limitation, the returns described in Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(k)). Such returns (as well as the election described in Subsection 7.3.1) shall be consistent with this Subsection and in all events shall reflect that all federal or state income taxes (including any estimated taxes, interest or penalties) ("Taxes") on the income earned by the Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund as provided in Subsection 7.3.3 hereof.

7.3.3. All (a) Taxes (including any estimated Taxes, interest or penalties) arising with respect to the income earned by the Settlement Fund, including any Taxes or tax detriments that may be

imposed upon the Released Parties with respect to any income earned by the Settlement Fund for any period during which the Settlement Fund does not qualify as a "qualified settlement fund" for federal or state income tax purposes, and (b) expenses and costs incurred in connection with the operation and implementation of this Subsection (including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and/or accountants and mailing and distribution costs and expenses relating to filing (or failing to file) the returns described in Subsection 7.3.2 ("Tax Expenses")), shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund; in no event shall the Released Parties have any responsibility for or liability with respect to the Taxes or the Tax Expenses. The Settlement Administrator shall indemnify and hold the Released Parties harmless for Taxes and Tax Expenses (including, without limitation, Taxes payable by reason of any such indemnification). Further, Taxes and Tax Expenses shall be timely paid by the Settlement Administrator out of the Settlement Fund without prior order from the Court, and the Settlement Administrator shall be obligated (notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary) to withhold from distribution any funds necessary to pay such amounts, including the establishment of adequate reserves for any Taxes and Tax Expenses (as well as any amounts that may be required to be withheld under Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(1)); the Released Parties are not responsible therefor nor shall they have any liability with respect thereto. The Parties hereto agree to cooperate with the Settlement Administrator, each other, and their tax attorneys and accountants to the extent reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this Section.

7.3.4. No opinion concerning the tax consequences of this Settlement to Settlement Class Members is given or will be given by Avectus and Mercy Health, Defense Counsel, or Settlement Class Counsel, nor are any representations or warranties regarding such tax consequences made by virtue of this Settlement Agreement. Each Settlement Class Member's

tax obligations, and the determinations thereof, are the sole responsibility of each individual Settlement Class Member, and it is understood that the tax consequences may vary depending on the particular circumstances of each individual Settlement Class Member.

7.4. Use and Disbursement of Settlement Fund

7.4.1. The Settlement Fund shall be used only in the manner and for the purposes provided for in this Settlement Agreement. No portion of the Settlement Fund shall be disbursed except as expressly provided for herein.

7.4.2. Within 14 days after the Effective Date, the Settlement Administrator shall mail the settlement checks to Approved Claimants via U.S. Mail. Payment notices accompanying the payment checks shall notify the recipients of the following: (a) that the checks must be cashed within 90 days from the date on the payment notice, (b) that the enclosed check shall not be valid after that date, and (c) that the check incorporates the releases set forth in Paragraph 11.2. If the check has not been deposited or cashed by 210 days after the date on the payment notice, the amount of the check shall be returned to the Net Settlement Fund.

7.5. Capped Fund

7.5.1. All of the following must be paid from the Gross Settlement Amount: (a) payments to the Settlement Class Members; (b) payments to Settlement Class Counsel for Attorneys' Fees; (c) any Service Award granted by the Court to the Plaintiffs; (d) all fees, costs, and expenses of the Settlement Administrator, including without limitation all costs of notice and administration; (e) all applicable taxes; and (f) other appropriate fees, costs, and expenses not specifically enumerated in subparagraphs (a) through (e) of this paragraph, subject to mutual approval of Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel or as provided under this Settlement

Agreement. The Parties and their respective counsel agree that Avectus and Mercy Health and/or their insurers will not pay or cause to be paid more than the Gross Settlement Amount.

7.5.2. The payments to the Settlement Class Members, to the Settlement Class Counsel for Attorneys' Fees, and to the Plaintiffs as Service Awards are allocated between Avectus and Mercy Health and the claims asserted against them as provided in Sections 8.3 and 10.7. The Parties further agree that all fees, costs, and expenses of the Settlement Administrator, including without limitation all costs of notice and administration; all applicable taxes; and all other appropriate fees, costs, and expenses not specifically enumerated shall be allocated one-seventh to Mercy Health and six-sevenths to Avectus. If, however, the allocation to Mercy Health under this Section plus the allocation to Mercy Health provided in Sections 8.3 and 10.7 for the payments to the Settlement Class Members, to the Settlement Class Counsel for Attorneys' Fees, and to the Plaintiffs as Service Awards would exceed the Mercy Gross Settlement Amount, then all such settlement payments that exceed the Mercy Gross Settlement Amount shall be attributable to Avectus. The parties further agree that 75% of the amount allocated to Avectus shall be allocated to the FDCPA claims and the remaining 25% shall be evenly allocated to Plaintiffs' claims for breach of contract, breach of third-party beneficiary contract, fraud, unjust enrichment, and conversion, except that the allocation to specific claims for the payments to Settlement Class Members, Attorneys' Fees, and Service Awards shall be as provided in Sections 8.3 and 10.7.

7.6. Reversion

7.6.1. Any portion of the Net Settlement Fund (the "Reversion Amount") not distributed as part of the (a) payments to the Settlement Class Members; (b) payments to Settlement Class Counsel for Attorneys' Fees; (c) any Service Award granted by the Court to the Plaintiffs; (d) all

fees, costs, and expenses of the Settlement Administrator, including without limitation all costs of notice and administration; (e) all applicable taxes; and (f) other appropriate fees, costs, and expenses not specifically enumerated in subparagraphs (a) through (e) of this paragraph, subject to mutual approval of Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel or as provided under this Settlement Agreement shall be returned to Avectus and Mercy Health. For purposes of clarity, the Reversion Amount shall include the amount of any settlement check that has not been deposited or cashed by 210 days after the date on the payment notice that is returned to the Net Settlement Fund in accordance with Subparagraph 7.4.2.

7.6.2. The Reversion Amount shall be distributed between Avectus and Mercy Health as follows:

- (a) Mercy Health shall receive the Mercy Net Settlement Amount less the following:
 (i) the Settlement Payments to the Mercy Only Settlement Class Members and (ii) one-seventh of the Settlement Payments to all other Settlement Class Members;
- (b) Avectus shall receive any remaining Reversion Amount after the allocation to Mercy Health under Subparagraph 7.6.2(a).

VIII. ALLOCATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SETTLEMENT FUND

8.1. The Net Settlement Fund is equal to the Gross Settlement Amount plus any interest earned,

less the following:

- a. the amount of the Court-ordered award of Settlement Class Counsel's Attorneys' Fees and expenses, and/or any other Court-ordered award of fees in connection with the Settlement, together with any interest accrued thereon;
- b. the amount of any Court-ordered Service Award to Plaintiffs;
- c. all fees, costs, and expenses of the Settlement Administrator, including without limitation all costs of notice and administration;
- d. all applicable taxes; and
- e. other appropriate fees, costs, and expenses not specifically enumerated in subparagraphs (a) through (d) of this paragraph, subject to the approval of

Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel or as provided under this Agreement.

8.2. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement, all cash payments will be made from the Net Settlement Fund and calculated in accordance with the Allocation Formula described below:

- a. Each Approved Claimant who received a Qualifying Communication shall receive a cash payment of \$25.00 (a "Base Settlement Payment"), regardless of whether the Approved Claimant submitted a payment to Mercy Health. Each Approved Claimant shall be entitled to only one Base Settlement Payment. If the total payments provided for under this subparagraph would exceed \$500,000, the amount of each Base Settlement Payment shall be reduced pro rata so that the total Base Settlement Payments do not exceed \$500,000.
- b. Each Approved Claimant who himself, herself, or through an attorney, actually made a Medical Bill Payment shall receive a cash payment equal to 50% of the Medical Bill Payment.
- c. If the payments to the Settlement Class Members would exceed the Net Settlement Fund, the payments to the Settlement Class Members shall be reduced on a pro rata basis so that the settlement payments to the Settlement Class Members do not exceed the Net Settlement Fund.

8.3. The Parties have agreed that all Base Settlement Payments under Section 8.2(a) attributable to Avectus, or any portion thereof, and that 75% of any settlement payments under Section 8.2(b) attributable to Avectus, or any portion thereof, shall be allocated to the FDCPA claim against Avectus and that the remaining 25% of any settlement payments under Section 8.2(b) attributable to Avectus shall be evenly allocated to Plaintiffs' claims for breach of contract, breach of third-party beneficiary contract, fraud, unjust enrichment, and conversion. The Parties have agreed that six-sevenths of all settlement payments to Settlement Class Members other than Mercy Only Settlement Class Members shall be attributable to Avectus. The Parties have also agreed that all of the settlement payments to Mercy Only Settlement Class Members and one-seventh of all settlement payments to Settlement Class Members and one-seventh of all settlement payments to Settlement Class Members and one-seventh of all settlement payments to Mercy Health. If, however, after applying any

adjustments required by Section 8.2(c), the settlement payments to the Mercy Only Settlement Class Members and the one-seventh of settlement payments to other Settlement Class Members attributable to Mercy Health would exceed the Mercy Net Settlement Amount, then all such settlement payments that exceed the Mercy Net Settlement Amount shall be attributable to Avectus.

8.4. No person shall have any claim against Mercy Health, Avectus, Plaintiffs, the Settlement Classes, Settlement Class Counsel, Defense Counsel, Mercy Health's insurers, Avectus's insurers, the Settlement Administrator, or any Released Parties based on any claims determinations made in accordance with this Settlement Agreement.

IX. FINAL APPROVAL HEARING AND FINAL APPROVAL

9.1. Final Approval Hearing

Within 30 days after the Claim Deadline, or on such other date as set by the Court, Plaintiffs shall file a motion for approval and entry of the Final Approval Order, the text of which the Parties shall in good faith agree upon, in support of which Avectus and Mercy Health may, but are not required to, file a brief. The Parties agree that the Final Approval Order will constitute a final judgment dismissing the Litigation with prejudice. The Final Approval Order shall include, at a minimum, the substance of the following provisions:

(a) approving this Settlement and its terms as being a fair, reasonable, and adequate settlement as to the Settlement Class Members within the meaning of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and directing its consummation according to its stated terms;
(b) ruling on Settlement Class Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and costs;

(c) finding that all Settlement Class Members shall be bound by this Settlement Agreement including the release provisions; (d) as to Avectus and Mercy Health, directing that the Litigation be dismissed with prejudice and, except as provided for in this Settlement Agreement, without costs;
(e) finding that the notice given constitutes due, adequate and sufficient notice and meets the requirements of due process and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;
(f) incorporating the releases set forth in Section XI of this Settlement Agreement, and forever barring any claims or liabilities related to the Litigation or any Released Claims against any of the Released Parties; and

(g) reserving exclusive jurisdiction over the Settlement and this Settlement Agreement, including the administration and consummation of this Settlement.

9.2. Final Approval

All relief contemplated by this Settlement or Settlement Agreement is expressly contingent upon the Settlement Agreement receiving Final Approval.

X. ATTORNEYS' FEES AND SERVICE AWARDS

10.1. At least 14 days before the Final Approval Hearing, Settlement Class Counsel shall file a motion for an award of reasonable Attorneys' Fees.

10.2. Settlement Class Counsel shall ask the Court to approve a service award of up to \$25,000 for each of the two named Plaintiffs, Keith Raymond and Timothy Strunk. Such Service Awards are to be paid from the Net Settlement Fund. The Service Awards shall be paid to each Plaintiff and are in addition to Plaintiffs' individual settlement payments as Settlement Class Members.

10.3. The application or applications for Attorneys' Fees and Service Awards shall be noticed to be heard at the Final Approval Hearing.

10.4. Plaintiffs and Settlement Class Counsel agree that this Settlement Agreement is not conditional on the Court's approval of Attorneys' Fees or Service Awards in the requested

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amounts or in any amount whatsoever. The Court's ruling on the application or applications for such fees and awards shall not operate to terminate or cancel the Settlement.

10.5. Avectus and Mercy Health shall have no responsibility for, nor any liability with respect to, the payment of Attorneys' Fees to Settlement Class Counsel or of Service Awards to Plaintiffs beyond that which is set forth in this Settlement Agreement.

10.6. Attorneys' Fees and Service Awards in the amount approved by the Court will be paid from the Settlement Fund through a distribution by the Settlement Administrator within 14 days after the Effective Date. The Attorneys' Fees and Service Awards approved by the Court shall be paid by the Settlement Administrator in accordance with written instructions to be provided by attorney Gary Franke from Gary F. Franke Co., LPA, as authorized representative of all Settlement Class Counsel.

10.7 The Parties have agreed that one-seventh of any Attorneys' Fees or Service Awards approved by the Court shall be allocated to the Mercy Gross Settlement Amount and sixsevenths of any Attorneys' Fees or Service Awards approved by the Court shall be allocated to the Avectus Gross Settlement Amount. The Parties have further agreed that, because the FDCPA permits plaintiffs in the case of any successful action to recover their reasonable attorneys' fees as determined by the Court, 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(3), all Attorneys' Fees and Service Awards approved by the Court and allocated to Avectus shall be allocated to the FDCPA claim.

XI. RELEASE OF CLAIMS

11.1. Upon the Effective Date, Plaintiffs and each Settlement Class Member who has not opted out as provided herein, and for themselves and on behalf of their spouse, heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents, attorneys, partners, successors, predecessors and assigns and all those otherwise acting or purporting to act on behalf of each acknowledge full

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satisfaction of, and shall be conclusively deemed to have fully, finally and forever settled, released, and discharged the Released Parties of and from, the Released Claims. Subject to the Court's approval, this Settlement Agreement shall bind all Settlement Class Members, and all of the Released Claims shall be dismissed with prejudice and released as against the Released Parties, even if a Settlement Class Member never received actual notice of the Settlement prior to the hearing on final approval of the Settlement.

11.2. Released Claims

In exchange for the consideration and relief described in this Settlement Agreement, the Plaintiffs, Settlement Class Members, and/or his or her respective spouse, heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents, attorneys, partners, successors, predecessors and assigns and all those acting or purporting to act on their behalf agree to release, acquit, and forever discharge the Released Parties from all duties, obligations, demands, allegations, claims, actions, causes of action, suits, damages, rights or liabilities of any nature and description whatsoever, whether arising under local, state or federal law, whether by Constitution, statute (including, but not limited to, the FDCPA, the OCSPA, the Healthcare Billing Statutes, and any assertions of liability, debts, covenants, guarantees, projections, losses, endorsements, controversies, suits, actions, rights, legal duties, warranties, torts, unfair or deceptive practices, statutory violations, contracts, agreements, obligations, promises, promissory estoppel, detrimental reliance, or unjust enrichment), tort, contract, common law or equity or otherwise, whether known or unknown, concealed or hidden, suspected or unsuspected, anticipated or unanticipated, asserted or unasserted, foreseen or unforeseen, actual, fixed, contingent, or vested, liquidated or unliquidated, direct or indirect, matured or unmatured, individually or on behalf of or as part of any putative, proposed, or certified class or other aggregate proceeding, related to, arising out of,

concerning or in connection with in any way, any and all alleged direct or indirect acts, omissions, representations, conducts, legal duties, unjust enrichment, trade practices, or obligations that arise out of, or are related or connected in any way with pricing, billing and payment practices of Mercy Health and/or Avectus and/or the Litigation. This release includes, but is not limited to, all claimed or unclaimed compensatory damages, actual damages, damages stemming from any allegations of willfulness or recklessness, damages for emotional distress, statutory damages, consequential damages, incidental damages, nominal damages, treble damages, punitive and exemplary damages, injunction, rescission, reformation, restitution, disgorgement, constructive trust, as well as all claims for equitable, declaratory or injunctive relief under any federal or state statute or common law or other theory that was alleged or could have been alleged in the Litigation, including but not limited to, any and all claims under deceptive or unfair practices statutes, or any other statute, regulation or judicial interpretation. This release also includes interest, costs, and fees arising out of any of the claims described above. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be deemed a release of the Parties' respective rights and obligations under this Settlement Agreement. In addition, nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be deemed a release of any medical malpractice or similar claim that any Settlement Class Member may have against Mercy Health.

11.3. Release of Unknown Claims

The claims described in Section 11.1 or 11.2, as applicable, are released and discharged regardless of whether they are known or unknown, concealed or hidden, suspected or unsuspected, anticipated or unanticipated, asserted or unasserted, foreseen or unforeseen, actual or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, fixed or contingent.

11.4. Waiver of California Civil Code Section 1542

Plaintiffs and each Settlement Class Member who does not opt out as provided elsewhere herein, acknowledge that they are aware that they may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those that they or Settlement Class Counsel now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of these releases, but it is their intention to, and they do hereby, upon the Effective Date of this Settlement Agreement, fully, finally and forever settle and release any and all Released Claims, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts. Plaintiffs and each Settlement Class Member who does not opt out as provided elsewhere herein waive any and all rights and benefits afforded by California Civil Code Section 1542, which provides as follows:

> A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

Plaintiffs, Settlement Class Members, and Settlement Class Counsel understand and acknowledge the significance of this waiver of California Civil Code Section 1542 and/or of any other applicable federal or state law relating to limitations on releases, and further, upon the Effective Date, shall be deemed to have, and shall have, waived any and all provisions, rights and benefits conferred by any law of any state, the District of Columbia, or territory of the United States, by federal law, or principle of common law, or the law of any jurisdiction outside of the United States, which is similar, comparable or equivalent to Section 1542 of the California Civil Code.

11.5. Mercy Health – Avectus Mutual Release

Avectus and Mercy Health, on behalf of themselves and their respective affiliated entities, parents, subsidiaries, predecessors, successors, owners, members, managers, partners, shareholders, officers, directors, agents, heirs, assigns, insurers, attorneys or other representatives, hereby unconditionally and irrevocably release, acquit, and forever discharge each other and any affiliated entities, parents, subsidiaries, predecessors, successors, owners, members, managers, partners, shareholders, officers, directors, agents, heirs, assigns, insurers, attorneys or other representatives, including the Released Parties, from and against any and all duties, obligations, demands, allegations, claims, actions, causes of action, suits, damages, rights or liabilities of any nature and description whatsoever, whether arising under local, state or federal law, including but not limited to any and all claims, direct or indirect, arising out of or in any way related to the Services Agreement between Avectus and Mercy Health, as amended, or the Litigation.

XII. TERMINATION

12.1. Right to Terminate Agreement

12.1.1. Avectus's and Mercy Health's willingness to settle this Litigation on a class basis and to agree to the certification of conditional Settlement Classes is expressly dependent upon achieving finality in this Litigation, and the desire to avoid the expense of this and other litigation. Consequently, Avectus and Mercy Health shall individually have the unilateral and unfettered right to terminate this Settlement Agreement, declare it null and void, and have no further obligations under this Settlement Agreement to the Plaintiffs, Settlement Class Members, or Settlement Class Counsel if any of the following conditions subsequently occurs:

(a) The Court fails or declines to grant Preliminary Approval;

(b) The Court materially modifies the Final Approval Order such that it is not acceptable to Mercy Health or Avectus, as determined in Avectus's and Mercy Health's sole discretion; or

(c) The Effective Date does not occur for any reason, including the entry of an order by any court that would require either material modification or termination of the Settlement.

12.1.2. Additionally, if more than 5% of the Settlement Class Members request to opt out of the Settlement pursuant to Section 6.1, Avectus and Mercy Health may, individually, at their sole option, no later than 14 days after the Opt Out Deadline, terminate this Settlement Agreement, declare it null and void, and have no further obligations under this Settlement Agreement to the Plaintiffs, Settlement Class Members, or Settlement Class Counsel.

12.1.3. Plaintiffs shall have the unilateral and unfettered right to terminate this Settlement Agreement, declare it null and void, and have no further obligations under this Settlement Agreement to Avectus and Mercy Health if any of the following conditions subsequently occurs:

- (a) The Court fails or declines to grant Preliminary Approval; or
- (b) The Court materially modifies the Final Approval Order such that it is not acceptable to Plaintiffs.

12.1.4. The failure of any court to approve the Attorneys' Fees in the requested amounts, or any amount whatsoever, or any service payments to Plaintiffs in the requested amounts or in any amount whatsoever, shall not be grounds for Plaintiffs or Settlement Class Counsel to terminate this Settlement Agreement.

12.1.5 Avectus's and Mercy Health's right to terminate the Settlement is an individual right held separately by each Defendant that may be exercised by either Mercy Health or Avectus without the consent or approval of the other.

12.2. Effect of Termination on This or Future Litigation

If this Settlement Agreement is terminated by Plaintiffs, Mercy Health, or Avectus:

(a) any provision of this Settlement Agreement stipulating to or supporting
certification of a Settlement Class shall have no further force and effect, and shall
not be offered in evidence or used in the Litigation or in any other proceeding;
(b) counsel for the Parties shall seek to have any Court orders, filings, or other
entries in the Court's file that result from this Settlement Agreement set aside,
withdrawn, and stricken from the record;

(c) the Settlement Agreement and all negotiations, proceedings, and documents prepared, and statements made in connection with either of them, shall be without prejudice to any Party and shall not be deemed or construed to be an admission or confession by any Party of any fact, matter, or proposition of law nor offered into evidence in any judicial proceeding or other action;

(d) the Parties shall stand in the same procedural position as if the Settlement Agreement had not been negotiated, made, or filed with the Court; and

(e) any provision elsewhere herein concerning the effect if the Settlement does not receive Final Approval or the Effective Dates does not occur shall have continuing effect.

12.3. Effect of Termination on Monies Paid by Avectus and Mercy Health Pursuant to Settlement Agreement

If this Settlement Agreement is terminated, the Settlement Fund, including interest earned, less Taxes, Tax Expenses, and notice, claims, and other administration costs (including fees, costs, and other expenses of the Settlement Fund) that have been properly disbursed pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, shall be returned to Avectus and Mercy Health in proportion to the amount of their contributions to the Settlement Fund.

XIII. PUBLIC STATEMENTS

13.1. Aside from the filing of court papers with the Court related to the Settlement, the Parties shall not, nor shall they cause any other person to, make any public statement with regard to the Settlement or any terms thereof, without the express written authorization of the other Parties, until such time as the terms of the Settlement are made public as a result of Court-ordered notice to the Settlement Classes. This prohibition is inapplicable to Settlement Class Counsel's communications with Settlement Class Members or potential Settlement Class Members. Before Final Approval, Plaintiffs and Settlement Class Counsel shall not, nor shall they cause any other person to, issue any press release regarding the Settlement or any terms thereof without express written authorization of the other Parties.

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

14.1. Admissibility of Settlement Agreement

This Settlement Agreement shall not be offered or be admissible in evidence in any action or proceeding except (a) as necessary to obtain and implement Court approval of this Settlement; (b) to enforce the terms of this Settlement Agreement or any related order by the Court; or (c) as necessary in an action to determine insurance coverage or the apportionment of the Settlement Fund to claims asserted in the Litigation. For purposes of clarity, this Section

permits use of Section II herein (i.e., that nothing in this Settlement Agreement is an admission of liability or elements of class certification by Avectus and Mercy Health or any of the Released Parties), Section XII herein (i.e., concerning public statements about the Settlement), or Section XIV herein (e.g., the choice of law and forum selection provisions).

14.2. Successors and Assigns

The terms of this Settlement Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of

the Parties as well as their heirs, successors, assigns, executors, and legal representatives.

14.3. Communications Relating to Settlement Agreement

All notices or other formal communications under this Settlement Agreement shall be in writing and sent by mail to counsel for the Party to whom the notice is directed at the following addresses:

If to Plaintiffs:	If to Avectus:	If to Mercy Health:
Gary Francis Franke, Esq. Gary F. Franke Co., L.P.A. 201 East 5th Street Suite 910 Cincinnati, OH 45202	Ronald D. Holman, II, Esq. Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP 200 Public Square Suite 3500 Cleveland, OH 44114	Kris Dawley, Esq. Ice Miller LLP Arena District 250 West Street Suite 700 Columbus, OH 43215

Any Party may, by written notice to all the other Parties, change its designated

recipient(s) or notice address provided above.

14.4. Avectus's and Mercy Health's Communications with Settlement Class Members in the Ordinary Course of Business

Avectus and Mercy Health reserve the right to continue communicating with Mercy

Health's patients, including Settlement Class Members, in the ordinary course of business. To

the extent Settlement Class Members initiate communications regarding this Settlement

Agreement, Avectus and Mercy Health may confirm the fact of a settlement, state that they

dispute the claims in the Litigation, and refer inquiries to Settlement Class Counsel. Nothing herein is intended to prohibit Mercy Health from communicating with Settlement Class Members regarding issues related to the Settlement Class Member's personal medical care.

14.5. Efforts to Support Settlement

The Parties and their counsel agree to cooperate fully in seeking Court approval for this Settlement Agreement and to use their best efforts to effect the consummation of the Settlement and to protect the Settlement Agreement by applying for appropriate orders enjoining others from initiating or prosecuting any action arising out of or related to facts or claims alleged in the Litigation, if so required.

14.6. Procedures for Disputes Between Parties Relating to the Settlement Agreement

To the extent any disputes or issues arise with respect to documenting or effecting the Settlement Agreement, the Parties and their respective counsel agree to use their best efforts to informally resolve any such disputes or issues, and, in the event any such dispute or issue cannot be resolved informally, to bring any such dispute or issue to the Court for resolution.

14.7. Entire and Voluntary Agreement

The Parties intend the Settlement Agreement to be a final and complete resolution of the Litigation. The Parties agree that the terms of the Settlement Agreement were negotiated at arm's length and in good faith and were reached voluntarily after consultation with competent legal counsel. There shall be no presumption for or against any Party that drafted all or any portion of this Settlement Agreement. This Settlement Agreement contains the entire agreement and understanding concerning the subject matter between the Parties and supersedes all prior negotiations and proposals, whether written or oral (except as provided elsewhere herein). No Party or any agent or attorney of any Party has made any promise, representation, or warranty

whatsoever not contained in this Settlement Agreement to induce another Party to execute the same. The Parties represent that they have not executed this instrument or the other documents in reliance on any promise, representation or warranty not contained in this Settlement Agreement. This Settlement Agreement may not be changed, modified, or amended except in writing signed by all Parties, subject to Court approval; provided, however, that the Parties may effect such changes, modifications, or amendments of this Settlement Agreement and their implementing documents (including any exhibits to them) without notice to or approval by the Court if such changes are consistent with the Court's Final Approval. The Parties further contemplate that, subject to Court approval or without such approval where legally permissible, the exhibits to this Settlement Agreement may be modified by subsequent agreement of counsel for the Parties prior to dissemination of the Class Notice to the Settlement Class.

14.8. Headings for Convenience Only

The headings in this Settlement Agreement are for the convenience of the reader only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Settlement Agreement.

14.9. Settlement Agreement Controls

All of the exhibits attached hereto are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein. To the extent that there is any conflict between the terms of this Settlement Agreement and the exhibits attached hereto, this Settlement Agreement shall control.

14.10. Authorization of Counsel

Settlement Class Counsel, on behalf of the Settlement Classes, are expressly authorized by Plaintiffs to take all appropriate action required or permitted to be taken by the Settlement Classes pursuant to the Settlement Agreement to effectuate its terms, and also are expressly authorized to enter into any modifications or amendments to the Settlement Agreement on behalf

of the Settlement Classes that Settlement Class Counsel deems necessary or appropriate. Each attorney executing the Settlement Agreement on behalf of any Party hereto hereby warrants that such attorney has the full authority to do so.

14.11. Confidentiality

All agreements made and orders entered during the course of the Litigation relating to the confidentiality of information shall survive this Settlement Agreement. Within 30 days of the Effective Date, all confidential documents and information obtained during discovery, including copies, summaries, or other reproductions or derivations of such materials, shall be returned promptly to the party that produced the materials. In the alternative, the party possessing the information shall destroy it and provide the opposing party a certification to that effect unless such copies must be maintained pursuant to applicable Rules of Professional Conduct.

14.12. Court's Jurisdiction

The Court shall retain continuing jurisdiction with respect to implementation and enforcement of the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

14.13. Severability

The failure of one Party to insist upon strict adherence to any term of this Settlement Agreement on any occasion shall not be considered a waiver thereof or deprive any Party of the right thereafter to insist upon strict adherence to that term or any other term of this Settlement Agreement.

14.14. Construction

Each of the Parties has cooperated in the drafting and preparation of this Settlement Agreement. Hence, in any construction to be made of this Settlement Agreement, the same shall not be construed against any of the Parties. Before declaring any provision of this Settlement

Agreement invalid, a court should first attempt to construe the provision valid to the fullest extent possible, consistent with applicable precedent, so as to find all provisions of this Settlement Agreement valid and enforceable.

Any notice period or deadline set forth in this Settlement Agreement shall be calculated pursuant to Rule 6(a)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

14.15. No Claims Arising from this Settlement Agreement

No person shall have any claim against Avectus and Mercy Health, Defense Counsel, Avectus's and Mercy Health's insurers, Plaintiffs or Settlement Class Counsel based on distribution of benefits made substantially in accordance with this Settlement Agreement or any Settlement-Agreement-related order(s) of the Court.

14.16. Choice of Law and Forum Selection

This Settlement Agreement shall, in all respects, be interpreted, construed and governed by and under the laws of the United States of America and the State of Ohio. All judicial proceedings regarding this Settlement Agreement shall be brought only in the Court (or, if the Court determines it lacks subject matter jurisdiction of the claims in that proceeding, in any other court of competent jurisdiction located in Hamilton County, Ohio). All parties subject to this Settlement Agreement consent to the personal jurisdiction of a court located in Hamilton County, Ohio for purposes of resolving disputes under, about, or concerning this Settlement Agreement.

The Parties make these selections for clarity, predictability, and efficiency and because this is the proper forum.

14.17. Counterparts

This Settlement Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts and by facsimile or by PDF. All executed counterparts and each of them shall be deemed to be one and

the same instrument. Counsel for the Parties shall exchange among themselves signed counterparts, and a complete set of executed counterparts shall be filed with the Court.

REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

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IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be execute

by their duly authorized representatives.

Date: 10/24/23

Date: 10/25/23

Date: 1/25/23

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

By: Keith Raymond, Plaintiff MN. By: Timothy Strupk, Plaintif By: Gary Franke **Counsel for Plaintiffs**

By: _____

For Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC

By: _____ Ronald D. Holman, II Counsel for Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC

By: _____

For Bon Secours Mercy Health, Inc.

Date: _____

By: ______ Kris Dawley

Counsel for Bon Secours Mercy Health, Inc.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives.

Date:		By:	Keith Raymond, Plaintiff
Date:			Timothy Strunk, Plaintiff
Deter			
Date:		Ву:	Gary Franke Counsel for Plaintiffs
Date:	10/25/2023	By:	Jared Barunas Jared Barunas Jared Sparcentas
			For Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC
Date:	October 31, 2023	By:	Ronald D. Holman, II
			Counsel for Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC
Date:		By:	
			For Bon Secours Mercy Health, Inc.
Date:		By:	Kris Dawley Counsel for Bon Secours Mercy Health, Inc.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed

by their duly authorized representatives.

Date:	By: Keith Raymond, Plaintiff
Date:	By: Timothy Strunk, Plaintiff
Date:	By: Gary Franke Counsel for Plaintiffs
Date:	By: For Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC
Date:	By: Ronald D. Holman, II Counsel for Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC
Date: 10-25-2023	By: Ted Ford System Director Claims
Date: 10/26/2023	For Bon Secours Mercy Health, Inc. By: Kris Dawley Counsel for Bon Secours Mercy Health, Inc.

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SCHEDULE 1

(Account Information and Wiring Instructions)

BENEFICIARY NAME: BENEFICIARY ADDRESS:

BENEFICIARY ACCOUNT NUMBER: RECEIVING/BENEFICIARY BANK: RECEIVING/BENEFICIARY BANK ADDRESS:



RECEIVING/BENEFICIARY BANK ROUTING/ABA:

EXHIBIT A

In the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio Keith Raymond, et al., v. Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC d/b/a MedPay Assurance LLC and Mercy Health Case No. 1:15-cv-00559

NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

A FEDERAL COURT ORDERED THIS IMPORTANT NOTICE. YOU ARE NOT BEING SUED. THIS IS NOT A SOLICITATION FROM A LAWYER.

If you received treatment at a Mercy Health facility in Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; presented evidence of health insurance to Mercy Health through a plan accepted by Mercy Health; and thereafter paid, or were requested to pay, any amount of money for the treatment received from Mercy Health, other than for a copay or deductible, you are a part of a class-action settlement.

- A Settlement has been reached in a class-action lawsuit against Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC d/b/a MedPay Assurance LLC ("Avectus") and Mercy Health. The classaction lawsuit involves whether or not certain communications by Mercy Health and its vendors, including Avectus, complied with Ohio law.
- You are included in the Settlement if you (a) received treatment at a Mercy Health facility in Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (b) in conjunction with that treatment, presented evidence to Mercy Health of health insurance through a plan accepted by Mercy Health; and (c) thereafter paid, or were requested to pay, to Mercy Health any amount of money for the treatment received, other than for copays and deductibles, if any.
- Only patients who presented evidence of insurance to Mercy Health through a plan accepted by Mercy Health and then paid, or were requested to pay, money to Mercy Health, other than for copays and deductibles, are eligible to receive payment, and only one claim may be submitted per individual.
- If you are included in the Settlement, you are eligible to receive a cash payment of up to \$25.00, regardless of whether you made a payment to Mercy Health. If you or your attorney made a payment to Mercy Health, you may be eligible to receive a cash payment of up to 50% of the payment to Mercy Health. The exact amount depends on whether you actually made payment for covered services, the actual amount of any payment you made, and the number and value of valid claims submitted.
- Please read this notice carefully. Your legal rights are affected whether or not you act.

SUMMARY OF YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT		
SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM BY [CLAIM DEADLINE]	You must submit a Claim Form within 45 days of the Claim Notice if you want to receive a payment from this Settlement. Claim Forms must be submitted online or postmarked by [CLAIM DEADLINE].	
EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM (OR "OPT OUT OF") THE SETTLEMENT BY [OPT OUT DEADLINE]	You can remove yourself entirely from participation in this class-action settlement. If you do this, you will not receive any benefits from this Settlement, but you will retain any right you would otherwise have to file a separate lawsuit against Mercy Health and/or Avectus about the allegations in this case. Your request to exclude yourself from the Settlement must be RECEIVED or POSTMARKED within 45 days of the Claim Notice, that is by [OPT OUT DEADLINE].	
	You cannot both exclude yourself and also object.	
OBJECT BY [OBJECTION DEADLINE]	You can remain a Settlement Class Member and are bound by the Settlement, but you may write to the Court and explain why you do not like any aspect of the Settlement. Objections must be RECEIVED or POSTMARKED within 45 days of the Claim Notice, that is by [Objection Deadline].	
	You may still submit a Claim Form even if you object.	
	You cannot both exclude yourself and also object.	
DO NOTHING	If you do nothing, you will remain a Settlement Class Member—be bound by the Settlement, including the release of claims described below—but you will not receive any payment from the Settlement.	

BASIC INFORMATION

A.Why should I read this notice?

A court authorized this notice to inform you about a proposed class-action settlement of a lawsuit pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio called *Raymond, et al., v. Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC, et al.*, S.D. Ohio No. 1:15-cv-00559, brought on behalf of the Settlement Class. This notice describes the Settlement. Please read this notice carefully to determine whether you wish to participate in the Settlement. This notice explains your rights and options and the deadlines to exercise them. *The Settlement affects your legal rights whether or not you act.*

B. What is this lawsuit about?

The lawsuit claims that certain communications made to Mercy Health patients, including communications made by Avectus to Mercy Health patients, violated Ohio law regarding seeking payments from patients who have health insurance. A more complete description of Plaintiffs' allegations is available in the Class Action Complaint, which is available on the Settlement Website at www.[address].

Avectus and Mercy Health maintain that they have complied with all applicable Ohio laws, deny that they have done anything wrong, and deny that anyone has been harmed in any way. Plaintiffs, Mercy Health, and Avectus decided to settle the lawsuit, on the terms of this Settlement, solely for the purpose of avoiding the burden, expense, risk, and uncertainty that are inherent in litigation.

C. What is a class action and who is involved?

In a class-action lawsuit, someone called a "Class Representative" (in this case Plaintiffs Keith Raymond and Timothy Strunk) sues on behalf of other people who have allegedly similar claims. If the court approves, the group of similar people is referred to as a "Class" or the "Class Members." In a class action, one court resolves the issues for everyone in the Class, except for those people who choose to exclude themselves from the Class.

After the parties reached an agreement to settle this case, the Court granted preliminary approval of the Settlement and conditionally recognized it as a case that should be treated as a class action for settlement purposes. Among other things, this preliminary approval permits Settlement Class Members to exclude themselves from the Settlement Class or to voice their support of or opposition to the Settlement before the Court makes a final determination as to certification of the Settlement Class and approval of the Settlement.

D. Why is there a Settlement?

The Court has not decided in favor of any party to the litigation. Instead, the Parties (meaning Plaintiffs, Avectus and Mercy Health) have agreed to settle the claims against Avectus and Mercy Health by entering into a written settlement agreement.

Avectus and Mercy Health maintain that their conduct was lawful, and they deny all allegations of wrongdoing or liability.

The Class Representatives and their attorneys think the Settlement is best for everyone because it provides benefits to the Class Members now while avoiding the risk, expense, uncertainty, and delay of pursuing the case through trial and appeals. Avectus and Mercy Health are settling solely for the purpose of avoiding the risk, burden, expense, and uncertainty that are inherent in litigation.

WHO IS AFFECTED BY THE SETTLEMENT?

E. How do I know if I am part of the Settlement Class?

The Settlement Class includes the following persons: All health insured persons, with a health insurance plan accepted by Mercy Health: (1) who were patients at any Mercy Health facility in the State of Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (2) who presented evidence of health insurance to Mercy Health; and (3) who thereafter paid, or were requested to pay, any amount of money for the treatment received at any Mercy Health operated facility, other than for co-pays and deductibles.

There is also a Settlement Subclass, the "Mercy Only Settlement Class," that includes all health insured persons, with a health insurance plan accepted by Mercy Health: (1) who were patients at any Mercy Health facility in the State of Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (2) who presented evidence of health insurance to Mercy Health; (3) who thereafter paid, or were requested to pay, any amount of money for the treatment received at any Mercy Health operated facility, other than for co-pays and deductibles; and (4) who were *not* contacted by Avectus on Mercy Health's behalf.

Only patients who presented evidence of insurance to Mercy Health through a plan accepted by Mercy Health and then paid, or were requested to pay, money to Mercy Health, other than for copays and deductibles, are eligible to receive payment.

Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) all persons who would otherwise qualify for membership in the Settlement Class but for the fact that such person previously has released all claims as to Avectus and Mercy Health; (b) Avectus's and Mercy Health's respective officers, directors, and employees; (c) Avectus's and Mercy Health's attorneys; (d) Plaintiffs' attorneys; and (e) any judge who has presided over the disposition of this case and the members of his or her immediate family.

If you fall within the foregoing Settlement Class definition, you are a Settlement Class Member and will be bound by the Settlement, unless you opt out or exclude yourself. (See Question "M. How do I exclude myself from the Settlement?" for how to opt out or exclude yourself.)

WHAT BENEFITS ARE PROVIDED?

F. What does the Settlement provide?

Avectus and Mercy Health have agreed to make available \$3.5 million (the "Fund"), which will be used to pay Settlement Class Members, pay Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs, pay a service award to the Class Representatives, and pay the costs and expenses of settlement administration.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement, Avectus and Mercy Health shall pay \$25.00 (a "Base Settlement Payment") to each Approved Claimant who was requested to pay money to Mercy Health, other than for copays or deductibles, regardless of whether the Approved Claimant submitted a payment to Mercy Health. Each Approved Claimant shall be entitled to only one Base Settlement Payment. If the total of the Base Settlement Payments to all Approved Claimants would exceed \$500,000, the amount of each Base Settlement Payment shall be reduced pro rata so that the total Base Settlement Payments do not exceed \$500,000.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement, Avectus and Mercy Health shall pay each Approved Claimant who was requested to pay money to Mercy Health and who himself, herself, or through an attorney actually paid money to Mercy Health for covered services, other than for copays and deductibles, (a "Medical Bill Payment") a cash payment equal to 50% of the Medical Bill Payment. A Medical Bill Payment does not include any payment made by any insurance company, tortfeasor (e.g. the driver at fault in an auto accident), or other third party.

In addition, Avectus and Mercy Health have agreed to pay, from the Fund, Settlement Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs and service awards to the named Plaintiffs, in an amount to be determined by the Court, along with the cost and expenses for the administration of the Settlement.

There is a cap of \$3.5 million for the total Settlement amount—including attorneys' fees and costs, service awards, and the cost and expenses of Settlement Administration. If the combined sum of the payments to the Class Members, the attorneys' fees and costs and service awards approved by the Court, and the cost and expenses would exceed \$3.5 million, then all Settlement payments shall be reduced on a pro rata basis so that the total amount paid by Avectus and Mercy Health does not exceed \$3.5 million.

If you are a member of the Settlement Class (see Question "E. How do I know if I am part of the Settlement Class?"), and you choose to stay in the Settlement Class, you can submit a Claim Form to receive a check containing your cash payment. (See Question "G. How can I get a cash payment?") The Settlement Agreement provides more detail about the Settlement. You can access a copy of the Settlement Agreement at the Settlement Website: www.[address].com.

HOW YOU GET SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

G. How can I get a cash payment?

To claim a cash payment as part of the Settlement, you must complete and submit the attached Claim Form online or by U.S. Mail within 45 days of the Claim Notice, that is by **[Claim**]

Deadline]. You cannot submit your claim form by any other method. You can submit an electronic Claim Form online at www.[Settlement Website].com. before 11:59 p.m. ET on [Claim Deadline]. If you choose to submit your Claim Form by U.S. Mail, it must be postmarked by [Claim Deadline] and must be received by the Settlement Administrator by [Claim Deadline + 14 days] to be eligible for payment. Claim Forms sent by U.S. Mail should be addressed to *Raymond v. Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC*, Settlement Administrator [address].

Please read the instructions on the Claim Form carefully. To be eligible, you must affirm on the Claim Form, under penalty of perjury: 1) that you were a patient at a Mercy Health facility in the State of Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (2) that you had health insurance through a plan accepted by Mercy Health and that you presented evidence of health insurance to Mercy Health in conjunction with your treatment; and (3) if true, that you thereafter paid, or were requested to pay, any amount of money for the treatment for covered services received at any Mercy Health operated facility, other than for co-pays and deductibles. The Claim Form you received as an attachment to this notice pertains to your category of claim, specifically, the Claim Form may provide for an award on account of being contacted by Mercy or Avectus but not responding thereto with a payment. Or, the Claim Form attached may provide for an Award for those qualifying Class Members identified through Mercy records as potentially having submitted a payment to Mercy. If you are in receipt of the latter Claim Form, you are required to affirm whether you or your attorney on your behalf made a payment to Mercy Health in conjunction with that treatment—other than a copay or deductible. Amounts paid by an insurance company, tortfeasor (e.g., the driver at fault in an auto accident), or other third party do not qualify.

H. When would I get my Settlement payment?

If you timely submit a valid Claim Form, you should receive a check from the Settlement Administrator by 90 days after the Settlement has received final approval and/or after any appeals have been resolved in favor of the Settlement. The Court will hold a hearing on to decide whether to approve the Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement, there may then be appeals. It is always uncertain how these appeals will be resolved, and resolving them can take time, perhaps more than a year after Court approval.

All checks will expire 90 days after they are issued.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

I. Who represents the Settlement Class?

The Court has appointed the following attorneys as Settlement Class Counsel to represent you and the rest of the Settlement Class Members in this case for purposes of the Settlement: Gary F. Franke and Michael D. O'Neill of Gary F. Franke Co., L.P.A. and C. David Ewing of Ewing & Willis, PLLC.

You will not be charged directly for these attorneys, but they will be compensated out of the Settlement Fund (see Question "F. What does the Settlement provide?"). If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire an attorney at your own cost.

In addition, the Court appointed Keith Raymond and Timothy Strunk to serve as the Class Representatives. They are also Settlement Class Members.

J. How will the lawyers be paid?

Settlement Class Counsel will ask the Court for an award of attorneys' fees, which will be paid out of the Settlement Fund (see Question "F. What does the Settlement provide?"). From the beginning of this case in August 2015, Settlement Class Counsel has not received any payment for the time they have spent litigating this case or obtaining the settlement.

They will ask the Court to approve payment of attorneys' fees and expenses in an amount the Court determines to be fair and reasonable but no greater than the amount remaining in the Settlement Fund after the payment of all claims to Settlement Class Members and all fees, costs, taxes, and other expenses related to the Settlement (including the costs of Settlement Administration) and in no event greater than \$3.2 million. Settlement Class Counsel will submit their fee request 14 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing that is by [Deadline]. Class Counsel's fee request will be posted on the Settlement Website. Avectus and Mercy Health will not object to Class Counsel's fee request so long as the fee award is determined by the Court. You may also comment on the amount Settlement Class Counsel requests (see Question "P. How do I provide the Court my comments on the Settlement?").

Settlement Class Counsel will also request service awards of \$25,000 to each of the two Class Representatives as compensation for their time and effort.

The Court will ultimately decide the amount to award. These payments, along with the costs of administering the Settlement, will be made out of the Settlement Fund.

YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

K. What am I giving up to get a cash payment or stay in the Settlement Class?

If the Court grants final approval to the Settlement, the Court will enter a final order and judgment and dismiss the case against Avectus and Mercy Health with prejudice. Claim Forms and payments under the Settlement will then be processed, and claims payments will be distributed. The release by the Settlement Class Members will also take effect.

Under the release, unless you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you cannot separately sue Mercy Health or Avectus or any of the Released Parties for the claims and issues in this case or any of the Released Claims. The Settlement Agreement contains the following release:

In exchange for the consideration and relief described in this Settlement Agreement, the Plaintiffs, Settlement Class Members, and/or his or her respective spouse, heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents, attorneys, partners, successors, predecessors and assigns and all those acting or purporting to act on their behalf agree to release, acquit, and forever discharge the Released Parties from all duties, obligations, demands, allegations, claims, actions, causes of action, suits, damages, rights or liabilities of any nature and description

whatsoever, whether arising under local, state or federal law, whether by Constitution, statute (including, but not limited to, the FDCPA¹, the OCSPA², the Healthcare Billing Statutes³, and any assertions of liability, debts, covenants, guarantees, projections, losses, endorsements, controversies, suits, actions, rights, legal duties, warranties, torts, unfair or deceptive practices, statutory violations, contracts, agreements, obligations, promises, promissory estoppel, detrimental reliance, or unjust enrichment), tort, contract, common law or equity or otherwise, whether known or unknown, concealed or hidden, suspected or unsuspected, anticipated or unanticipated, asserted or unasserted, foreseen or unforeseen, actual, fixed, contingent, or vested, liquidated or unliquidated, direct or indirect, matured or unmatured, individually or on behalf of or as part of any putative, proposed, or certified class or other aggregate proceeding, related to, arising out of, concerning or in connection with in any way, any and all alleged direct or indirect acts, omissions, representations, conducts, legal duties, unjust enrichment, trade practices, or obligations that arise out of, or are related or connected in any way with pricing, billing and payment practices of Mercy Health and/or Avectus and/or the Litigation. This release includes, but is not limited to, all claimed or unclaimed compensatory damages, actual damages, damages stemming from any allegations of willfulness or recklessness, damages for emotional distress, statutory damages, consequential damages, incidental damages, nominal damages, treble damages, punitive and exemplary damages, injunction, rescission, reformation, restitution, disgorgement, constructive trust, as well as all claims for equitable, declaratory or injunctive relief under any federal or state statute or common law or other theory that was alleged or could have been alleged in the Litigation, including but not limited to, any and all claims under deceptive or unfair practices statutes, or any other statute, regulation or judicial interpretation. This release also includes interest, costs, and fees arising out of any of the claims described above. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be deemed a release of the Parties' respective rights and obligations under this Settlement Agreement. In addition, nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be deemed a release of any medical malpractice or similar claim that any Settlement Class Member may have against Mercy Health.

(See Section 11.2 of the Settlement Agreement.)

As you can see, by staying in the settlement class, you are releasing—or giving up—any unknown claims. That means you are giving up claims against Avectus and Mercy Health which you might

¹ Defined as the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act and related administrative regulations.

² Defined as the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, Ohio R.C. 1345.01, et seq. and related administrative regulations.

³ Defined as Ohio Rev. Code 1751.60, et seq., and related administrative regulations and similar statutes and regulations under the laws of other States or the United States.

have but do not know you have. Section 11.3 of the Settlement Agreement provides more detail on what this means.

The full Settlement Agreement is available at www.[Settlement Website].com.

Unless you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you will be bound by the Settlement Agreement and any decisions by the Court relating to the Settlement. If you do not wish to be a Settlement Class Member, you must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class.

If the Court does not approve the Settlement, the case will proceed as though no settlement had been attempted. If the Settlement is not approved, there is no assurance that a class would receive a greater recovery than provided for in the Settlement (if anything).

L. What if I do nothing?

If you do nothing, you will not receive a payment under the Settlement, and you will release all claims you may have against Mercy Health, Avectus, and the Released Parties concerning the conduct alleged in this case. (See Question "N. If I do not exclude myself, can I sue Avectus and Mercy Health for the same thing later?")

M. How do I exclude myself from the Settlement?

If you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class, you must take steps to exclude yourself from, or opt out of, the Settlement Class. (Excluding yourself or opting out of the Settlement Class are the same thing.) If you do this, you cannot submit a Claim Form and will not get a Settlement payment, but you will also not release any claims you have. If you exclude yourself, you also will not be bound by any orders or judgments issued in this case, and if you choose to do so, you can pursue whatever legal rights you may have in a separate proceeding, but you will do so at your own expense.

To exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you must send a written request to the Settlement Administrator with the notification: "Exclusion Requests—*Avectus and Mercy Health* Settlement Administrator." The written request must also contain your name, your original signature, current postal address and telephone number, and a specific statement that you want to be excluded from the Settlement Class. It will be sufficient to state, along with the other required information, that "I wish to opt out of the settlement" or "I wish to be excluded from the settlement." You must mail your exclusion Request so that it is postmarked no later than [OPT OUT DEADLINE], to:

Exclusion Requests – Avectus and Mercy Health Settlement Administrator [SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR]

You cannot exclude yourself by phone or by e-mail. You also cannot exclude yourself by mailing a request to any other location or after the deadline. You cannot exclude others or be excluded as part of a group or class consisting of more than one patient.

REQUESTS FOR EXCLUSION THAT ARE NOT POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE [OPT OUT DEADLINE] WILL BE INVALID AND WILL NOT BE HONORED.

N. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue Avectus and Mercy Health for the same thing later?

No. If you do not exclude yourself, you give up or waive the right to sue Mercy Health, Avectus, and the Released Parties for the claims being resolved by this Settlement. (See Question "K. What am I giving up to get a benefit cash payment or stay in the Settlement Class?")

O. If I exclude myself, can I participate in the Settlement?

No. If you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you cannot participate in the Settlement, you will not be eligible to receive a payment pursuant to the Settlement, and you will not be able to object to the Settlement.

P. How do I provide the Court my comments on the Settlement?

If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you can provide the Court comments on the Settlement if you like or do not like any part of the Settlement. The Court and Settlement Class Counsel will consider your views carefully. To comment—which is entirely optional—you must file with the Court a notice of your intention to comment (which shall set forth each comment and the basis therefor). Any comments must be in writing and include: (1) the name of this lawsuit, *Raymond v. Avectus Healthcare Solutions, LLC*, Case No. 1:15-cv-00559; (2) whether you or any attorney acting on your behalf intend to appear at the Fairness Hearing; and (3) a signed verification of membership in the Settlement Class. These materials must be filed with Court and served upon Settlement Class Counsel and Defense Counsel by first class mail postage prepaid, CM/ECF Notification, or any other form of service upon counsel of record permitted by Rule 5(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Comments on the Settlement Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees must be filed and served by [date 7 days after the filing of the motion for fees]

For your convenience, the following addresses may be used for filing and serving any comments:

COURT	CLASS COUNSEL
Clerk of the Court	GARY F. FRANKE CO., LPA
United States District Court	Gary F. Franke
Potter Stewart U.S. Courthouse, Room 103	201 East Fifth Street
100 East Fifth Street	Suite 910
Cincinnati, OH 45202	Cincinnati, OH 45202
COUNSEL FOR MERCY HEALTH ICE MILLER LLP Kris Dawley, Esq. Arena District 250 West Street Suite 700 Columbus, OH 43215	COUNSEL FOR AVECTUS TAFT STETTINIUS & HOLLISTER LLP Ronald D. Holman, II 200 Public Square, Suite 3500 Cleveland, OH 44114

If you, or an attorney acting on your behalf, would like to appear and address the court on the subject of your comments, you must indicate in your written comments that you intend to appear at the Fairness Hearing. If an attorney will be appearing on your behalf, the attorney must file with the Clerk of the Court a written Notice of Appearance of Counsel by [date set in preliminary approval order] and include in the notice the full caption and case number of each previous class action in which that attorney has represented an objector. (See Questions "R. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?," "S. Do I have to come to the Fairness Hearing?," and "T. May I speak at the hearing?" for more details.)

Q. What's the difference between commenting and excluding myself?

Commenting is telling the Court what your views are on all or part of the Settlement. The Court will consider your comments only if you remain in the Settlement Class. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to comment on this Settlement because the case no longer affects you and, if you submit a comment, the Court will not consider it.

THE COURT'S FAIRNESS HEARING

R. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing on ______, at ____, in Courtroom _____ of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Potter Stewart U.S. Court House, 100 East Fifth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class Members. If there are objections, the Court will consider them. The Court will listen to people who have submitted timely requests to speak at the hearing. The Court may also decide the amount that Settlement Class Counsel and Class Representatives shall be paid. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to finally approve the settlement.

S. Do I have to come to the Fairness Hearing?

No. Settlement Class Counsel will answer questions the Court may have. But you are welcome to come at your own expense. If you send an objection or comment, you do not have to come to Court to talk about it. (See Question "P. How do I provide the Court my comments on the Settlement?") As long as you mailed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary.

T. May I speak at the hearing?

You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Fairness Hearing. To do so, you must file and serve a written comment by [objection deadline] and include in your comment a statement that you intend to appear at the Fairness Hearing. (See Question "P. How do I provide the Court my comments on the Settlement?") Any lawyer who intends to appear on your behalf at the Fairness Hearing must file a written Notice of Appearance of Counsel with the Clerk of the Court by and must include the full caption and case number of each previous class-action case in which that counsel has represented an objector. You cannot speak at the hearing if you have excluded yourself.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUIT AND SETTLEMENT

U. Where can I get more information?

You can visit the Settlement Website at www.[Settlement Website].com. If you have questions about the case, you can call Settlement Class Counsel at (513) 564-9222, or write to the Settlement Class Counsel, Gary F. Franke, Esq., Gary F. Franke Co., L.P.A., 201 East Fifth Street, Suite 910, Cincinnati, OH 45202.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT, THE CLERK, OR THE DEFENDANTS REGARDING THIS SETTLEMENT.

EXHIBIT B-1

MERCY HEALTH / AVECTUS SETTLEMENT REQUEST ONLY CLAIM FORM

If you (a) received treatment at a Mercy Health facility in Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (b) in conjunction with that treatment, presented evidence to Mercy Health of health insurance through a plan accepted by Mercy Health; and (c) thereafter were requested to pay to Mercy Health any amount of money for treatment received for services covered by your health insurance plan, other than for copays and deductibles, if any, and you have not previously released all claims as to Mercy Health and Avectus, then as a result of a Settlement with Mercy Health and Avectus you are eligible to receive a cash payment of up to \$25.

To receive a payment, you must submit this Claim Form. The deadline to file completed Claim Forms online is 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on [Claim Deadline]. All Claim Forms submitted by U.S. Mail must be postmarked by [Claim Deadline].

The amount of the payment will be determined based on a formula contained in the Settlement Agreement. Additional information regarding the formula and the Settlement can be found at [Settlement Website].

Only patients who presented evidence of insurance to Mercy Health through a plan accepted by Mercy Health and then paid, or were requested to pay, money to Mercy Health for services covered by your health insurance plan, other than for copays and deductibles, are eligible to receive payment, and only one claim may be submitted per individual.

Completed Claim Forms must be submitted either online at [Settlement Website] or by U.S. Mail. If submitting a Claim Form by U.S. Mail, it must be mailed to the following address:

Claim Administrator [Address]

If you submit a Claim Form online, it must be submitted by 11:59 P.M.ET on [Deadline Date]. If you submit a Claim Form by U.S. Mail, it must be postmarked on or before [Deadline Date]. Claim Forms submitted online *after* [Deadline Date] or postmarked *after* [Deadline Date] will not be eligible for payment under the Settlement. In addition, Claim Forms sent by U.S. Mail must be received by the Settlement Administrator by [Deadline Date + 14 days] to be eligible for payment under the Settlement.

Please Complete Each Section On The Following Page In The Space Provided. Incomplete Claim Forms Will Be Ineligible For A Payment.

SECTION I: CONTACT INFORMATION

Name (First/Last)	
Name at time of treatment	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Phone Number (primary)	
Current E-mail Address	
Mercy Account Number (if	
known)	

I understand that the parties to the lawsuit have the right to audit my claim and may contact me at the address, phone number, or e-mail address I have provided to do so.

SECTION II: CERTIFICATION OF TREATMENT

By submitting this Claim Form, I hereby certify and affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I: (a) received treatment at a Mercy Health facility in Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (b) in conjunction with that treatment, presented evidence to Mercy Health of health insurance through a plan accepted by Mercy Health; and (c) thereafter paid, or was requested to pay, to Mercy Health any amount of money for the treatment received for covered services, other than for copays and deductibles. I understand that only one claim may be submitted per individual.

Date(s) of Treatment	Location of Treatment

SECTION III: SIGNATURE			
Date:	/	/	Signature
			0

EXHIBIT B-2

MERCY HEALTH / AVECTUS SETTLEMENT CLAIM FORM

If you (a) received treatment at a Mercy Health facility in Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (b) in conjunction with that treatment, presented evidence to Mercy Health of health insurance through a plan accepted by Mercy Health; and (c) thereafter paid, or were requested to pay, to Mercy Health any amount of money for treatment received for services covered by your health insurance plan, other than for copays and deductibles, if any, and you have not previously released all claims as to Mercy Health and Avectus, then as a result of a Settlement with Mercy Health and Avectus you are eligible to receive a cash payment of up to \$25 plus up to 50% of any payment you made or an attorney made on your behalf to Mercy Health for covered services, other than for copays and deductibles.

To receive a payment, you must submit this Claim Form. The deadline to file completed Claim Forms online is 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on [Claim Deadline]. All Claim Forms submitted by U.S. Mail must be postmarked by [Claim Deadline].

The amount of the payment will be determined based on a formula contained in the Settlement Agreement. Additional information regarding the formula and the Settlement can be found at [Settlement Website].

Only patients who presented evidence of insurance to Mercy Health through a plan accepted by Mercy Health and then paid, or were requested to pay, money to Mercy Health for services covered by your health insurance plan, other than for copays and deductibles, are eligible to receive payment, and only one claim may be submitted per individual.

Completed Claim Forms must be submitted either online at [Settlement Website] or by U.S. Mail. If submitting a Claim Form by U.S. Mail, it must be mailed to the following address:

Claim Administrator [Address]

If you submit a Claim Form online, it must be submitted by 11:59 P.M.ET on [Deadline Date]. If you submit a Claim Form by U.S. Mail, it must be postmarked on or before [Deadline Date]. Claim Forms submitted online *after* [Deadline Date] or postmarked *after* [Deadline Date] will not be eligible for payment under the Settlement. In addition, Claim Forms sent by U.S. Mail must be received by the Settlement Administrator by [Deadline Date + 14 days] to be eligible for payment under the Settlement.

Please Complete Each Section On The Following Page In The Space Provided. Incomplete Claim Forms Will Be Ineligible For A Payment.

SECTION I: CONTACT INFORMATION

Name (First/Last)	
Name at time of treatment	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Phone Number (primary)	
Current E-mail Address	
Mercy Account Number (if	
known)	

I understand that the parties to the lawsuit have the right to audit my claim and may contact me at the address, phone number, or e-mail address I have provided to do so.

SECTION II: CERTIFICATION OF TREATMENT

By submitting this Claim Form, I hereby certify and affirm, under penalty of perjury, that: (a) I received treatment at a Mercy Health facility in Ohio between August 27, 2009, and August 31, 2023; (b) in conjunction with that treatment, I presented evidence to Mercy Health of health insurance through a plan accepted by Mercy Health; and (c) thereafter I, or an attorney on my behalf, made a payment, other than for a copay or deductible, to Mercy Health for covered services (a "Medical Bill Payment"). I understand that a Medical Bill Payment does not include any payment made by an insurance company, tortfeasor (e.g., the driver at fault in an auto accident), or other third party. I also understand that only one claim may be submitted per individual.

□ I or an attorney on my behalf made a Medical Bill Payment to Mercy Health.

Date(s) of Treatment	Location of Treatment

SECTION III: SIGNATURE

Date: ____/___/____Sign

Signature _____