EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
BALTIMORE FIELD OFFICE
CITY CRESCENT BUILDING
10 South Howard Street, Third Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

ANNIEMARIE HARRISON-GRAY, BEVERLY HATCHER, CLASS AGENTS v. ERIC K. SHINSEKI, SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, AGENCY	EEOC CASE NO.: 120-2003-00508X AGENCY CASE NO.: 2004-0652-2002103851 APRIL 29, 2010

ORDER ISSUING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

The parties in the above captioned case have entered into a Settlement Agreement, which is now before me for approval. Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. § 1614.204 (g), I have reviewed the Settlement Agreement, and grant preliminary approval of the agreement. I find that on its face, the Agreement is fair, adequate and reasonable to the Class as a whole. However, my finding is preliminary, and will be subject to final approval after a Fairness Hearing and consideration of any objections or petitions to vacate, as further specified below.

I order the Agency to issue, within 10 business days of this Order, a mutually-agreed upon Notice of the resolution to all class members. The Notice shall be served in the same manner as notification of the acceptance of the class complaint was served on the class members. The Notice shall state the relief, if any, to be granted by the Agency and the name and address of the EEOC Administrative Judge assigned to the case. It shall state that within 30 days of the date of the notice of resolution, any member of the class may petition the Administrative Judge to vacate the resolution because it benefits only the class agent, or is otherwise not fair, adequate and reasonable to the class as a whole. The Notice shall also include the date of the scheduled Fairness Hearing, which shall be June 23, 2010, in Richmond, Virginia. At the hearing, I will consider any objections to the agreement as well as hear evidence on the fairness, adequacy and reasonableness of the agreement. The Notice shall also include mutually-agreed upon dates for class informational meetings, which shall be

held prior to the Fairness Hearing.

Following the Fairness Hearing, I will again review the Notice of resolution and consider any petitions to vacate filed, as well as the testimony at the Fairness Hearing, and then render my decision whether to finally approve the Agreement pursuant to 29 C.F.R. § 1614.204 (g).

It is so ORDERED.

For the Commission:

Marlin D. Schreffler

MARLIN D. SCHREFFLER
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE