

## **JUDGE GRANTS \$75 million JUDGMENT**

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, lawyers for class claimants filed a motion for partial summary judgement, the intent of which was to quantify a judgement for damages for class members. On February 15, 2022, Civil District Court Judge D. Nicole Sheppard heard the motion. We sent a letter last year notifying all Class Members that we had filed the Motion.

The Motion was originally set for hearing on November 2, 2021. It was moved to November 19, 2021, then to January 5, 2022, finally it was heard on February 15, 2022. The delays were not the fault of the Court or plaintiffs' counsel.

The Judge issued her ruling on March 14, 2022, granting the Class Members' Motion. The total value of the Judgment, including interest, as of April 9, 2021, is \$75,323,455.71.

The Judgment allocates individual amounts to everyone who received a partial payment for their claims in the 2015 Settlement with the former Insurers of HANO. The reason for this is that the Court made a determination that only those claims for class members who had complied with the Courts order regarding the proof of claim could participate. If you received a payment in 2015, then you are listed in "Exhibit A" which is attached to the Motion that the Court granted. The individual awards the Court made are based on whether you lived on the EPA site or in the adjacent area and how many years you lived in each. If you were a homeowner, you received an award for diminution of property value.

At this time, we have no indication from the City of New Orleans or the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) that they will ever pay the amounts in the Judgment. According to State law, we cannot force them to pay. All we can do, and what we will do, is continue to talk with attorneys for the City and HANO to try to convince them to agree to pay this Judgment.

If or when we have any news about the possibility of payments, we will notify class members by posting the announcement on our websites. Meanwhile, if you have moved, please call 504-297-1215, and update your address.

Thank you for your patience –

Your Class Counsel – Suzette Bagneris, Joseph Bruno, Linda Harang, Stephen Murray, and George Roux