UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JEFFREY LEONARD, IN HIS CAPACITY AS TRUSTEE OF THE POPLAWSKI 2008 INSURANCE TRUST; PHYLLIS POPLAWSKI; PBR PARTNERS, BRIGHTON TRUSTEES, LLC, on behalf of and as trustee for COOK STREET MASTER TRUST III; BANK OF UTAH, solely as security intermediary for COOK STREET MASTER TRUST III; PEAK TRUST COMPANY, AK, on behalf of and as trustee for SUSAN L. CICIORA TRUST and STEWART WEST INDIES TRUST; and ADVANCE TRUST & LIFE ESCROW SERVICES, LTA, as securities intermediary for LIFE PARTNERS POSITION HOLDER TRUST, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

JOHN HANCOCK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK and JOHN HANCOCK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY (U.S.A.),

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 18-cv-04994-AKH

DECLARATION OF GINA M. INTREPIDO-BOWDEN IN CONNECTION WITH CLASS COUNSEL'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES, REIMBURSEMENT OF LITIGATION EXPENSES, AND INCENTIVE AWARDS

I, GINA M. INTREPIDO-BOWDEN, declare and state as follows:

1. I am a Vice President at JND Legal Administration ("JND"). This Declaration is based on my personal knowledge, as well as upon information provided to me by experienced JND employees, and if called upon to do so, I could and would testify competently thereto.

2. In its Order preliminarily approving the class action settlement and certifying the class, the Court appointed me as the Settlement Administrator in this action. (Dkt. $203 \ 9.$)

3. I previously submitted a Declaration regarding the Proposed Settlement Notice Plan in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval and Class Certification. (Dkt. 201-7.) This

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additional Declaration is being filed to report on the implementation of the notice plan and provide an update on the Settlement Administration Expenses that have been accrued through February 28, 2022.

CAFA NOTICE

In compliance with the Class Action Fairness Act ("CAFA"), 28 U.S.C. § 1715,
 JND compiled a CD-ROM containing the following documents:

- a. Class Action Complaint, filed on June 5, 2018
- b. First Amended Class Action Complaint, filed on April 9, 2020
- c. Second Amended Class Action Complaint, filed on March 25, 2021
- d. Notice of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval and Class Certification, filed on December 30, 2021
- e. Memorandum of Law in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval and Class Certification, filed on December 30, 2021
- f. Declaration of Seth Ard in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement, filed on December 31, 2021, and attaching the class action profile of Susman Godfrey, L.L.P., the Settlement Agreement, and proposed Distribution Plan (Plan of Allocation)
- g. Declaration of Gina M. Intrepido-Bowden on Proposed Settlement Notice Plan, filed on December 30, 2021, attaching curriculum vitae ("c.v.") of Gina M. Intrepido-Bowden and JND, and proposed notice materials
- h. Proposed Order Preliminarily Approving Class Action Settlement and Certifying the Class, filed on December 30, 2021
- i. Estimated Breakdown of Class Members by State

5. The CD-ROM along with a cover letter was mailed to the appropriate Federal and State officials on January 7, 2022. A copy of the cover letter and a list of the Federal and State official recipients is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u>.

CLASS DATA RECEIVED

6. On January 24, 2022, counsel for Defendant provided JND an electronic file containing the names, mailing addresses, and policy numbers of individuals identified as potential Settlement Class Members. The file contained a total of 1,308 records (across 1,278 unique Class Policies).

7. Prior to mailing the Class Notices, JND updated addresses using data from the United States Postal Service's National Change of Address ("NCOA") database.¹ The Settlement Class Member data was then promptly loaded into a secure database established for this Action.

DIRECT NOTICE MAILING

8. On February 9, 2022, JND mailed the Court-approved Class Notice via first-class mail to the 1,308 records on the Settlement Class list. A representative copy of the Class Notice is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

9. As of the date of this Declaration, of the 1,308 Class Notices mailed, 28 Class Notices were returned as undeliverable. Two (2) of the Class Notices were forwarded to updated addresses by USPS. Of the undeliverable Class Notices that were not returned with updated address information, JND conducted advanced address skip-trace research and received updated address information for 4 records. JND re-mailed the Class Notice to the 4 records accordingly.

PUBLICATION NOTICE

10. On February 9, 2022, JND caused the Court-approved short-form notice ("Publication Notice") to be transmitted electronically over the PR Newswire Internet wire service. On February 10, 2022, JND caused the Publication Notice to appear in *The New York Times*. On February 11, 2022, JND caused the Publication Notice to appear in *The Financial Times*. On

¹ The NCOA database is the official United States Postal Service ("USPS") technology product which makes change of address information available to mailers to help reduce undeliverable mail pieces before mail enters the mail stream. This product is an effective tool to update address changes when a person has completed a change of address form with the USPS. The address information is maintained in the database for 48 months.

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February 12, 2022, JND caused the Publication Notice to appear in the *Wall Street Journal*. On February 14, 2022, JND caused the Publication Notice to appear in *USA Today*. Copies of the notices as they appeared in each edition of the paper/service are attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 3</u>.

CASE WEBSITE

11. On February 7, 2022. JND established the Class Website (www.HancockCOISettlement.com), which hosts copies of important case documents (including, but not limited to, the Long Form Notice, Short Form Notice/Publication Notice, Second Amended Class Action Complaint, Settlement Agreement, and Preliminary Approval Order), answers to frequently asked questions, and includes contact information for the Settlement Administrator. The Class Website also provides important information about the Settlement deadlines and gives Settlement Class Members the opportunity to learn more about their options outlined in the Class Notice.

TOLL-FREE NUMBER AND POST OFFICE BOX

12. On February 7, 2022, JND activated a case-specific toll-free number, 1-877-389-2130, for Settlement Class Members to call to obtain information about the Settlement. The telephone line is available 24 hours day, seven (7) days a week.

13. As of March 9, 2022, JND has received 63 calls.

14. JND also established a dedicated post office box where Settlement Class Members may send their exclusion requests.

ADMINISTRATION FEES AND EXPENSES

15. Settlement Administration Expenses include all administrative fees, costs, and expenses incurred in administering the Settlement. Settlement Administration Expenses include: data sanitation and standardization, declaration and notice preparation, printing and postage for mailing and re-mailing Class Notices, implementation of the publication plan,

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website and toll-free line development and maintenance, contact center agents, status reports, and handling Class Member correspondence. As of February 28, 2022, JND has incurred \$90,197.06 in Settlement Administration Expenses. JND will continue to incur additional Settlement Administration Expenses as it continues to administer the Settlement.

REACH

16. The direct mailed notice effort successfully reached 98% of Settlement Class Members. The publication notice effort and press release extended that reach further. As a result, the reach meets that of other court approved programs, and exceeds the 70% or above reach standard set forth by the FJC.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on March 11, 2022, at Philadelphia, PA.

Ginnportupito Bowdan

GINA M. INTREPIDO-BOWDEN

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-EXHIBIT 1 -



January 7, 2022

The Appropriate Federal and State Officials Identified in Attachment A

RE: CAFA Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam:

This Notice is being provided to you in accordance with the Class Action Fairness Act ("CAFA"), 28 U.S.C. § 1715 on behalf of John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York and John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A) (collectively, "John Hancock"), the Defendants, in the below-referenced class action ("the Action"). A Joint Stipulation and Settlement Agreement was submitted for approval to the Court on December 30, 2021. As of the date of this letter, a preliminary approval hearing has not been scheduled.

Case Name:	Leonard, et al. v. John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York, et al.			
Case Number:	1:18-cv-04994-AKH			
Jurisdiction:	United States District Court for the Southern District of New York			
Date Settlement filed with Court:	December 30, 2021			

Copies of all materials filed in the above-named actions are electronically available on the Court's Pacer website found at https://pcl.uscourts.gov. Additionally, in compliance with 28 U.S.C. § 1715(b), the enclosed CD-ROM contains the following documents filed in the Action:

01 - Class Action Complaint.pdf	
Class Action Complaint, filed on June 5, 2018	

02 - Amended Class Action Complaint.pdf First Amended Class Action Complaint, filed on April 9, 2020

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03 - Second Amended Class Action Complaint.pdf
Second Amended Class Action Complaint, filed on March 25, 2021
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04 - Motion for Preliminary Approval.pdf

Notice of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval and Class Certification, filed on December 30, 2021

05 - Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion for Preliminary Approval.pdf

Memorandum of Law in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval and Class Certification, filed on December 30, 2021

06 - Declaration of Seth Ard.pdf

Declaration of Seth Ard in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement, filed on December 31, 2021, attaching:

Exhibit 1 – Class Action Profile of Susman Godfrey, L.L.P. Exhibit 2 – Settlement Agreement Exhibit 3 – Proposed Distribution Plan (Plan of Allocation)

07 - Declaration of Gina M. Intrepido-Bowden.pdf

Declaration of Gina M. Intrepido-Bowden on Proposed Settlement Notice Plan, filed on December 30, 2021, attaching:

Exhibit A - C.V. of Gina M. Intrepido-Bowden Exhibit B – Proposed Class Notice Exhibit C – Proposed Short Form/Publication Notice

08 - [Proposed] Preliminary Approval Order.pdf

[Proposed] Order Preliminarily Approving Class Action Settlement and Certifying the Class, filed on December 30, 2021

Additionally, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1715(b)(7), John Hancock provides a table (Document 09 on the CD-ROM) containing: (i) the number of Class Policies (as defined in the Settlement Agreement) issued in each State; and (ii) the number of Class Policies issued in each State as percent of all the Class Policies.

09 - Estimated Breakdown of Class Members by State.pdf

There are no other settlements or agreements made between Counsel for the parties related to the class defined in the proposed Settlement, and as of the date of this Notice, no Final Judgment or notice of dismissal has been entered in this case. If you have any questions regarding the details of the case and settlement, please contact Defense Counsel's representative at:

Motty Shulman Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP One New York Plaza New York, NY 10004 Email: Motty.Shulman@friedfrank.com Telephone: (212)-859-8839

For questions regarding access to the documents provide with this Notice, please contact JND at:

JND Class Action Administration 1100 2nd Ave, Suite 300 Seattle, WA 98101 Phone: 800-207-7160

Regards,

JND Legal Administration Encl.

The Attorneys General and appropriate State and Federal Officials:

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-EXHIBIT 2 -

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

If you are the current or former owner of a Performance Universal life insurance policy issued by John Hancock that was subject to a cost of insurance rate increase, your rights may be affected by a class action settlement

A New York Federal Court authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- A proposed settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit called *Jeffrey Leonard et. al. v. John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York et. al.*, Case No. 18-CV-4994 (AKH) (the "Settlement").
- The lawsuit alleges that Defendants, John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York and John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.) (collectively, "John Hancock") increased cost of insurance ("COI") rates on certain Performance Universal Life policies ("Class Policies") beginning in 2018 and 2019 unlawfully and in violation of the terms of the policies (the "COI Increase"). The lawsuit further alleges that John Hancock violated certain state statutes for issuing false and misleading illustrations regarding the policies. John Hancock denies these claims; however, both sides have agreed to the Settlement to avoid the cost of further litigation.
- If the Court approves the Settlement, John Hancock will fund a cash settlement fund up to \$123,074,128.32, which is estimated to be approximately 91.25% of the incremental COI charges that John Hancock collected from the Class Policies through August 31, 2021. Class members will be eligible to receive payment from that cash fund, as further detailed in Questions 8-11.
- As part of the Settlement, John Hancock has agreed to a "COI Rate Freeze," under which it will not raise COI rate scales on policies covered by the Settlement for a period of five years. In addition, John Hancock has agreed to extend the COI Rate Freeze if it agrees to a longer freeze for any member of the Settlement Class that opts out of the Settlement, or for any owner of a policy that was subject to the COI Increase.
- As part of the Settlement, John Hancock has also agreed not to challenge the validity of the Class Policies based on certain grounds, as further detailed in Question 8.
- You may be a part of the Settlement if you are the current or former owner of a Class Policy. Your legal rights are affected whether or not you act. *Please read this notice carefully*.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS					
DO NOTHING	 Get certain benefits from the Settlement Be bound by the Settlement Give up your right to sue or continue to sue John Hancock for the claims in this case 				
Ask to be Excluded ("Opt Out")	 Remove yourself from the Class Get no benefits from the Settlement Keep your right to sue or continue to sue John Hancock, at your own expense, for the claims in this case 	Postmarked by March 28, 2022			
Овјест	• Tell the Court what you do not like about the Settlement — You will still be bound by the Settlement and you will receive a payment and other non-cash relief if you are entitled to it	Filed and served by March 28, 2022			

- These rights and options—and the deadlines to exercise them—are explained in this notice. The deadlines may be moved, cancelled, or otherwise modified, so please check the Class Website, www.HancockCOISettlement.com, regularly for updates and further details.
- The Court in charge of this case still has to decide whether to approve the Settlement. Payments will be made if the Court approves the Settlement and after any appeals are resolved. Please be patient.

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BASIC INFORMATION

Why is there a notice?

1.

You have a right to know about a proposed settlement of a class action lawsuit, and about your rights and options, before the Court decides whether to approve the Settlement.

The Court in charge of this case is the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"), and the case is called *Jeffrey Leonard et. al. v. John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York et. al.*, Case No. 18-CV-4994 (AKH) (the "Action"). The individuals who sued on behalf of the Class include Plaintiffs Jeffrey Leonard, in his capacity as trustee of The Poplawski 2008 Insurance Trust; Phyllis Poplawski; PBR Partners; Brighton Trustees, LLC, on behalf of and as trustee for Cook Street Master Trust III; Bank of Utah, solely as securities intermediary to Cook Street Master Trust III; Peak Trust Company, AK, on behalf of and as trustee for the Susan L. Ciciora Trust and the Stewart West Indies Trust; and Advance Trust & Life Escrow Services, LTA, as securities intermediary for Life Partners Position Holder Trust. The companies they sued, John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York and John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.), and any of their predecessor and successor entities, are called the Defendants.

2. What is this lawsuit about?

This lawsuit alleges that John Hancock increased COI rates on certain Performance Universal life insurance policies beginning in 2018 and 2019 unlawfully and in violation of the terms of the policies. The lawsuit further alleges that John Hancock violated certain state statutes for issuing false and misleading illustrations regarding the policies. John Hancock denies these claims; however, both sides have agreed to the Settlement to avoid the cost of further litigation.

3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action, one or more people called Class Representatives sue on behalf of people who have similar claims. All these people are a class or class members. Bringing a case, such as this one, as a class action allows resolution of many similar claims of persons and entities that might be economically too small to bring in individual actions. One court resolves the issues for all class members, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

4. Why is there a Settlement?

John Hancock denies that it did anything wrong. However, both sides, with the assistance of an experienced mediator, former Judge James "Jay" C. Francis IV, have agreed to the Settlement. Both sides want to avoid the cost and risk of further litigation. The Court has not decided in favor of the Plaintiffs or John Hancock. Plaintiffs and their attorneys think the Settlement is in the best interests of the Settlement Class and is fair, reasonable, and adequate.

WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT?

5. Am I part of the Settlement?

The Settlement Class consists of current and former owners of any universal life insurance policy issued by John Hancock, or its predecessors, that were subjected to the COI Increase, excluding the Excluded Policies.

Excluded Policies include:

- the policies at issue in the following cases: (i) Davydov v. JHNY and JHUSA, 18-cv-09825 (S.D.N.Y.);
 (ii) Twin Lakes and Lakewood Holdings v. JHNY and JHUSA, 655429/2018 (N.Y. Sup. Ct.); (iii) LSH and Wells Fargo v. JHNY and JHUSA, 19- cv-1009 (S.D.N.Y.); (iv) Lipschitz et al. v. JHNY, 655579/2019 (N.Y. Sup. Ct.); (v) VICOF II Trust et al. v. JHNY, 19-cv-11093 (S.D.N.Y.); (vi) Wells Fargo v. John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.), 20-cv-5032 (S.D.N.Y.); (vii) Kolel Beth Yechiel Mechil of Tartikov, Inc. v. JHNY and JHUSA, 650452/2021 (N.Y. Sup. Ct.); and (viii) all actions consolidated with (v) pursuant to the Court's Oct. 14, 2021 Order (19-cv-11093, Dkt. 99).
- (2) the following policies, which have previously reached settlements with John Hancock: 94656436, 93706844, 93717346, 93717353, 93717361, 93717379, 93752541, 94265337, 94472578, 93970200, 94270709, 93509370, and 93787802.

If an individual or entity is the owner of *both* an Excluded Policy and a Class Policy, the owner is included in the Settlement Class with respect to the Class Policy but not with respect to any Excluded Policy. If an owner (such as a securities intermediary or trustee) owns multiple policies on behalf of different principals, that owner may stay in or opt-out of the Settlement Class separately for each principal.

6. How do I know if I am the Owner of a Class Policy?

You are the Owner of a Class Policy if you currently have or previously held a direct or indirect ownership interest in any Class Policy.

7. What if I am still not sure if I am included in the Settlement?

If you are not sure whether you are a Settlement Class Member, or have any other questions about the Settlement, you should visit the Class Website, <u>www.HancockCOISettlement.com</u>, or call the Settlement Administrator toll-free at 1-877-389-2130.

SETTLEMENT BENEFITS – WHAT SETTLEMENT CLASS MEMBERS GET

8. What does the Settlement provide?

The Settlement provides both cash and non-cash relief.

<u>Cash Relief</u>: John Hancock will fund up to \$123,074,128.32, which is estimated to be approximately 91.25% of the total incremental COI charges collected by John Hancock from Class Policies through August 31, 2021 (the "Settlement Fund").

Each Final Settlement Class Member will be issued a check for their pro-rata share of the Settlement Fund, after certain expenses have been deducted. At a minimum, the check will be for \$100, but in most cases, it will be for a much greater amount.

Specifically, each of the Class Policies has been assigned a dollar amount that is estimated to be approximately 91.25% of the incremental COI charges collected by John Hancock from the specific Class Policy through August 31, 2021 (the "Policy Settlement Amount"). For each Class Policy that validly opts out of this Settlement, the Settlement Fund will be reduced by the Policy Settlement Amount for that Class Policy, resulting in what is called the "Final Settlement Fund." The Final Settlement Fund will first be used to pay: (1) all settlement administration expenses (excluding certain publication notice expenses); (2) any "Incentive Awards," which are awards to compensate the named Plaintiffs for efforts they took on behalf of the entire Settlement Class in the litigation, and which are capped at \$25,000 per Plaintiff; and (3) any Class Counsel's Fees and Expenses (which will not exceed one-third of the value of all benefits provided by the Settlement to the Final Settlement Class Members). The remainder of the Final Settlement Fund will be used to pay the Final Settlement Class Members on a pro-rata basis, based on each Class Policy's share of the total Settlement Fund.

Non-Cash Relief: John Hancock has also agreed not to:

- Raise COI rates on policies covered by the Settlement for a period of five years (the "COI Rate Freeze") following final approval of this Settlement. In addition, John Hancock has agreed to extend the COI Rate Freeze if it agrees to a longer freeze for an Excluded Policy or for a policy subjected to the COI Increase owned by any member of the Settlement Class that opts out of the Settlement. John Hancock has agreed to extend the COI Rate Freeze so that it is as long as any freeze it agrees to with an opt-out or other policyholder subjected to the COI Increase.
- Seek to cancel, void, rescind, or deny a death claim submitted under the Class Members' policies or contest the validity of a policy based on:
 - An alleged lack of valid insurable interest under any applicable law or equitable principles; or
 - Any misrepresentation allegedly made on or related to the application for, or otherwise made in applying for the Policy.

More details are in a document called the Settlement Agreement, which is available at <u>www.HancockCOISettlement.com</u>.

HOW TO GET A PAYMENT

9. **How can I get a payment?**

You will automatically receive a payment in the mail if you are entitled to one. The payments will be mailed to the last known address based on John Hancock's administrative system, after they are run through the National Change of Address database. If you would like your payment to be mailed to a different address, please contact the Settlement Administrator.

10. When would I get my payment?

Payments will be mailed to Settlement Class Members after the Court grants "final approval" to the Settlement and after all appeals are resolved. If the Court approves the Settlement, there may be appeals. It's always uncertain whether these appeals can be resolved and resolving them can take time. Please be patient.

11. What am I giving up to get a payment and the other non-cash relief in the Settlement?

If you are a Settlement Class Member, unless you exclude yourself from the Settlement, you cannot sue John Hancock, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against John Hancock about the claims released in this Settlement. It also means that all the decisions by the Court will bind you. The Released Claims and Released Parties are defined in the Settlement Agreement. They describe the legal claims that you give up if you stay in the Settlement. The Settlement Agreement is available at www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

If you don't want a payment and the other non-cash relief from the Settlement or you want to keep the right to sue or continue to sue John Hancock on your own about the claims released in this Settlement, then you must take steps to get out. This is called excluding yourself—or it is sometimes referred to as "opting out" of the Settlement.

12. How do I get out of the Settlement?

To exclude yourself (or "opt out") of the Settlement, you must complete and mail to the Settlement Administrator a written request for exclusion. The exclusion request must include the following:

- Your full name, address, telephone number, and email address (if any);
- A statement saying that you want to be excluded from the Settlement Class;
- The case name and case number (*Jeffrey Leonard v. John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York*, Case No. 18-CV-4994 (AKH));
- The policy(ies) number(s) to be excluded; and
- Your signature.

If you request to be excluded, but you are not listed as the last known owner of the policy in John Hancock's administrative system, the Settlement Administrator will reach out to you and ask you to provide proof that you own the policy in question.

QUESTIONS? Visit <u>www.HancockCOISettlement.com</u> or call toll-free at 1-877-389-2130

You must mail your exclusion request, postmarked by March 28, 2022 to:

Hancock COI Settlement - Exclusions c/o JND Legal Administration P.O. Box 91398 Seattle, WA 98111

If you are excluded, you will not get any Settlement payment or any other non-cash relief, and you cannot object to the Settlement. You will not be legally bound by anything that happens in this lawsuit, and you may be able to sue (or continue to sue) John Hancock about the claims in this lawsuit.

If you don't include the required information or timely submit your request for exclusion, you will remain a Settlement Class Member and will not be able to sue John Hancock about the claims in this lawsuit.

13. If I don't exclude myself, can I sue the Defendants for the same thing later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up any right to sue John Hancock for the claims that this Settlement resolves. If you have a pending lawsuit, speak to your lawyer in that lawsuit immediately. You must exclude yourself from this Settlement to continue your own lawsuit, except for claims premised on Excluded Policies, which are already excluded. If you properly exclude yourself from the Settlement, you will not be bound by any orders or judgments entered in the Action relating to the Settlement.

14. If I exclude myself, can I still get a Settlement payment?

No. You will not get any money from the Settlement if you exclude yourself.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

15. **Do I need to hire my own lawyer?**

No. The Court has appointed Susman Godfrey L.L.P as Class Counsel. You will not be charged for Class Counsel. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

16. **How will the lawyers be paid**?

Class Counsel will file a motion seeking a fee award not to exceed one-third of the value of all benefits provided by the Settlement to the Final Settlement Class Members, and reimbursement for all of the expenses they incurred or will incur. Class Counsel will also seek an Incentive Award of up to \$25,000 for each of the named Plaintiffs, to compensate them for efforts they took on behalf of the entire Settlement Class in the litigation.

OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT

17. How do I tell the Court if I do not like the Settlement?

Any Settlement Class Member who does not properly opt out of the Settlement on time may object to the fairness, reasonableness, or adequacy of the proposed Settlement. Settlement Class Members who wish to object to any term of the Settlement must do so, in writing, by filing a written objection with the Court, and serving copies on Class Counsel and Counsel for Defendants.

The written objection must include:

- Your full name, address, telephone number, and email address (if any);
- The policy(ies) number(s);
- A written statement of all grounds for the objection accompanied by any legal support for the objection (if any);
- Copies of any papers, briefs, or other documents upon which the objection is based;
- A list of all persons who will be called to testify in support of the objection (if any);
- A statement of whether you intend to appear at the Fairness Hearing;
- A list of any objections by you and/or your counsel in any class action settlement submitted to any state or federal court in the United States in the previous five years; and
- Your or your counsel's signature.

If you intend to appear at the Fairness Hearing through counsel, the written objection must also state the identity of all attorneys representing you who will appear at the Fairness Hearing.

Your objection, along with any supporting material you wish to submit, must be filed with the Office of the Court, with a copy served on Class Counsel and Counsel for Defendants by **March 28, 2022** at the following addresses:

Clerk of the Court	Class Counsel			
Office of the Clerk Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse 500 Pearl St. New York, NY 10007- 1312	Steven G. Sklaver Seth Ard Ryan Kirkpatrick Glenn Bridgman Zachary B. Savage Ari Ruben Amy Gregory Susman Godfrey LLP 1301 Avenue of the Americas, 32nd Floor New York, NY 10019 ssklaver@susmangodfrey.com sard@susmangodfrey.com rkirkpatrick@susmangodfrey.com gbridgman@susmangodfrey.com zsavage@susmangodfrey.com aruben@susmangodfrey.com agregory@susmangodfrey.com			
	Counsel for Defendants			
	Motty Shulman FRIED, FRANK, HARRIS, SHRIVER & JACOBSON LLP One New York Plaza New York, NY 10004 Phone: 212-859-8839 Fax: 212-859-4000 motty.shulman@friedfrank.com Andrea J. Robinson Robert K. Smith Timothy J. Perla WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR LLP 60 State Street Boston, MA 02109 Phone: 617-526-6000 Fax: 617-526-5000 andrea.robinson@wilmerhale.com robert.smith@wilmerhale.com			

18. What is the difference between objecting and excluding?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you don't like something about the Settlement. You can object to the Settlement only if you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement. Excluding yourself from the Settlement is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the Settlement. If you exclude yourself from the Settlement, you have no basis to object to the Settlement because it no longer affects you.

THE COURT'S FAIRNESS HEARING

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

The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing on May 17, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. ET, at the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007-1312.

At the Fairness Hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. The Court will also consider the application by Class Counsel for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses and reasonable Incentive Award payments for Plaintiffs. If there are objections, the Court will consider them at this time. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement. We do not know how long these decisions will take.

20. **Do I have to come to the hearing?**

No. Class Counsel will answer any questions that the Court may have, but you may come at your own expense. If you submit an objection, you don't have to come to Court to talk about it. As long as you filed and served your written objection on time to the proper addresses, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it's not necessary.

21. May I speak at the hearing?

Yes. You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Fairness Hearing. To do so, you must send a letter saying that it is your "Notice of Intent to Appear." Your request must state your name, address, and telephone number, as well as the name, address, and telephone number of the person that will appear on your behalf. Your request must be filed with the Clerk of the Court and served on Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel no later than March 28, 2022.

Only the Parties, Settlement Class Members, or their counsel may request to appear and be heard at the Fairness Hearing. Persons or entities that opt out may not request to appear and be heard at the Fairness Hearing.

IF YOU DO NOTHING

22. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you do nothing, you will automatically receive a payment and the other non-cash relief from the Settlement. Unless you exclude yourself, you won't be able to start a lawsuit, continue with a lawsuit, or be part of any other lawsuit against John Hancock about the legal issues in this case, ever again.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

23. How do I get more information?

This notice summarizes the proposed Settlement. More details are in the Settlement Agreement, available at the Class Website, www.HancockCOISettlement.com. If you have additional questions, you can visit the Class Website or contact the Settlement Administrator:

Hancock COI Settlement c/o JND Legal Administration P.O. Box 91398 Seattle, WA 98111 <u>info@HancockCOISettlement.com</u> 1-877-389-2130

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT OR THE COURT CLERK'S OFFICE

Case 1:18-cv-04994-AKH Document 210-3 Filed 03/11/22 Page 1 of 8

-EXHIBIT 3 -

If you are the current or former owner of a Performance Universal life insurance policy issued by John Hancock that was subject to a cost of insurance rate increase, your rights may be affected by a class action settlement

NEWS PROVIDED BY JND Legal Administration → Feb 09, 2022, 09:09 ET

SEATTLE, Feb. 9, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- JND Legal Administration announces that a proposed settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit called *Jeffrey Leonard et. al. v. John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York et. al.*, Case No. 18-CV-4994 (AKH) (the "Settlement"). This notice provides a summary of your rights and options. More details are available at www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

What is this about? The lawsuit alleges that Defendants, John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York and John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.) (collectively, "John Hancock") increased cost of insurance ("COI") rates on certain Performance Universal Life policies beginning in 2018 and 2019 unlawfully and in violation of the terms of the policies (the "COI Increase"). The lawsuit further alleges that John Hancock Violated certain state statutes for issuing false and misleading illustrations regarding the policies. John Hancock denies these claims; however, both sides have agreed to the Settlement to avoid the cost of further litigation.

Who is affected? You are potentially a member of the Settlement class whose rights may be affected if you are a current or former owner of one or more of the universal life insurance policies subjected to the COI Increase (a "Class Policy" or "Class Policies"). To learn which policies are excluded go to www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

How do I know if I am an owner of a Class Policy? You are the owner of a Class Policy if you currently have or previously held a direct or indirect ownership interest in any Class Policy. If you have any questions regarding ownership, please visit the Settlement website or contact the Settlement Administrator.

What does the Settlement provide? The Settlement provides for cash payments that will be distributed on a *pro rata* basis from a fund of up to \$123,074,128.32. In addition, John Hancock has agreed not to increase COI rate scales on Class Policies for a period of five years or more, and has agreed not to challenge the validity of the Class Policies on various grounds. For more details, visit www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

What are my options? You can do nothing, exclude yourself, or object to the Settlement.

Do nothing. You will automatically receive payment in the mail and the other non-cash benefits if you are entitled to them. You will give up your right to sue or continue to sue John Hancock for the claims in this lawsuit.

Exclude yourself. You will not receive a payment or any other benefits of the Settlement. You will keep your right to sue John Hancock at your own expense and with your own attorney for the claims in this lawsuit. Your exclusion request must follow the specific format required by the Court. For more information on how to exclude yourself from the Settlement please visited

Object. If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you may object or tell the Court what you don't like about the Settlement.

Exclusion requests and objections must be sent to Hancock COI Settlement, c/o JND Legal Administration, P.O. Box 91398, Seattle, WA 98111, **postmarked by March 28, 2022**. For more details about your rights and options and how to exclude yourself or object, go to www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

What happens next? The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing on May 17, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. at the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007-1312, to consider whether to approve the Settlement, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses (not to exceed 33% of the value of the benefits provided by the Settlement), and incentive awards (up to \$25,000 per Plaintiff). The Court has appointed Susman Godfrey L.L.P. as Class Counsel. Class Counsel will answer any questions that the Court may have. You or your attorney may ask to speak at the hearing at your own expense, but you don't have to.

How do I get more information? For more information and to view the full notice, go to www.HancockCOISettlement.com, or contact the Settlement Administrator by writing Hancock COI Settlement, c/o JND Legal Administration, P.O. Box 91398, Seattle, WA 98111, or calling 1-877-389-2130.

Please do not contact the Court.

SOURCE JND Legal Administration

THE NEW YORK TIMES BUSINESS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022

Palin Opens Testimony As Ex-Editor at Times Ends 2 Days on Stand

By JEREMY W. PETERS and COLIN MOYNIHAN

Lawyers for The New York Times attempted on Wednesday to establish that members of its staff acted diligently and responsibly after learning that an editorial published in 2017 incorrectly linked a mass shooting in Arizona to the political rhetoric of Sarah Palin, who is suing the news organization for defamation.

The jury weighing Ms. Palin's suit against The Times in federal court in Lower Manhattan also heard briefly on Wednesday from Ms. Palin herself. But with late afternoon approaching, Judge Jed S. Rakoff adjourned for the day after Ms. Palin's lawyer had questioned her for roughly 15 minutes, touching only on biographical points about her political career and life in Alaska.

Ms. Palin, who has receded from the public eye in recent years despite once being one of the Republican Party's most dynamic but polarizing stars, explained that she was now spending most of her time in her hometown, Wasilla, Alaska, where she was "holding down the fort" as a single mother raising a child with special needs.

She will resume her testimony on Thursday morning.

The bulk of the day's proceedings were consumed by the second and final day of testimony



TEPHANIE KEITH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES James Bennet, the former editor of the opinion section of The Times.

from James Bennet, the former editor of the opinion section of The Times, who also is named as a deedited it - was meant as a critique of the overheated political rhetoric of that moment.

Mr. Bennet testified that once he saw a flood of social media criticism, he thought that "the editorial was being read in a way we did not intend."

The editorial, which lamented the nation's increasingly heated political discourse, was written after the shooting at a congressional baseball team practice in June 2017 that left Representative Steve Scalise, Republican of Louisiana, gravely wounded. As originally published with the "incitement" language, the editorial mistakenly drew a link between the 2011 shooting and a map of the United States circulated by Ms. Palin's political action committee that showed 20 House districts held by Democrats at the time with digitized cross-hairs over them.

No evidence was ever found that showed the Arizona gunman, Jared Lee Loughner, had any political motives. The editorial was published the night of June 14, 2017, and The Times corrected it the next morning.

Lawyers for Ms. Palin are arguing that The Times acted recklessly in writing and publishing the editorial – a claim they must prove to meet the legal bar the law sets for defamation cases - and then was slow to correct it. Mr. Bennet attempted to refute that, testifying on Wednesday that the online backlash to the article surprised him because he was so certain he had not made a mistake. And the lawyer representing The Times, David Axelrod, highlighted an email from Mr. Bennet sent at 5:08 the morning after publication in which he wrote, "I would like to correct this as quickly as possible.'

"I was upset and confused, I have to say, because I was just so blindsided by this," Mr. Bennet said Wednesday.

Part of what accounted for his confusion, he said, was the fact that he thought an editorial writer, a fact checker and two other editors had also looked over the piece. "And nobody had raised this issue," he said.

Though the incident in question occurred almost five years ago, Mr. Bennet said he had thought about it "pretty much every day since."

Sometimes Money Isn't Enough on Wall Street

FROM FIRST BUSINESS PAGE that thinking of always having more and more," she said.

Itchy feet have forced big banks to open their wallets: The combined compensation costs the nation's six largest lenders rose 12 percent to nearly \$178 billion in 2021.

Goldman Sachs gave special stock awards to about 30 top executives and some 400 partners to help retain them. Bank of America bumped up salaries for thousands of senior and midlevel investment bankers and handed out stock awards to its rank-and-file. Even junior analysts across the industry have seen their typical base pay rise to \$100,000 or more, from about \$85,000.

In many cases, the banks are fighting among themselves for talent. Sarah Youngwood, the finance chief for JPMorgan Chase's consumer-banking division since 2016, will become chief financial officer at the Swiss bank UBS in May. She'll join an executive team whose members made an average of \$9.5 million in 2020, according to UBS's most recent compensation report.

Other bankers who are moving to rivals spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter. One sacrificed his bonus to leave, but the new firm covered his lost earnings and gave him a role with more responsibility. Another with decades of experience was lured away by a competitor to build a new business, shedding what he felt was the frustrating bureaucracy of his old firm.

But the wealth of opportunities extends well beyond direct competitors.

Stephen M. Scherr, who left his post as finance chief at Goldman Sachs at the end of December, quickly pivoted to the helm of Hertz. He earned \$38 million in 2019 and 2020, even after being docked \$7 million for Goldman's role in raising money for a Malaysian sovereign wealth fund looted by a former prime minister and his inner circle. At Hertz, Mr. Scherr will get a base salary of \$1.5 million and more than 12 million shares of company stock that vest over several years if he meets targets.

Sayena Mostowfi, 44, took over as president of the Long-Term Stock Exchange, an upstart equities exchange, this month. Ms. Mostowfi, a former global chief operating officer of electronic equities at Citi, said she had jumped at the chance to build a new busi-



"I was so happy to get out of that thinking of always having more and more," Amy Wu Stratton said.



Steven G. Eckhaus, a Wall Street employment lawyer, has negotiated multimillion-dollar signing bonuses.

nus for a client after a four-month jump in 2021, too. bidding war. It was an eye-watering amount then, but Mr. Eckhaus Goldman's investment banking True Search, demand for fintech has negotiated a handful of simi- division, left to be chief executive

Gregg Lemkau, who co-led At the executive recruiting firm candidates rose more than 200

branded One.

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fendant in Ms. Palin's suit.

Mr. Bennet said under questioning from a lawyer representing The Times that it was never his intention to blame Ms. Palin for the 2011 mass shooting outside Tucson, Ariz., that wounded Gabrielle Giffords, then a Democratic member of Congress, and left six others dead.

Mr. Bennet said his use of the phrase "the link to political incitement was clear" — which he inserted into the editorial as he

Ms. Palin's lawyers also called to the stand Ross Douthat, a Times columnist who wrote to Mr. Bennet around 11 on the night the editorial was published expressing his "bafflement" at the reference to Ms. Palin. Mr. Douthat testified that while he knew there had been no connection established between the Tucson shooting and Ms. Palin's political rhetoric, he understood that others at the time believed there was.

Uber Sees Revenue Bump **Despite Omicron Slowdown**

By KATE CONGER

Uber said on Wednesday that growing revenue and returning passengers sent a strong signal that its business was bouncing back in the final three months of 2021 from the slowdown caused by the pandemic.

The quarter also provided another indication of how Uber's fortunes rise and fall with its investments in other companies.

Uber's revenue grew to \$5.8 billion, an 83 percent increase from a year earlier, exceeding analyst expectations. The company also marked its second profitable quarter as a public company, earning \$892 million largely from its investments in Grab, the Southeast Asian ride-hailing company that went public in December, and Aurora, the autonomous vehicle start-up.

Uber lost \$968 million during the same period a year earlier and reported a loss of \$2.4 billion in the third quarter of 2021 caused by its investment in Didi, the Chinese ride-hailing company.

Its investments in other ridehailing companies would probably continue to cause fluctuation in its profits and losses, Uber said in its earnings report. Uber's chief executive, Dara Khosrowshahi, said at a December analyst event. that the company would hang on to some of its strategic investments but would eventually look to sell its stake in Didi.

Uber's loss from operations for the quarter was \$550 million, a 37 percent improvement from a year earlier.

Uber said it was attracting a growing number of users by relying on its food delivery business,

Uber Eats, to bring in business during spikes in coronavirus cases, when its ride-hailing business declined. Uber reported 118 million users during the fourth quarter, a 27 percent increase from a year earlier.

"Our results demonstrate just how far we've come since the beginning of the pandemic," Mr. Khosrowshahi said in a statement. "While the Omicron variant began to impact our business in late December, mobility is already starting to bounce back."

Uber's stock price was up about 5 percent in after-hours trading on Wednesday.

The growth in users sets Uber apart from its primary rival in the United States, Lyft. In an earnings report on Tuesday, Lyft said it had 18,728 users during the fourth quarter, a 49 percent increase from a year earlier but a slight decrease from the third quarter. The modest decline in users showed that the winter wave of Omicron might have presented more challenges to Lyft's business.

Still, Lyft said that its revenue had grown by 70 percent, to \$969.9 million, and that its losses had improved to \$258.6 million, a 43 percent change from a year earlier.

Analysts said Uber's and Lyft's businesses would most likely continue to fluctuate as travel was affected by the pandemic.

"It's going to ebb and flow," said Tom White, a senior research analyst with the financial firm D.A. Davidson, While Lyft's business was tied to coronavirus conditions in North America, Uber could experience other issues because it operates around the world, he added.

"What's great about working at a smaller company is there's a direct correlation between the effort that you put into the work that you're doing and the results that vou get," she said. "I'm willing to bet that being at a start-up will bring better results for me than being at a bank."

ness.

Booming markets have given wandering bankers plenty of money to fall back on, said Roosevelt D. Bowman III, a senior investment strategist at the asset manager AllianceBernstein.

Mr. Bowman said midcareer professionals who had led business units and made millions of dollars a year had "already hit the first home run," making it easier to take a risk. "There is so much wealth being created in so many different ways," he said.

Michael Litt, chief executive of Vidyard in the Waterloo region of Ontario. is recruiting an investment banker for a senior role at his 300-person video messaging company. Such deal makers can be assets because they have "incredible work ethic and focus," Mr. Litt said.

In return, he can offer equity and the greater influence that comes with working at smaller firm. Another perk that's rare on Wall Street: Work where you want. One Vidvard executive. Mr. Litt said, lives in a boat docked off Los Angeles.

Tim Shea left Truist Securities to open a Chicago office for the boutique investment bank Solomon Partners in September. Alongside another managing director, Mr. Shea has hired two vice presidents, two associates, an analvst and summer interns. He is also in late-stage talks to hire senior bankers, and expects his team to grow to about 20 people by the end of the year.

Those candidates can count on good treatment because of the hot job market. If new hires left money on the table at their old job, like a pending bonus or deferred compensation, they can "expect to be made whole," Mr. Shea said.

Prospective employees are thinking more deeply about their careers, knowing they're going to be putting in long hours, he said. They're wondering, "How can I make that as meaningful as possible and feel good about it?" he said.

Big paydays are still a powerful draw, of course. Just two years ago, Steven G. Eckhaus, a Wall Street employment lawyer at Mc-Dermott Will & Emery who represents top bankers in job talks, locked in a \$20 million signing bolar packages in the last few months with little fanfare.

"These guys are real good poker players — in the end, everybody shows little emotion," Mr. Eckhaus said. "They feel they're getting what they should."

This year's job-hopping season isn't even in full force — bonuses often land in mid-February, and stock awards in March — but plenty of heavy hitters made the

of MSD Partners, which manages more than \$20 billion for the Dell Technologies founder Michael Dell and others. Jack MacDonald, Bank of America's former co-head of global investment banking, left to join the boutique investment bank Centerview Partners. And a former head of Goldman's Marcus consumer unit, Omer Ismail,

percent last year, said Grant Beighley, who leads searches for the company's fintech clients. October was the busiest month in the history of its financial-services practice, with more than 60 new searches.

And many bankers, Mr. Beighley said, are in the market to try something different.

"They're tired of feeling like a cog in a machine," he said.

LEGAL NOTICE

moved to Hazel, a fintech start-up

backed by Walmart that will be re-

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action lawsuit called Jeffrey Leonard et. al. v. John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York et. al., Case No. 18-CV-4994 (AKH) (the "Settlement"). This notice provides a summary of your rights and options. More details are available at www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

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www.HancockCOISettlement.com

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> Exclude yourself. You will not receive a payment or any other benefits of the Settlement. You will keep your right to sue John Hancock at your own expense and with your own attorney for the claims in this lawsuit. Your exclusion request must follow the specific format required by the Court. For more information on how to exclude yourself from the Settlement please visit the Settlement website or contact the Settlement Administrator.

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1-877-389-2130

FINANCIAL TIMES

ARTS

Branagh seeks the source of his Nile detective

This week's new film releases reviewed by Danny Leigh and Leslie Felperin

12

arly in 2018, I found myself making small talk with the owner of a chain of boutique British cinemas. His mood was euphoric. Business, he

said, was going gangbusters. It was all down to one film: Kenneth Branagh's Murder on the Orient Express, an ultraglossy, star-packed take on Agatha Christie. But isn't it meant to be terrible, someone asked? "I don't think our crowd care," came the reply. He gave a happy smile. "And you should see how much wine they get through."

Branagh and his self-spotlighting turn as Hercule Poirot are now back in Death on the Nile, another movie that may be best enjoyed while marinated. Star power is again to the fore. The vast ensemble includes, but is not limited to, comic book heroines (Gal Gadot, Letitia Wright), high-end veterans (Annette Bening) and a problem in Armie Hammer. Since making the film, the actor has faced multiple allegations of sexual abuse, which he has denied.

Those who do still take a bottle might find themselves wrongfooted. A prelude set in the first world war feels unexpectedly sombre. It also says something about Branagh's big-picture goals. With the new film having been trailed à la Marvel at the end of Orient Express, the detective is now given the kind of darkly tinted origin story modern superheroes get. (Strictly speaking, it is the origin story of his moustache.) With one eye on Poirots to come, world-building is under way.

The director already has plenty on his hands. The tone is a tightrope walk. With the script making a theme of loss, Branagh clearly doesn't want to go full panto. Yet as his coconut shy of famous faces let loose their random accents, the mood is also some way from grown-up.

Cut to a smoke-shrouded jazz club in 1937 London, Gadot and Hammer on



Above: 'Death on the Nile'. Right: 'Flee' uses animation to tell a story of displacement and survival

Death on the Nile Kenneth Branagh *****

Flee Jonas Poher Rasmussen *****

Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy Ryusuke Hamaguchi *****

Uncharted

Ruben Eleischer *****



the dance floor as an heiress and the object of her desire. Sophie Okonedo appears onstage and off as a worldly blues siren, one of several departures from Christie and the previous 1978 film adaptation. For now, Poirot keeps

shtum. And then the main event, all of the above and more gathered in an Egypt of pyramids, pharaohs' tombs and non-speaking extras in fezzes. Give 'em enough trope ...

Your ability to settle dozily into the river cruise and murder mystery ahead may depend on your ease with the presence of Hammer, regrettably cast as a sex magnet. The director has nudged his male lead to the margins in the edit, but the whole story hinges on his character. You don't envy Branagh's lot but you might prefer to sympathise from a distance.

academic career and a house by the sea, complete with a joyously unkempt garden and a slinky orange cat.

In some ways, the use of animation adds a sense of childlike wonder, as if this were an adventure in the tradition of Disney. Except here there are secret police who take fathers away to be tortured, dead-eyed human traffickers and brutal Russian cops who let Amin and another boy go when they realise the kids have no money to extort but keep an immigrant girl to rape in lieu of payment. It's an incident Amin will never forget, a stab wound of survivor's guilt that never heals, a memory one can flee

from but never escape. LF In cinemas and on Curzon Home Cinema now

Japan's Ryusuke Hamaguchi has been beavering away as a writer-director of thoughtful arthouse films since the early 2000s. As a student in 2007, he made his own version of Solaris, the Stanislaw Lem sci-fi classic adapted previously by both Andrei Tarkovsky and Steven Soderbergh. Last year he moved up to the premier league with the immaculate Drive My Car, an accoladeown ex-boyfriend, and a little bit of cinematic magic allows her to try out different endings to her own story. The telling of tales is also central to the second instalment, in which mature student Nao's (Katsuki Mori) impish plan to "honeytrap" a professor (Kiyohiko Shibukawa) by reading his own erotic prose to him backfires.

In the final and strongest story, a woman (Aoba Kawai) comes back to her hometown for a high-school reunion, hoping to see someone dear to her she lost long ago. She thinks she's spotted her at the local railway station, but is this other woman (Fusako Urabe) all that she seems? The two oblige one another with play-acting in order to uncork secrets never told.

The conceit is simple, but it's pulled off so flawlessly here it feels like a story you've always known, written by Hamaguchi's beloved Anton Chekhov. (Uncle Vanya plays a key role in Drive My Car.) "Don't tell me the Moon is shining; show me the glint of light on broken glass," Chekhov once wrote, and Hamaguchi knows how to angle his dramatic shards just right to reveal far larger dramas beyond the frame. LF In UK cinemas now

X marks the spot more than once for wannabe movie franchise-starter **Uncharted**. The film has a treasure chest of intellectual property: the hugely popular PlayStation game of the same name and its fortune-hunter hero, Nate Drake. Another lucky break finds the character played by Tom Holland, saviour of Hollywood after the recent outsize success of Spider-Man: No Way Home.

The translation into movies makes Drake a roguish Manhattan pickpocket drawn into searching for Spanish gold by Mark Wahlberg's veteran adventurer. Here too, the project hits the jackpot. When the movie version was first

The screen brims not just with stars but a luxe update on a '70s holiday brochure aesthetic

mooted in 2008, Wahlberg himself was to have played the lead. Development hell did the film a favour. Holland brings the character a nimble likeability Wahlberg never would have, as well as his army of Spider-fans (or so backers Sony will hope). All that promise and the movie blows it. The uneasy fusion of game and film is one snag. Director Ruben Fleischer makes only fitful attempts to do something interesting with the visual language of gaming. Oddly, the plot is where Uncharted feels most like gameplay. Long scenes involve ornate keys being tried in locks. Maps are lost, found, carried about. Holland earns his corn; just because he is practised in mixing action, wisecracks and minor-key backstories doesn't make it easy. But Wahlberg clearly sees his own professional mortality every time he looks at his co-star. The movie feels uptight, joyless even when riffing on much-loved old favourites. If you can't actually enjoy lifting bits from *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and Jackie Chan's Police Story, you should leave them where you found them. **DL** In UK cinemas now and in US cinemas from February 18

Legal Notices

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FIMES

FINANCIAL

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Moral Money

Your guide to better business and finance

sustainable business? Read FT Moral Money, your essential, trusted guide

The balancing act goes on. The essence of the film is pure Sunday night BBC1. (The cast also includes Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders). Yet now more than ever people need compelling reasons not to spend Sunday night in front of the TV. And so the big screen brims not just with movie stars but a luxe update on a '70s holiday brochure aesthetic. Gilded light gleams off the Nile (actually Surrey); diamonds shine brighter still (pointedly Tiffany). Even a plate of biscuits looks epic.

The grandest biscuit of them all, of course, is Branagh. The star-director is everywhere, the obsessive rough edges of this Poirot smoothed to avuncular wisdom. He gets the best joke as well, a morbid gag involving hams (knowingly delivered).

Between Covid and its other issues, the film's release has been delayed so long it now comes out after Branagh's Belfast. That movie's story helps explain its director's fondness for big, broad hokum like this. Death on the Nile returns the favour by not being quite so ropey as to wreck Belfast's Oscar chances by association. The bullet is dodged. **DL** In UK and US cinemas now

Part-documentary, part-dramatised memoir, Flee is not quite like any other animated film, with the possible exceptions of Waltz with Bashir and Persepolis, two other features about trauma, memory and turbulent history set in the Middle East. Using an economical form of animation that blends densely detailed backgrounds with simplified figures, and flecked with live-action archive material, Flee tells a remarkable story of displacement and survival that justifies its eclectic, genre-blending approach. This intersects with a coming-out story that is specific to its protagonist.

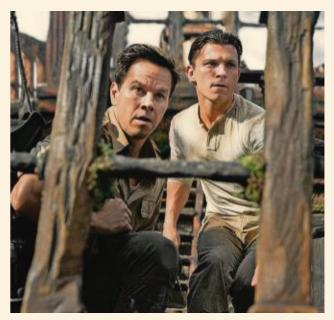
It starts with the animated figures of the film's director Jonas Poher Rasmussen and its narrator Amin (not his real name) remembering how they first met as teenagers. Back then, when pressed, Amin would explain that his family had all been killed in Afghanistan and that he'd arrived in Denmark alone. In fact, most of his family had survived, but this more tragic version of events was a fiction which he needed to help him gain refugee status.

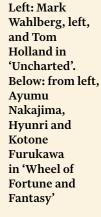
As he lies on a carpet in Rasmussen's home studio, like a patient visiting a psychoanalyst, he unrolls his story, from his mostly happy childhood in Kabul to the family's dispersal to a squalid flat in Moscow, a leaky boat off the coast of Estonia, a gay bar in Sweden and finally Copenhagen. There he eventually finds love with a fiancé, Kasper, a thriving

earner from the moment it premiered in Cannes right up until this week when it received an Oscar nomination for Best Picture and put Hamaguchi in the running for Best Director.

His previous film from 2021, the portmanteau package Wheel of Fortune and **Fantasy**, doesn't shimmer with quite the same perfection, but it still has plenty of spark and shine as it sifts through different kinds of love in contemporary Japan. As with Drive My Car, there's a strong streak of theatre in Hamaguchi's favouring of long, dialogue-driven scenes between pairs of characters, but here the camerawork is a little choppier, even resorting to the odd, jarring zoom.

The emotional palette, however, is subtly shaded. The opening story finds model Meiko (Kotone Furukawa) listening to her best friend Tsugumi (Hyunri) rhapsodising over a man she has just met who is nursing a broken heart. This stirs Meiko to seek out her







B10 | Saturday/Sunday, February 12 - 13, 2022

BUSINESS & FINANCE

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

In ide the Werk That Shook CNN

Continued . ~ page B1 time for the first in years. Problems have lately iled up. Ratings sagged offer a resident Biden's inauguration. ¹ _ ^cember, anchor Chris cuomo vas fired after an internal crobe into his efforts to nel- lis brother, former New Yeark Cov Andrew Cuomo, resp nd *. sexual-misconduct allegations A spokesman for Chris Cu mc has said that the anchor vas honest with CNN executives about his communication with his brother, who has denied the allegations.

Mr. Zucker and Ms. Gollust were interviewed as part of the investigation into Chris Cuomo's conduct and initially weren't forthcoming about the relationship when asked by investigators, people familiar with the matter said. Eventually, they each acknowledged it to investigators, the people said. Mr. Kilar called Mr. Zucker during the last week of January and informed the CNN president he had to leave the network, the people said.

The departures of Messrs. Zucker and Cuomo have triggered internal debate at CNN about its standards and workplace policies, and have created uncertainty over its leadership as WarnerMedia, a unit of AT&T Inc., prepares in the coming months to spin off and merge with Discovery Inc.

The triumvirate of executives Mr. Kilar installed to replace Mr. Zucker on an interim basis is expected to be replaced as the deal closes or shortly before, according to a person familiar with the matter. Discovery executives view the deal as an opportunity to reassess the network's programming mix and streaming strategy, which could upset some of Mr. Zucker's designs, the person said.

As CEO of WarnerMedia, Mr. Kilar was Mr. Zucker's boss. This created an awkward dynamic between the two executives, say people close to the company, since Mr. Kilar years ago was running Hulu and reported to executives including Mr. Zucker, who was then a top NBCUniversal executive. Mr. Zucker was known to tell associates that his new boss used to vork for him, one of the people s lid.

The executives were at odds when WarnerMedia carried out a reorganization that took wa, Ar. lucker's oversight of CNN 3 mances and human res—as well as communica lons, which is run by Ms. Gollust. Mr Zucker was annoved ∂' a surp. sed by those change, The Wal Street Journal rep rted.

Mr. Zu r fought to prevent staffing cut at CNN when other parts of W rnerMedia went under be '.afe, arguing that covering the 21_1 election required robust staffi g, but tensions with Mr Aller remained, the people close 5 the company said.

Mr. Zucker asked [№].. кы. r for permission to say until t^{1} s deal with Discovery clossing, one people said, but Mr. Kila clined. Mr. Zucker later a skew to finish out the week but was refused again, the people said. CNN earlier reported that Mr. Zucker would have liked to stay on for a short period.

Over the next few days WarnerMedia and Mr. Zucker hammered out the details of his statement and Mr. Zucker resigned on Feb. 2. More than an hour before the announce-



Jeff Zucker departure highlights tensions with WarnerMedia's chief.

ment went out, Discovery CEO David Zaslav got a call informing him of the impending change, a person familiar with the call said.

Ms. Gollust was on the Feb. 2 call when Mr. Kilar detailed Mr. Zucker's exit. She had her camera on as he addressed a group of about 20 executives who mostly sat in silence, acording to a person familiar with the meeting.

n the days since his exit, Mr. Zucker told a confidant Lat Mr. Kilar could have kept him on with a reprimand but ir read chose a more extreme punishment, according to a person familiar with the situation.

People close to Mr. Kilar said Mr. Z^w .er created the situation that ultimately led to his exit. Mr. Kilar wanted to be transparent about the reasoning for the exit and didn't want to leave it to the new owners to handle the issue, one of the people said.

Mr. Zucker is known for forging close relationships with anchors. Some came to his defense loudly after his exit, questioning Mr. Kilar in tense meetings and raising the prospect that Mr. Zucker had been improperly forced out. Mr. Kilar told employees that his decision upheld the values of WarnerMedia.

Jake Tapper, who anchors "The Lead" and co-anchors "State of the Union," said Chris Cuomo's legal team seemed eager to leak damaging information about Mr. Zucker.

* * * *

'He threatened Jeff," Mr. Tapper said in a group question-and-answer session with Mr. Kilar at CNN's Washington, D.C., offices. "Jeff said we don't negotiate with terrorists. And Chris blew the place up. How do we get past that perception that this is the bad guy winning?'

A spokesman for Mr. Cuomo declined to comment on Mr. Tapper's remarks.

Mr. Cuomo's legal team raised Mr. Zucker's relationship with Ms. Gollust in talks related to Chris Cuomo's interest in securing compensation from the network, the Journal reported.

Mr. Cuomo's legal team has also told CNN lawyers that Mr. Zucker was in frequent contact with Andrew Cuomo during the Covid-19 pandemic, and that Mr. Zucker was aware of the nature of Chris Cuomo's contact with the then-governor, according to a person familiar with the talks between the two sides.

position of Chris The Cuomo's legal team is that Mr. Zucker was aware of the former anchor's behavior and only fired him once CNN came under additional pressure after records of the anchor's efforts to aid his brother were released in November, the person said.

In conversations with Andrew Cuomo early in the pandemic, when he was still in office, Mr. Zucker and Ms. Gollust encouraged the former governor to appear on the network, according to people familiar with their conversations.

A spokeswoman for Mr. Zucker said the CNN president was in touch with Andrew Cuomo, but said the contact was part of the routine course of his duties as a news executive. "Jeff was never aware of the full extent of what Chris

Cuomo was doing for his brother, which is why Chris was fired," the spokeswoman said.

In the days since his exit, Mr. Zucker has kept a relatively low profile, though he has been in touch with some anchors and executives to reassure them and catch up on personal matters—and invited some to his home-according to people familiar with the matter.

Meanwhile, with top CNN anchors rattled by Mr. Zucker's exit, Jay Sures, the co-president of United Talent Agency, traveled from Los Angeles this week to meet with key talent at CNN's Washington, D.C., bureau, people familiar with his visit said. United Talent represents a number of CNN's talent and executives, including Mr. Tapper.

The new CNN management team faces the challenge of getting a new streaming service, CNN+, off the ground, while trying to spark a TV ratings rebound. CNN was in last place in prime-time viewers among its cable news peers in January, according to Nielsen data, behind MSNBC and Fox News. It also drew the fewest average daily viewers, according to Nielsen, though it was ahead of MSNBC among people 25 to 54 years old, a demographic coveted by advertisers. Fox News parent Fox Corp. and Wall Street Journal parent News Corp share common ownership.

Some CNN staffers called Mr. Zucker's and Ms. Gollust's relationship an "open secret." Others thought the pair were incredibly close-even best friends-but believed their relationship was platonic.

"What defines a conflict of interest?" said one CNN employee. "They were professional partners for more than two decades. Is the relationship any more compromising because they kissed?"

New Highs and Lows	52-Wk Stock Sym Hi/Lo C				52-Wk % k Sym Hi/Lo Chg Stock	52-Wk % 52-Wk % Sym Hi/Lo Chg Stock Sym Hi/Lo Chg
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Stock Sym Hi/Lo Chg Maris-TechWt MTEKW 0.34-19.3 NRX Pharm NRXP 2.43 -5.	PartnerRePfd DPEn 22.86 -	-2.4 Put StoragePfJ J ApJ 23.48 -1.4 -1.3 Pub. storagePfdO JApO 20.70		SignalHillAcqn SGHLU 9.97 Sutro SioGeneTherap SIOX 0.72 -9.5 Syros		
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LairdSuperfood LSF 6.29 -1.1 MediechAcqnWt MIACW 0.43 -7.5 NatiStoragePtdA NSAPA 25.09 -1.	PennyMacMtg PMT 15.85	0.2 QuakerHournhton KWR 194.54 -1.4	SCE II Pfd SCEpG 23.36 -2.5	SocialLvgl Wt SLAC.WS 0.42 0.7 TPIC	omposites TPIC 9.98 -4.9 US BancorpP	fdB USBpH 20.65 -2.5 WashFedPfdA WAFDP 22.02 -1.3
LarkspurHithA LSPR 9.84 MerchantsBncpPfdC MBINN 25.00 0.2 NeoleukinTherap NLTX 2.84 -8.		-0.9 QuanergySysWt QNGY.WS 0.26 -21.5	SCE VI Pfd L SCEpL 22.76 -3.2		laRasaHlth TRHC 8.55 -8.3 USCellularNts2	0(0 UZD 24.20 2.0 WellsEargoPfdA7 WFCpZ 22.51 -2.0
LawsonProducts LAWS 42.61 -0.9 MerchantsBncpPfdB MBINO 24.78 -0.8 Neuronetics STIM 3.00 -4. LazardGrowthIWt LGACW 0.50 -3.7 IndxPlus 03-1 IPB 28.00 -0.8 NYComBncpPfdA NYCBpA 25.61 -2.	PetVivoWt PETVW 0.27-3	-2.0 Queen'sGambitWt GMBTW 0.46 32.5 REE Automotive REE -6.8		SonicFoundry SOFO 2.70 -22.2 Tailw SouthJerseyNts2079 SJIJ 24.40 -2.3 TailsE		SrNt LIZE 23.06 -2.7 WellsFargoPtdACC WFCpC 21.06 -1.3
Lazard LAZ 38.37 -3.2 Metlife pfA METpA 22.86 -1.2 NewYorkMtgPfdF NYMTL 23.68 -0.	⁶ PhaseBioPharm PHAS 1.50 -	-8.4 RLI RI × 6 -0.2 -3.7 ROC Energy Rt AR 09.1		SouthernNts77 SOJC 25.12 -1.3 Tarsu SouthernNts20 SOJD 24.19 -0.9 Taste	IsPharm TARS 14.41 -9.7 US Ecology	WeilsFargoPfdADD WFCpD 20.55 -2.0 WeilsFargoPfdL WFCpL1346.80 -0.9
LightJumpWt LJAQW 0.28 -1.3 MilestoneSci MLSS 1.15 -2.4 NexGel NXGL 2.03 -7.	PowellIndustries POWL 21.60	3.3 ReadyCapPfdC R 24.5 1.2	SaussaCap SRSAU 9.80 -0.1		DataPfdVV TDSpV 22.98 -2.5 Ultralife	ULBI 4.66 1.0 WestportFuelSys WPRT 1.60 -9.1
MDC Holdings MDC 42.88 -1.2 MohawkInds MHK 143.25 -5.2 Novonix NVX 17.55 -8.	PredictiveOncology POAI 0.72 - 0.72 - 0.72	-3.4 RealNetworks RNM 0.66 2.9	Satellogic SATL 5.00 -9.5	SperoTherap SPRO 9.94 -0.1 Terns	Pharm TERN 3.66 -1.5 Unifirst	UNF 176.27 -0.1 WorldwideWebbW/t WWACW 0.43 -0.5
MINDTechnology MIND 1.21 -6.9 Monro MNRO 43.62 -0.2 OceanTechl Wt OTECW 0.27 -18.	4 PriorityIncmPfdK PRIFpK 23.50 -	-0.2 RegionsFinPfdE RFpE 21.37 1	SculptorCanMgmt SCU 16.46 -1.5	SpirePfdA SRpA 25.13 -1.0 Thay SpiritRealtyPfdA SRCpA 24.50 -0.6 Thaye	rVenturesWt TVACW 0.42 -8.0 UnityBiotech	UBX 0.91 -8.1 XI Fleet XL 1.71 -5.0
Macrogenics MGNX 10.59 -6.8 MorganStanleyPfd0 MSp0 21.21 -0.4 OnconovaTherap ONTX 1.61 -3.	6 ProgressAcqnWt PGRWW 0.26 -			SpreeAcqn1 Wt SHAP.WS 0.27 -3.6 Thera StanleyB&D Un SWT 96.16 -1.4 Third	opeuticsMD TXMD 0.25 -4.4 UnivInsurance CoastBcshs TCBX 23.41 VF	te UVE 12.10 - 27.3 YumanityTherap YMTX 1.60 VFC 60.53 - 2.9 Z-WorkAcgnWt ZWRKW 0.39 - 11.1
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CLASS ACTION

LEGAL NOTICE

If you are the current or former owner of a Performance Universal life insurance policy issued by John Hancock that was subject to a cost of insurance rate increase, your rights may be affected by a class action settlement

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Along main 4-lane Hwy near growth. EMAIL: bharv@msn.com CALL: 772-285-7797 **NOTICE OF SALE** ASSET SALE Pursuant to an Order of the Delaware Court of Chancery, William Kaye ("Kaye") has been appointed as Co-Receiver for Agway, Inc. ("Agway"), with the authority to sell the potential Tax Assets of Agway at astern 1, s. Forther right to pursue the tax assets of ay, sho. be submitted by email, on or before 5:00 "astern 1, s. February 25, 2022, to: illiam Kaye, Co-Receiver Li: Bilkaye(gillconsultants.com If two (2) or more offers are received by the above deadline, ⁴⁴ Kaye, at his option, shall either seek increase once, from the multiple offerors, and or constant elephonic automatic and a time to be set by Kaye, with adequate not a to the observed for the set by Kaye, shall a more such a fer to the Chancery Court for approval. Upon down for the Chancery Court for approval. Upon down for the Chancery Court for approval. Upon down for the chancery Court, Kay multiple approval from the Chancery Court, Kay multiple approval from the Chancery Multiple approval courter of the court of the second appropriate agreement download courter of the second Multiple approval from the second of the seco PRODUCTS ACCREDITED INVESTORS EAGLE BUL ON COINS GUARANTEED LOW ST RETAIL 866-700-0600 Please vis www.treasurechestmi Investment opportunities avait



Playboy

Continued from Page 5B

Ex-No. 1 girlfriend Sondra Theodore: I was manipulated by Hefner into orgies, raped by his cronies

Episode 5 focuses entirely on Sondra Theodore's long list of allegations against Hefner, with whom she lived as his No. 1 girlfriend for five years from the late 1970s to early 1980s. Often weeping, she describes herself as a 19year-old "sweet, angelic, naive" girl when she first met Hefner (who was 50 at the time), fell "in love" with him and moved into the Playboy Mansion, only to discover later that she wasn't No. 1 and that she would be forced or manipulated into sexual acts she now bitterly regrets.

Theodore describes Hefner as a "monster" and a "vampire," alleging he dabbled in bestiality, liked watching "snuff" films and had drawers stuffed with cocaine and other drugs.

She says Hefner would hire porn stars to come to his bedroom and have sex with women living at the mansion while he watched. He kept multiple sex toys in the headboard of the bed, according to his valet, Stefan Tetanbaum, who said the maids' job was to clean and sterilize them every morning, encase them in plastic and return them to the headboard.

But Theodore is most undone by Hefner's pestering her to "party," meaning organize and participate in orgies, which so upset her she consumed cocaine in quantity to block the emotional and physical pain. By the end of her time with him, these group sex sessions in his bedroom, which are corroborated by his valet in the epi-



Hugh Hefner and Bill Cosby greet each other at a party at the Playboy Mansion in 2008. Cosby is one of several stars accused of sexual misconduct in "Secrets of Playboy." REED SAXON/AP

sode, could involve up to a dozen people, she says.

She said she felt she was being "raped" during these sessions. "I felt so violated having a man I did not want to be with force himself on me, and I felt sick inside that the man I felt was my boyfriend was OK with that."

Hefner's most enduring relationship was with a man, the series alleges

Jennifer Saginor grew up in the Playboy Mansion as the daughter of Hefner's longtime live-in doctor, Mark Saginor. She published a memoir in 2005 about her experiences, "Playground: A Childhood Lost Inside the Playboy Mansion," which included being underage when she was introduced to sex, drugs and breast enhancement.

She says her father was Hefner's "best friend" for more than 40 years. "It's my personal belief that the love of Hef's life was my father," she says.

Dr. Saginor gave up his practice to live with Hefner and brought his daughter with him. At age 15, Saginor says, she had a sexual affair with one of Hefner's adult girlfriends, which she says employees of the mansion knew about (one confirmed it on camera.)

Now living in California, Dr. Saginor was contacted by "Inside Edition" after the series' debut and rejected accusations he was nicknamed "Dr. Feelgood" for prescribing prescription pills to people at Playboy.

Former girlfriend Holly Madison calls Playboy 'a cult,' says sex with Hefner was 'traumatic'

Madison, one of Hefner's live-in lovers seen on E!'s "The Girls Next Door," a reality show about the Playboy Mansion, says she contemplated suicide because of her time with him. She says Playboy reminded her of a "cult" and describes her first experience of sex with Hefner as "traumatic." She says she thought she was in love with Hefner, but "it was very Stockholm syndrome."

Playboy allegedly covered up sex crimes committed

against bunnies by VIPs

Masten says she repeatedly warned her bunny charges not to to go to after-parties or go home with VIPs. "Once they left the club, they were not protected," she says.

Former Playboy bunnies, Playmates and other employees say that they knew of women who lived at the Playboy Mansion or worked at Playboy clubs who were drugged and raped by guests and members of Hefner's entourage off the property and that those assaults were hushed up and never reported to police, often at the victims' request.

Jaki Nett, a former Playboy bunny and bunny trainer from 1969 to 1979, says she and another bunny went to a party at the home of a Playboy VIP member, where they were drugged and raped.

"I didn't want to go to the police," she says. "The only thing Playboy could do is take his membership away. Playboy did protect and support me; what women need is to be believed and that's what happened to me."

Claim: Bunnies were lured from resort to appear in a 'movie,' then raped, videotaped

Another horrifying incident allegedly involves the nowclosed Great Gorge Playboy Club in New Jersey during Playboy's 25th anniversary.

According to Suzanne Charneski, a Playboy bunny from 1979 to 1982, a group of men pretending to be Hollywood producers visited the resort in 1979 and invited a group of bunnies to a house in the mountains nearby to possibly be filmed for their "movie."

"They were drugged, raped

Jazzy Jeff, has several hustles. His business card calls him a vinyl expert, DJ, flower deliverer and private transportation

and videotaped, they were kept there for a couple of days and then released and told if they told anyone the videos would be broadcast," Charneski says.

A bunny kept her alleged encounter with Bill Cosby to herself because he was 'one of Hefner's best friends'

Bill Cosby is one of several celebrities accused of sexually assaulting women at the mansion. Although he has never been charged with that, he is now embroiled in a civil suit from a woman who accuses Cosby of sexual battery at the mansion in 1974 when she was 15. He denies her allegations.

Masten, another of the leading accusers in "Secrets of Playboy," is one of about 60 women who starting in 2014 accused Cosby of sexual assault. She says Cosby drugged and raped her in a Chicago hotel in 1979, when she was a Playboy bunny. She said she was told she'd better keep quiet because no one would believe her, because Cosby was one of Hefner's best friends. Cosby has denied her allegations.

Playboy's 'cleanup crews' claim they mopped up drugs, deaths and rapes

Masten and multiple former employees of the mansion claim Playboy had "cleanup crews" to make sure scandals such as overdoses, deaths and sexual assaults remained under wraps so they could not mar Playboy's image.

"If anything scandalous happened, we had to clean it up and make sure it wouldn't get in the press or reported to police." Masten says. "We were not allowed to take women to the hospital; we had to call Playboy security."

provider, which is how Jazz

meets Will, during a ride to the

Bankses from the Los Angeles

Bel-Air

Continued from Page 5B

their flaws be?" Brady wondered.

Rasheed Newson, another co-executive producer, says "Bel-Air" "nods to the original and character traits": the new Will borrows from the "Fresh Prince" theme song to explain his scuffle in Philly. But the remake avoids borrowing storylines, he says, "because that

nal conflict for the character, says Newson. "This Uncle Phil, he still has his own ambitions, and he's trying to do right by Will without letting Will complicate and ruin those ambitions," says Newson.

Aunt Viv Banks (Cassandra Freeman): Brady describes Will's re-imagined Aunt Viv as "a brilliant artist who had to put her pursuit of an art career on hold when life got a little overwhelming." He also notes that when Viv (a role shared by Janet Hubert and Daphne Reid in to the Olympics.

Jazz (Jordan L. Jones): Jazz, first played by Smith's friend and collaborator DJ

LEGAL MONDAY

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LEGAL NOTICE

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felt a bit disrespectful. We didn't feel like we could do that better than they did it."

Meet the series' re-imagined characters:

Will Smith (Jabari Banks): For the role of the new Will, Brady envisioned "someone with swagger" and "maybe a little bit more of a street edge." Will is now a bright student with hopes of playing basketball at a Division I school. He's shipped to Bel-Air after cops break up a brawl on the court in which Will pulls a gun on a notorious criminal in his neighborhood. "I'm not gonna bury my son," Will's mom Viola (April Parker Jones) says while driving her son to the airport. "You got a second chance, baby. Don't waste it."

Carlton Banks (Olly Sholotan): Carlton 2.0 is well-liked at Bel-Air Academy, in contrast to the dorkier depiction in the original series. Older sister Hilary dubs him "the Jackie Robinson" of lacrosse.

But "it's tied to his anxiety disorder, and it helped him have confidence and be the person who's outgoing," Newson savs.

Uncle Phil Banks (Adrian Holmes): In the debut episode Will arrives as the Bankses are hosting a fundraiser for Uncle Phil's bid for district attorney. Phil (originally portrayed by the late James Avery) tells attendees he's "tired of watching this broken system discard young Black men into the for-profit school to prison pipeline."

Brady says the campaign allows "the show to examine some of the larger issues, especially when it comes to the legal system as it relates to families of color." It also spurs an inter-

the original series) was aspiring to become an artist, "the world was in a different place at that time and not necessarily as open to artists of color as it is now."

Hilary Banks (Coco Jones): Brady says the new version of Hilary (originated by Karyn Parsons) is inspired by the shopaholic. Still fashionable, the new Hilary helps Will dress for Phil's fundraiser.

Ashley Banks (Akira Akbar): Viewers briefly meet Ashley, the youngest Banks child, in the "Bel-Air" premiere. She's a 12-year-old who's concerned about climate change and a "polarized political climate."

"Ashley is still an adorable sweetheart," Newson says, "but in this re-imagining we will have her tackling some of the issues about identity and privilege that preteens face today."

The role was originally played by Tatyana Ali.

Geoffrey (Jimmy Akingbola): The "Bel-Air" Geoffrey has the title of house manager, rather than butler-like "G" (Joseph Marcell) in "Fresh Prince." And he doesn't wear a uniform.

'We didn't just want him to feel like an employee or a servant," says Newson. "We try to elevate him more to the role of confidant" to Phil.

Lisa Wilkes (Simone Joy Jones): Lisa, introduced in the penultimate season of "Fresh Prince" (and played by Nia Long), helps illustrate "what was the Banks family doing before Will knocked at their door?" Newson says. The new version of Lisa is still a love interest for Will, but just to add to the drama, she's now Carlton's ex. Lisa also is a dedicated swimmer with dreams of going

rate increase, your rights may be affected by a class action settlement

action lawsuit called Jeffrey Leonard et. al. v. John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York et. al., Case No. 18-CV-4994 (AKH) (the "Settlement"). This notice provides a summary of your rights and options. More details are available at www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

What is this about? The lawsuit alleges that Defendants, John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York and John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.) (collectively, "John Hancock") increased cost of insurance ("COI") rates on certain Performance Universal Life policies beginning in 2018 and 2019 unlawfully and in violation of the terms of the policies (the "COI Increase"). The lawsuit further alleges that John Hancock violated certain state statutes for issuing false and misleading illustrations regarding the policies. John Hancock denies these claims; however, both sides have agreed to the Settlement to avoid the cost of further litigation.

Who is affected? You are potentially a member of the Settlement class whose rights may be affected if you are a current or former owner of one or more of the universal life insurance policies subjected to the COI Increase (a "Class Policy" or "Class Policies"). To learn which policies are excluded go to www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

How do I know if I am an owner of a Class Policy? You are the owner of a Class Policy if you currently have or previously held a direct or indirect ownership interest in any Class Policy. If you have any questions regarding ownership, please visit the Settlement website or contact the Settlement Administrator.

What does the Settlement provide? The Settlement provides for cash payments that will be distributed on a pro rata basis from a fund of up to \$123,074,128.32. In addition, John Hancock has agreed not to increase COI rate scales on Class Policies for a period of five years or more, and has agreed not to challenge the validity of the Class Policies on various grounds. For more details, visit www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

What are my options? You can do nothing, exclude yourself, or object to the Settlement.

A proposed settlement has been reached in a class **Do nothing.** You will automatically receive payment in the mail and the other non-cash benefits if you are entitled to them. You will give up your right to sue or continue to sue John Hancock for the claims in this lawsuit.

airport.

Exclude yourself. You will not receive a payment or any other benefits of the Settlement. You will keep your right to sue John Hancock at your own expense and with your own attorney for the claims in this lawsuit. Your exclusion request must follow the specific format required by the Court. For more information on how to exclude yourself from the Settlement please visit the Settlement website or contact the Settlement Administrator.

Object. If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you may object or tell the Court what vou don't like about the Settlement.

Exclusion requests and objections must be sent to HancockCOISettlement, c/oJNDLegalAdministration, P.O. Box 91398, Seattle, WA 98111, postmarked by March 28, 2022. For more details about your rights and options and how to exclude yourself or object, go to www.HancockCOISettlement.com.

What happens next? The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing on May 17, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. at the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY 10007-1312, to consider whether to approve the Settlement, Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses (not to exceed 33% of the value of the benefits provided by the Settlement), and incentive awards (up to \$25,000 per Plaintiff). The Court has appointed Susman Godfrey L.L.P. as Class Counsel. Class Counsel will answer any questions that the Court may have. You or your attorney may ask to speak at the hearing at your own expense, but you don't have to.

How do I get more information? For more information and to view the full notice, go to www.HancockCOISettlement.com, or contact the Settlement Administrator by writing Hancock COI Settlement, c/o JND Legal Administration, P.O. Box 91398, Seattle, WA 98111, or calling 1-877-389-2130.

Please do not contact the Court.

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