

*Barnes, et al. v. District of Columbia*., United States District Court for the District of Columbia, Case No. 06-0315 (RCL).

**If you were released from the D.C. Jail, the Correctional Treatment Facility (“CTF”), or any other facility operated by the Department of Corrections (“DOC”), at any time from September 1, 2005 through July 31, 2013 (“the Class Period”), and were not released by midnight on the date on which you were entitled to be released, you may be a class member entitled to money. This notice also applies to you if you were incarcerated during the time period above, were taken to court from a DOC facility, were ordered released by the court or otherwise became entitled to release by virtue of the court appearance, and were strip searched prior to your release.**

**What is this about?**

A settlement has been reached in this class action. The plaintiffs contend that the District of Columbia’s Department of Corrections kept them incarcerated past the time they were supposed to be released, or subjected them to a strip search after they had been to court and were entitled to release because of the court appearance. The plaintiffs sued the District of Columbia, whose agency, the Department of Corrections, operates the D.C. Jail and other facilities at which inmates are incarcerated. The District is the “Defendant” here, the party being sued. The District of Columbia does not admit to any wrongdoing, but has agreed to the settlement to avoid any uncertainties and expenses associated with litigation of the case. You may obtain a copy of the entire Settlement Agreement on the Department of Corrections’ website at [www.doc.dc.gov](http://www.doc.dc.gov).

**What are the key terms of the Settlement Agreement?**

The Settlement Agreement provides for monetary compensation for each plaintiff, based on the length of time they were “overdetained” and for qualifying strip searches. In exchange, the settlement class members are releasing all claims related to overdetections or strip searches for the class period. The Defendant has agreed to pay a total settlement of Six Million and Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$6,200,000.00) into a Distribution Fund, portions of which will be distributed to Settlement Class Members who submit timely, valid Proof of Claim and Release Forms.

**What Do I Need To Do To Collect Money?**

To get money from the Settlement, you must complete a Proof of Claim and Release Form, sign it, and mail it to the Claims Administrator on or before **April 11, 2014**. To obtain a Claim Form please contact the Claims Administrator at 1-877-258-3743 or visit the settlement website [www.gilardi.com/barnesvdcsettlement](http://www.gilardi.com/barnesvdcsettlement). By accepting the terms of this settlement, you will be waiving your right to assert a claim against the District of Columbia as it applies to overdetections and strip searches during the Class Period. Therefore, if you do not want to waive these claims, you should opt-out of this settlement as set forth below.

**What Do I Need To Do If I Want To Request Exclusion or “Opt Out” From the Settlement?**

To request to be excluded or “opt out” from the Settlement, you must prepare and submit a written request with your name and address. The request must state: “I do not want to be part of the plaintiff settlement class in the Barnes Class Action Case.” The request must be signed by you and mailed to Barnes, et al. v. District of Columbia Claims Administrator C/O Gilardi & Co, P.O. BOX 6002 Larkspur, CA 94977-6002. Your request must be postmarked on or before **February 25, 2014** to be included. Note that the date to file an Opt Out is different from, and earlier than, the date to file a claim.

**What Must I Do To Object To the Settlement?**

Any Settlement Class Member may object to the Settlement, or to any settlement term. Settlement Class Members must object in writing. You may object to all or any part of the settlement. You must file any objection by **February 12, 2014**. Note that the date to file an Objection is different from, and earlier than, the date to file a claim. If you object to any part of the Settlement Agreement and you want to tell the Judge, you have to do the following things:

You must write a letter to the Judge telling him what you do not like about the Settlement Agreement. Include your name, address, phone number, and signature in the letter. On the first page of your letter write in large or underlined letters: “Civil Action No. 06-cv-0315 (RCL): Objections to Settlement Agreement in Barnes v. District of Columbia.” Mail your letter to:

The Honorable Royce C. Lamberth  
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia  
E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse  
333 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

You must also mail copies of your letter to the lawyers for the plaintiffs and defendant at the following addresses:

Barnes Class Counsel  
Barrett S. Litt  
Attention: Paralegal Julia White  
Kaye, McLane, Bednarski & Litt  
234 Colorado Blvd., Ste 230  
Pasadena, CA 91101

AND

Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia  
Re: Barnes Class Action  
Andrew J. Saindon, Assistant Attorney General  
Attention: Robin Massengale  
441 Fourth Street, NW, 6th Floor South  
Washington, DC 20001

**Are There Lawyers Representing You?**

The lawyers for the plaintiffs are Barrett S. Litt and William Claiborne. Class members do not pay any fees to these lawyers. The fees are approved by the Court. The contact information for Plaintiffs’ counsel is:

Barnes Class Counsel  
Barrett S. Litt  
Attention: Paralegal Julia White  
Kaye, McLane, Bednarski & Litt  
234 Colorado Blvd., Ste 230  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**When and where will the judge decide whether to approve the Settlement Agreement?**

A final fairness hearing will be held on **March 17, 2014**, at 10:00 a.m. before the Honorable Judge Royce C. Lamberth of the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia, at the E. Barrett Prettyman United States Courthouse. The courthouse is located at 333 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001. The hearing will be held in courtroom 22A.

**DO NOT CALL THE COURT. THE COURT WILL NOT ACCEPT PHONE CALLS ABOUT THIS. YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING.**