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AMERICAN FINANCIAL BENEFITS CENTER,
7 AMERITECH FINANCIAL, FINANCIAL
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8 DEMOND FRERE

9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
10 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
11 OAKLAND DIVISION

12 FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,
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14 Plaintiff,
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16 v.
17 AMERICAN FINANCIAL BENEFITS
CENTER, a corporation, also d/b/a AFB and
18 AF STUDENT SERVICES, et al.,
19 Defendants.

Case No. 18-cv-00806 SBA

PARTIES' JOINT STATUS REPORT

**Complaint filed February 7, 2018
Hon. Sandra Brown Armstrong**

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21 Pursuant to Orders issued by this Court (*see* ECF No. 234), the Parties hereby submit this
22 Joint Status Report.

23 As the Court is aware, on December 20, 2019, Defendant Brandon Frere entered a plea of
24 guilty to one count each of wire fraud and money laundering. *See United States v. Frere*, Cr. 19-
25 0493-SI. His sentencing has been delayed, including due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but is
26 currently scheduled for July 24, 2020. Mr. Frere and the Federal Trade Commission have been in
27 discussions regarding settlement and have reached an agreement in principle. They anticipate
28 that the settlement will be finalized before Mr. Frere's sentencing hearing.

4818-7405-4337.1

1 The Companies, that is, American Financial Benefits Center, Ameritech Financial, and
2 Financial Education Benefits Center, are no longer operating and their assets have been liquidated
3 under the supervision of the Receiver in this Action, Thomas McNamara. Mr. McNamara has
4 submitted periodic status reports to the Court, the most recent having been submitted on January
5 9, 2020. ECF No. 232.

6 Based on the foregoing, the parties ask that the Court continue the stay in this matter until
7 thirty (30) days after Mr. Frere has been sentenced in the parallel criminal action.

8 Dated: June 29, 2020

ROPERS MAJESKI PC

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10 By: /s/ Nicole S. Healy

11 TODD A. ROBERTS
12 NICOLE S. HEALY
13 Attorneys for Defendants
14 AMERICAN FINANCIAL BENEFITS
15 CENTER, AMERITECH FINANCIAL,
16 FINANCIAL EDUCATION BENEFITS
17 CENTER, and BRANDON DEMOND
18 FRERE

16 Dated: June 29, 2020

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

18 By: /s/ Sarah Schroeder

19 SARAH SCHROEDER
20 ROBERTA TONELLI
21 EVAN ROSE
22 Attorneys for Plaintiff
23 FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
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A Professional Corporation
Redwood City

ROPERS
MAJESKI

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ECF ATTESTATION

I, Nicole S. Healy, am the ECF User whose ID and password are being used to file this PARTIES’ JOINT STATUS REPORT. In compliance with Civil Local Rule 5-1(i)(3), I attest that concurrence in the filing of this document has been obtained from all signatories indicated by a “conformed” signature (/s/) within this e-filed document.

Dated: June 29, 2020

/s/ Nicole S. Healy
NICOLE S. HEALY

