

Conde Nast, Michigan Subscribers Reach Data Privacy Settlement

Aug. 22, 2018 5:01PM

Michigan residents that subscribed to Conde Nast Inc. publications reached a \$13.8 million settlement with the media company to end class claims that it sold their data to third parties without getting consent.

Conde Nast, which publishes GQ, The New Yorker, and Vanity Fair, among others, will also pay no more than \$4.58 million in attorneys' fees, according to the Aug. 21 federal court [settlement](#). Class attorneys will have to petition the court for their actual payout.

Plaintiffs Suzanne Boelter and Elizabeth Moeller, who sought to represent a proposed class, alleged in 2015 that Conde Nast sold its subscribers' personal data to third parties from 2009 to 2016, including names, addresses, and demographic information. The plaintiffs filed claims under the Michigan's Preservation of Personal Privacy Act for failure to obtain consent before selling information to third parties.

Judge Naomi Reice Buchwald of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York still needs to approve the settlement before it is finalized.

Many privacy lawsuits are settled before reaching the jury stage of trial, to reduce attorneys' fees, court costs, and potentially adverse verdicts.

Representatives for Conde Nast did not immediately respond to Bloomberg Law's email requests for comment, nor did the plaintiffs.

Bursor & Fisher P.A. represented the settlement class. Dentons LLP represented Conde Nast.

The case is [Moeller v. Advance Magazine Publishers, Inc.](#), S.D.N.Y., No. 15-cv-05671, motion for preliminary approval 8/21/18 .