

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

CARGILL MEAT SOLUTIONS
CORPORATION, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.: 22-cv-1821

UNITED STATES' EXPLANATION OF CONSENT DECREE PROCEDURES

The United States submits this memorandum summarizing the procedures of the Antitrust Procedures and Penalties Act, 15 U.S.C. § 16(b)–(h) (the “APPA” or “Tunney Act”), related to the Court’s review of the Stipulation and Order (“Stipulation and Order”) and the proposed Final Judgment in this matter as to Defendants George’s, Inc. and George’s Foods, LLC (collectively, “Settling Defendants”), which were filed at the same time as this Explanation, and are attached to it. The United States and Settling Defendants respectfully ask that the Court sign the attached Stipulation and Order as soon as possible.

1. The United States has filed a proposed Final Judgment and a Stipulation and Order, to which the United States and Settling Defendants have agreed, and a Competitive Impact Statement explaining the proposed settlement. The United States and Settling Defendants have also agreed that the Court may enter the proposed Final Judgment after the requirements of the Tunney Act have been satisfied.

2. The Stipulation and Order will ensure that Settling Defendants preserve competition during the Tunney Act proceedings by complying with the provisions of the proposed Final Judgment. *See* 15 U.S.C. § 16(b)-(h).

3. The Court should not sign the proposed Final Judgment until the requirements of the Tunney Act are satisfied. The Tunney Act requires that the United States (a) publish the proposed Final Judgment and the Competitive Impact Statement in the *Federal Register* and (b) cause a summary of the terms of the proposed Final Judgment and the Competitive Impact Statement to be published in one or more newspapers at least 60 days before the Court signs the proposed Final Judgment. 15 U.S.C. § 16(b)-(c). The newspaper notice(s) will inform the public how to submit comments about the proposed Final Judgment to the United States Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. Settling Defendants in this matter have agreed to arrange and pay for the required newspaper notice(s).

4. During the 60-day period following publication in the *Federal Register*, the United States will consider any comments it receives. After the 60-day period has ended, the United States will prepare a response to any comments and will (a) file with the Court the comments and the United States' response and (b) publish the comments and the United States' response in the *Federal Register* unless this Court authorizes an alternative method of public dissemination of the public comments and the response to those comments pursuant to the Tunney Act, 15 U.S.C. § 16(d). After the comments and the United States' response have been filed with the Court and published, the United States may move the Court to enter the proposed Final Judgment unless the United States has withdrawn its consent to entry of the Final Judgment, as permitted by Paragraph II.A of the attached Stipulation and Order.

5. If the United States moves the Court to enter the proposed Final Judgment after compliance with the Tunney Act, the Court may enter the Final Judgment without a hearing if the Court concludes that the Final Judgment is in the public interest. 15 U.S.C. § 16(e)-(f).

Dated: May 17, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

FOR PLAINTIFF
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

/s/ Kathleen Simpson Kiernan
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kathleen Simpson Kiernan, hereby certify that on May 17, 2023, I caused true and correct copies of the United States' Explanation of Consent Decree Procedures to be served via the Court's CM/ECF system.

FOR PLAINTIFF
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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