

CEC ENTERTAINMENT: Still Defends Apollo Merger-Related Suit Class Action Reporter
May 21, 2018

Following the January 16, 2014 announcement that CEC Entertainment had entered into an agreement ("Merger Agreement"), pursuant to which an entity controlled by Apollo Global Management, LLC ("Apollo") and its subsidiaries merged with and into CEC Entertainment, with CEC Entertainment surviving the merger (the "Merger"), four putative shareholder class actions were filed in the District Court of Shawnee County, Kansas, on behalf of purported stockholders of CEC Entertainment, against A.P. VIII Queso Holdings, L.P., CEC Entertainment, CEC Entertainment's directors, Apollo and Merger Sub (as defined in the Merger Agreement), in connection with the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby.

These actions were consolidated into one action (the "Consolidated Shareholder Litigation") in March 2014, and on July 21, 2015, a consolidated class action petition was filed as the operative consolidated complaint, asserting claims against CEC's former directors, adding The Goldman Sachs Group ("Goldman Sachs") as a defendant, and removing all Apollo entities as defendants (the "Consolidated Class Action Petition").

The Consolidated Class Action Petition alleges that CEC Entertainment's directors breached their fiduciary duties to CEC Entertainment's stockholders in connection with their consideration and approval of the Merger Agreement by, among other things, conducting a deficient sales process, agreeing to an inadequate tender price, agreeing to certain provisions in the Merger Agreement, and filing materially deficient disclosures regarding the transaction.

The Consolidated Class Action Petition also alleges that two members of CEC Entertainment's board who also served as the senior managers of CEC Entertainment had material conflicts of interest and that Goldman Sachs aided and abetted the board's breaches as a result of various conflicts of interest facing the bank. The Consolidated Class Action Petition seeks, among other things, to recover damages, attorneys' fees and costs. The Company assumed the defense of the Consolidated Shareholder Litigation on behalf of CEC's named former directors and Goldman Sachs pursuant to existing indemnity agreements.

On March 23, 2016, the Court conducted a hearing on the defendants' Motion to Dismiss the Consolidated Class Action Petition and on March 1, 2017, the Special Master appointed by the Court issued a report recommending to the Court that the Consolidated Class Action Petition be dismissed in its entirety.

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