

Certification of Funds in the Registry

PRINCIPAL: \$ 470,254.52

Financial Deputy: MNR Date: 1/10/2025

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

JOSEPHINE JONES

v.

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE
COMPANY

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 2:24-cv-01967

SECTION T

DISTRICT JUDGE GREG G. GUIDRY

MAG. JUDGE KAREN WELLS-ROBY

**FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER OF INTERPLEADER DISBURSEMENT,
DISCHARGE AND DISMISSAL**

On the Joint Motion for Entry of Final Judgment and Order of Interpleader Disbursement, Discharge and Dismissal filed by Plaintiff/Counterdefendant-in-Interpleader, Josephine Jones ("Jones"), Defendant/Interpleader Plaintiff, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife"), Third-Party Defendant-in-Interpleader Joseph Matthew Cangelosi ("Cangelosi"), and Third-Party Defendant-in-Interpleader Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home, Inc. ("BGT"), the Court finds, adjudges, and orders as follows:

1. On July 23, 2024, Jones filed suit against MetLife in Louisiana state court seeking payment of a life insurance death benefit insuring the life of Joseph Cangelosi, who was a participant in the Brand Services, LLC Welfare Benefit Plan (the "Plan"), an ERISA-regulated employee welfare benefit plan sponsored by Brand Industrial Services, Inc. and funded by a group term life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy, number 216403-1-G, issued by MetLife. (ECF No. 1-1).

2. On August 8, 2024, MetLife removed the state court action to this Court. (ECF No. 1).

3. On or about September 5, 2024, MetLife lodged an answer and asserted interpleader claims against Jones, Cangelosi, and BGT. (ECF No. 5).

4. On September 27, 2024, the Court granted MetLife's motion to deposit the disputed life insurance death benefit into the registry of the Court. (ECF No. 15).

5. On October 10, 2024, MetLife deposited \$470,254.52 (the "Funds") into the registry of the Court. (ECF No. 17).

All parties have resolved their dispute and submitted a Joint Motion for Entry of Final Judgment and Order of Interpleader Disbursement, Discharge and Dismissal, evidencing the financial terms of the settlement. Therefore, pursuant to the agreement of the parties, and the record in this matter:

IT IS ORDERED that from the Funds, Josephine Jones is entitled to and the Clerk shall disburse to her Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), payable to: "The Mack Law Firm Trust Account" and mailed to: Sherman Mack, The Mack Law Firm, 18983 Florida Blvd., Post Office Box 95, Albany, LA 70711.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that from the Funds, Joseph Matthew Cangelosi is entitled to and the Clerk shall disburse to him Three Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Fifty-One Dollars and Forty-One Cents (\$399,051.41), plus 100% of any accumulated interest, payable to: "Interpleader Law, LLC IOLTA" and mailed to: William Perry, Interpleader Law, LLC, 5800 One Perkins Place Dr., Suite 2A, Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that from the Funds, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is entitled to and the Clerk shall disburse to it Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Six Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$7,806.30), payable to: "Metropolitan Life Insurance Company" and mailed to:

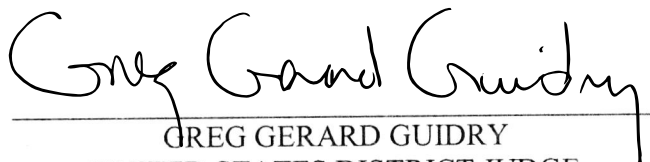
Jennifer Lawrence, Lawrence Legal, LLC, 141 Allen Toussaint Blvd, Number 135, New Orleans, LA 70124.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that from the Funds, Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home, Inc. is entitled to and the Clerk shall disburse to it Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars and Eighty-One Cents (\$13,396.81), payable to: "Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home, Inc." and mailed to: Patrick Reso, Chehardy, Sherman, Williams Recile & Hayes, LLP, 111 N. Oak Street, Suite 200, Hammond, LA 70401.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Jones, Cangelosi and BTG are permanently enjoined from commencing or prosecuting any proceeding or claim against MetLife, Brand Industrial Services, Inc., or the Plan in any state or federal court or other forum arising out of or related to the Plan Benefits, and that MetLife, Brand Industrial Services, Inc., and the Plan shall have no further liability to them, or to any person or entity claiming through them, for or relating to the Plan Benefits.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this matter is hereby dismissed with prejudice, with each party bearing its own costs.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 13th day of January, 2025.


GREG GERARD GUIDRY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE