

ENTERED

January 30, 2025

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISIONMETROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE
COMPANY,

Plaintiff,

v.

BARBARA ANN EVANS, et al.,

Defendants.

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Case No. 4:24-cv-03276

FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER OF INTERPLEADER DISBURSEMENT

On the Joint Motion for Entry of Final Judgment and Order of Interpleader Disbursement filed by Defendants Barbara Ann Evans; Mary Parnham, as Designated Trustee of Insurance Proceeds for Cory Thomas; Kelli Elizabeth Sliepka; and Taylor Dean Evans, the Court finds, adjudges, and orders as follows:

1. On September 3, 2024, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (“MetLife”) initiated this suit concerning a dispute over life insurance and accidental death insurance benefits that became payable upon the death of Thomas Dean Evans, who died on August 30, 2023. (ECF No. 1).

2. On May 7, 2024, the Court issued an Order authorizing MetLife to deposit the disputed death benefits into the registry of the Court, awarding MetLife \$4,600 as reimbursement of its attorney’s fees and costs, and granting MetLife interpleader relief. (ECF No. 28).

3. On or about January 26, 2024, MetLife deposited the disputed death benefits and applicable interest, minus the \$4,600 awarded to it, totaling \$2,314,960.97 (the “Funds”), into the registry of the Court, and was dismissed as a party.

The remaining parties have resolved their dispute and submitted a Joint Motion for Entry of Final Judgment and Order of Interpleader Disbursement, 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 registry Funds, Barbara Ann Evans is entitled to and the Clerk shall disburse to her One Million Seven Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars and Seventy-Eight Cents (\$1,799,586.78), plus 77% of any accumulated interest, payable to: “Interpleader Law, LLC IOLTA” and mailed to: Michael Hoover, Interpleader Law, LLC, 5800 One Perkins Place Dr., Suite 2A, Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

IT IS FURTHER **ORDERED** that from the registry Funds, Mary Parnham, as Designated Trustee of Insurance Proceeds for Cory Thomas, is entitled to and the Clerk shall disburse to her Four Hundred Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Four Dollars and Nineteen Cents (\$415,374.19), plus 18% of any accumulated interest, payable to: “Tholstrup Law Firm, L.P. Trust Account” and mailed to: Richard J. Tholstrup, The Tholstrup Law Firm, L.P., 440 Louisiana Street, Suite 200, Houston, TX 77002.

IT IS FURTHER **ORDERED** that from the registry Funds, Kelli Elizabeth Sliepka is entitled to and the Clerk shall disburse to her Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), plus 2.5% of any accumulated interest, payable to: “Tholstrup Law Firm, L.P. Trust Account” and mailed to: Richard J. Tholstrup, The Tholstrup Law Firm, L.P., 440 Louisiana Street, Suite 200, Houston, TX 77002.

IT IS FURTHER **ORDERED** that from the registry Funds, Taylor Dean Evans is entitled to and the Clerk shall disburse to him Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), plus 2.5% of any accumulated interest, payable to: “Tholstrup Law Firm, L.P. Trust Account” and mailed to: Richard J. Tholstrup, The Tholstrup Law Firm, L.P., 440 Louisiana Street, Suite 200, Houston, TX 77002.

IT IS FURTHER **ORDERED** that upon disbursement of the Funds in the amounts authorized herein, Barbara Ann Evans; Mary Parnham, as Designated Trustee of Insurance Proceeds for Cory Thomas; Kelli Elizabeth Sliepka; and Taylor Dean Evans, shall forever release any and claims against one another or the Estate of Thomas Dean Evans concerning Thomas Dean Evans’ child support and life insurance obligations, and each shall be permanently enjoined from pursuing such claims against one another or the Estate of Thomas Dean Evans in the future.

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

SIGNED this 30th day of January, 2025.



GEORGE C. HANKS, JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

