

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PIERCE

**NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

**Read this notice carefully. You may be eligible for a payment between \$657.38 and \$5,000.00 from a class action settlement related to Half Price Books, Records, Magazines, Incorporated's hiring practices.**

**To receive your settlement payment, you must complete the enclosed Claim Form and return it by mail by February 3, 2026, or submit a Claim Form through the settlement website at [www.hpbepoasettlement.com](http://www.hpbepoasettlement.com)**

*A Washington State Superior Court authorized this Notice. You are not being sued. This is not a solicitation from an attorney.*

**YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT**

<b>Submit a Claim and Receive a Payment from the Settlement</b>	This is the <u>only</u> way you can be eligible to receive a monetary payment from this settlement. The deadline to submit a Claim Form, either by mail or via the settlement website, is <b>February 3, 2026</b> .  A Claim Form is being provided to you along with this Notice. You can complete the Claim Form and mail it to the Settlement Administrator by <b>February 3, 2026</b> to submit a valid and timely claim.  You may alternatively submit a claim online by the <b>February 3, 2026</b> by visiting <a href="http://www.hpbepoasettlement.com">www.hpbepoasettlement.com</a> and inserting the following information: CPT ID: <><> Pin: <><>
<b>Exclude Yourself from the Settlement</b>	If you request to be excluded, you will no longer be in the Settlement Class and will not receive a settlement payment. This is the only option that allows you to keep any right to sue Defendant about the same legal claims in this Lawsuit. The deadline to request exclusion from the Settlement is <b>February 3, 2026</b> .
<b>Objection to the Settlement</b>	Write to the Court explaining why you do not agree with the settlement. You must not exclude yourself from the settlement if you wish to object. The deadline to object is <b>February 3, 2026</b> .
<b>Attend the Final Approval Hearing</b>	You may ask the Court for permission for you or your attorney to speak about your objection at the Final Approval Hearing. The Final Approval Hearing will be held on <b>February 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Do Nothing</b>	If you do nothing, you will remain in the Settlement Class, but will forfeit the opportunity to receive any settlement payment and will give up any right to sue Defendant and the other Released Parties about the claims that have been or could have been asserted based on the facts alleged in this Lawsuit.

- Applicant for employment, Katherine Kittlitz (“Plaintiff” or “Class Representative”), filed a lawsuit against Half Price Books, Records, Magazines, Incorporated (“Defendant” and together with Plaintiff, the “Parties”) on behalf of herself and a putative class of applicants. The lawsuit, *Katherine Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines, Incorporated*, Case No. 25-2-07433-7 (the “Lawsuit”) is currently pending in Pierce County Superior Court. Plaintiff claims in the Lawsuit that Defendant’s job postings for open positions in Washington did not disclose the wage scale or salary range being offered as required by Washington law. Defendant disputes Plaintiff’s claims and contends it has not violated any law and Plaintiff’s claims are without merit.
- The Court has not made any determinations regarding the merit or lack of merit of the Plaintiff’s claims or who will prevail in the Lawsuit, and it has not decided whether Defendant’s actions were lawful or violated the law.
- The Parties to the Lawsuit have reached a proposed class action settlement. The proposed settlement includes a minimum payment of \$223,440.50 (“Minimum Settlement Fund”) and a maximum payment of \$349,000.00 (“Maximum Settlement Fund”) by Defendant depending on the number of valid and timely claims submitted. On September 12, 2025, the Court issued an order preliminarily approving the Settlement and authorizing a qualified Settlement Administrator (“Settlement Administrator”) to send

this Notice and Claim Form.

- You are receiving this Notice because Defendant's records indicate you may be eligible to participate in the proposed settlement as a potential member of the Settlement Class. "Settlement Class Members" include "Plaintiff and all individuals who, from January 1, 2023 through June 11, 2025 (the "Settlement Class Period"), applied for job listing numbers 905623, 912624, 912696, 993830, or 1111120 in the State of Washington with Half Price Books, Records, Magazines, Incorporated, where the job posting did not disclose the wage scale or salary range for the position, or a general description of all of the benefits and other compensation to be offered to the hired applicant." If the Settlement receives final approval and the judgment becomes final, you are eligible for a payment of at least \$657.38 but only if you submit a valid and timely Claim Form via the mail or online through the settlement website at [www.hpbepoasettlement.com](http://www.hpbepoasettlement.com)

- The Court still has to decide whether to finally approve the settlement. No settlement benefits or payments will be provided unless the Court approves the settlement, and it becomes completely final.

- For complete details regarding the Settlement, please see the Settlement Agreement, the terms of which control, available at [www.hpbepoasettlement.com](http://www.hpbepoasettlement.com)

## **BASIC INFORMATION**

### **1. What is this Notice and why should I read it?**

The Court authorized this Notice to inform you about a proposed class action settlement with Defendant. You have legal rights and options that you may act on before the Court decides whether to approve the proposed settlement. If the settlement is finally approved and the judgment becomes final, you are eligible to receive a cash payment as part of the settlement as long as you submit a valid and timely claim. This Notice explains the Lawsuit, the Class Action Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Agreement"), and your legal rights.

Judge Andre M. Penalver of Pierce County Superior Court is overseeing this putative class action Lawsuit. The case (or Lawsuit) is titled *Katherine Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines, Incorporated*, Case No. 25-2-07433-7.

Katherine Kittlitz is the Plaintiff and Class Representative. The company she sued, *Half Price Books, Records, Magazines, Incorporated*, is the Defendant.

### **2. What is a class action lawsuit?**

A class action is a lawsuit in which one or more plaintiffs sue on behalf of a group of people who assert they have similar claims. In the context of this settlement, this group is called a "Settlement Class" and consists of "Settlement Class Members." In a class action, the court resolves the issues for all class members, except those who exclude themselves from the class.

### **3. What is this lawsuit about?**

Plaintiff claims that Defendant violated Washington law, RCW 49.58.110, by not disclosing the wage scale or salary range being offered in job postings for open positions.

Defendant denies all of the claims in the Lawsuit and contends that it is not liable to Plaintiff or the Settlement Class in any way.

More information about the Lawsuit can be found in the "Court Documents" section of the Settlement Website at [www.hpbepoasettlement.com](http://www.hpbepoasettlement.com)

### **4. Why is there a settlement?**

The Court has not decided whether the Plaintiff or Defendant should win this case. Instead, both sides agreed to this settlement. That way, they can avoid the uncertainty, risks, and expense of ongoing litigation, and Settlement Class Members can get payment now rather than years later—if ever. The Plaintiff and Class Counsel, attorneys for the Settlement Class Members, agree the settlement is in the best interests of the Settlement Class Members. The settlement is not an admission of wrongdoing by Defendant.

### **5. How do I know if I am in the Settlement Class?**

Defendant's records show you submitted an application for job listing numbers 905623, 912624, 912696, 993830, or 1111120 in Washington with Defendant between January 1, 2023, and June 11, 2025 (the "Settlement Class Period") where the job posting allegedly did not disclose the wage scale or salary range. If you are still not sure whether you are included, you can review your

own records and/or contact the Settlement Administrator by calling toll free at **1-888-711-1659**, emailing **hpbepoasettlement@cptgroup.com** or by visiting the Settlement Website at **www.hpbepoasettlement.com** .

## THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

### 6. What does the settlement provide?

All Settlement Class Members who submit a timely, valid Claim Form, by mail or online through the settlement website maintained by the Settlement Administrator, are eligible to receive an equal share of the Settlement Fund. Your estimated payment amount is \$657.38, but it could be as high as \$5,000.00 depending on how many Settlement Class Members submit a valid and timely Claim Form. Settlement payments will be characterized as non-wage damages and interest and reported on a Form 1099-Misc.

### 7. How do I receive a payment?

To qualify for a settlement payment, you must do one of two things:

First, you can choose to complete the enclosed Claim Form and submit it by mail, **postmarked on or before February 3, 2026, to:**

*Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines Inc.*  
c/o CPT Group, Inc.  
50 Corporate Park  
Irvine, CA 92606

Alternatively, you may submit a claim online on the official settlement website, [www.hpbepoasettlement.com](http://www.hpbepoasettlement.com) using Unique CPT ID: <>ID<> and : Pin: <>Passcode<>. If you choose to submit a claim on the settlement website, **you must submit your claim on or before February 3, 2026,**

Claims will be subject to a verification process. **All mailed Claim Forms and online submissions must be postmarked or submitted on or before February 3, 2026,**

**To ensure you receive your payment, you must contact the Settlement Administrator if your address or phone number changes at any time.** The Settlement Administrator may be contacted at:

*Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines Inc.*  
c/o CPT Group, Inc.  
50 Corporate Park  
Irvine, CA 92606  
Email: [hpbepoasettlement@cptgroup.com](mailto:hpbepoasettlement@cptgroup.com)

### 8. When will I get my payments?

The hearing to consider the fairness of the settlement is scheduled for **February 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.** If the Court approves the settlement, eligible Settlement Class Members who submitted a timely, valid Claim Form either by mail or online through the settlement website will be mailed a check after the settlement becomes completely final. Please be patient. All checks will expire and become void 181 days after the date of issuance.

### 9. Will Defendant retaliate against me if I participate in the Settlement?

No. Defendant agreed to the settlement and will not take any action against any Settlement Class Member for participating in the settlement. Your decision to participate, not participate, or object to the settlement will not affect any application for employment with Defendant or Defendant's treatment of you as a current or former employee.

## THE ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING YOU

### 10. Do I have an attorney in this case?

Yes, the Court appointed Craig Ackermann, Avi Kreitenberg, and Brian Denlinger of Ackermann & Tilajef, P.C. as Class Counsel to represent the Settlement Class. Their contact information is:

Craig Ackermann  
Avi Kreitenberg  
Brian Denlinger

ACKERMANN & TILAJEF, P.C.  
2602 North Proctor Street, Suite 205  
Tacoma, WA 98406  
Phone: (253) 625-7720

**Should I get my own attorney?** You don't need to hire your own attorney because Class Counsel are working on your behalf. These attorneys and their firm are experienced in handling similar cases. You will not be charged for these attorneys. You can ask your own attorney to appear in Court for you, at your own cost, if you want someone other than Class Counsel to represent you.

**11. How will Class Counsel and the Class Representatives be paid?**

Class Counsel will ask the Court to approve, and Defendant agrees not to oppose, an award of attorneys' fees in the amount up to \$101,210.00 and litigation costs in the amount up to \$2,000, to be paid from the Settlement Fund. Class Counsel will also request a service award for the Plaintiff in the amount of \$5,000, to be paid from the Settlement Fund. The Court will determine the proper amount of any attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses to award Class Counsel and the proper amount of any service award to Plaintiff. The Court may award less than the amounts requested. Whether the settlement will be finally approved does not depend on whether or how much the Court awards in attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses or service awards.

**YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS**

**12. What claims do I give up by participating in this Settlement?**

If the Court approves the settlement, the Court will enter a final judgment dismissing the Lawsuit "with prejudice." This means that the claims in the Lawsuit will be permanently dismissed. Specifically, Defendant will be "released" from claims as described in Paragraph 18 of the Settlement Agreement, which states that upon final approval of this Settlement Agreement by the Court, each Settlement Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely request for exclusion:

will release the Released Parties from all claims that were alleged or could have been alleged in the Action during the Settlement Class Period based on the same factual predicates as alleged therein, including claims under any federal, state, or local law. The Released Claims specifically include, but are not limited to, any claims arising out of or relating to a violation of RCW 49.58.110, and any claims for relief under RCW 49.58.060 or RCW 49.58.070, actual damages, statutory damages, interest, and attorneys' fees and costs relating to any of the foregoing.

The Released Parties are (i) Defendant and its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, insurers, reinsurers, insurance policies and benefit plans, (ii) each of the past and present officers, directors, agents, employees, equity holders (shareholders, holders of membership interests, etc.), representatives, administrators, fiduciaries and attorneys of the entities and plans described in this sentence, and (iii) the predecessors, successors, transferees, and assigns of each of the persons and entities described in this sentence.

By being part of the settlement, Settlement Class Members agree that they cannot sue or seek recovery against Defendant or other Released Parties as described in the Settlement Agreement for any Released Claims. Participating in the settlement does not, however, waive claims outside the Released Claims.

Any potential Settlement Class Member who does not request exclusion by the applicable deadline will be a Settlement Class Member and will be considered to have agreed to the above release and to have waived any and all of the Released Claims against Defendant and Released Parties. Any potential Settlement Class Member who requests exclusion by the applicable deadline is not a Settlement Class Member, will not be subject to the release, and will not receive any payment.

**13. What happens if I do nothing?**

If you do nothing, you will receive no payment under the settlement. You will still be in the Settlement Class, and, if the Court approves the settlement, you will be bound by all orders and judgments of the Court, the Settlement Agreement, and its included release. You will be deemed to have participated in the settlement and will be subject to the provisions of Section 12 above. Unless you exclude yourself, you won't be able to file a lawsuit or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant for the claims or legal issues resolved in this settlement.

**14. What happens if I request to be excluded?**

If you submit a timely, valid request for exclusion from the settlement, you will receive no benefits or payment under the settlement. However, you will not be in the Settlement Class, will not release claims against Defendant, and will not be legally bound by the Court's judgments in this Lawsuit.

Notice of Class Action Settlement  
Mailing Date: October 10, 2025

## **15. How do I request to be excluded?**

To request to be excluded from the settlement, you must send a letter, postmarked no later than **February 3, 2026**, to the Settlement Administrator at the following address:

*Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines Inc.*  
c/o CPT Group, Inc.  
50 Corporate Park  
Irvine, CA 92606

To be considered valid, a request for exclusion **must** include: (i) your full name; (ii) your address; (iii) a statement that you wish to be excluded from the settlement (for example, “I request to be excluded from the class action settlement in *Katherine Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines, Incorporated*, Case No. 25-2-07433-7”); and (iv) your or your attorney’s signature and date signed.

You cannot exclude yourself by phone or email. Each individual who wants to be excluded from the settlement must submit his or her own request for exclusion. Group requests for exclusion are not permitted.

## **16. If I don’t exclude myself, can I sue Defendant for the same thing later?**

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up any right to sue Defendant and the Released Parties for the claims being resolved by this settlement even if you do nothing.

## **17. If I exclude myself, can I get anything from this settlement?**

No. If you exclude yourself, you will not receive a payment. If you choose to exclude yourself from the settlement, please do not submit a Claim Form to ask for a payment as it will not be recognized or honored.

## **18. How do I object to the settlement?**

If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you can object to the settlement if you disagree with any part of it. You can give reasons why you think the Court should deny approval of the settlement by filing an objection. To object, you must file written notice with the Court stating that you object to the settlement in *Katherine Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines, Incorporated*, Case No. 25-2-07433-7, no later than **February 3, 2026**. Your objection must be filed with the Court, which you can do by mailing your objection and any supporting documents to Pierce County Superior Court at the following address:

Pierce County Superior Court Clerk  
930 Tacoma Ave S, Room 110  
Tacoma, WA 98402

If you are represented by an attorney, the attorney may file your objection through the Court’s e-filing system.

To be valid, your objection must be in writing and include: (i) your full name, address, telephone number, and email address; (ii) the case name and number; (iii) the reasons why you object to the settlement; (iv) the name and address of your attorney, if you have retained one; (v) a statement confirming whether you and/or your attorney intend to personally appear at the Final Approval Hearing; and (vi) your or your attorney’s signature and date signed.

In addition to filing your objection with the Court, you must also mail copies of your objection and any supporting documents to the Settlement Administrator *Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines Inc.* c/o CPT Group, Inc. 50 Corporate Park Irvine, CA 92606 and both Class Counsel and Defendant’s attorneys at the addresses listed below, postmarked no later than **February 3, 2026**:

<b>Class Counsel</b>	<b>Defendant’s Counsel</b>
Craig Ackermann Avi Kreitenberg Brian Denlinger <b>ACKERMANN &amp; TILAJEF, P.C.</b> 2602 North Proctor Street, Suite 205 Tacoma, WA 98406	Brian K. Keeley <b>JACKSON LEWIS, P.C.</b> 520 Pike Street, Suite 2300 Seattle, WA 98101

**19. What's the difference between objecting and excluding myself from the settlement?**

Objecting simply means telling the Court that you don't like something about the settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. Excluding yourself from the Settlement Class is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you have no basis to object because the case no longer affects you.

## THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

**20. When and where will the Court hold a hearing on the fairness of the settlement?**

The Court will hold the Final Approval Hearing on **February 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.** in Pierce County Superior Court, Department 23, 930 Tacoma Ave S, Tacoma, WA 98402.

The purpose of the hearing is for the Court to determine whether the settlement is fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class. At the hearing, the Court will hear any objections and arguments concerning the fairness of the proposed settlement, including those related to the amount requested by Class Counsel for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses and the service award for Plaintiff.

**Note:** The date and time of the Final Approval Hearing are subject to change by court order. Any changes will be posted at the Settlement Website, [www.hpbepoasettlement.com](http://www.hpbepoasettlement.com), or through the Court's publicly available docket. You should check the Settlement Website to confirm the date and time have not been changed if you would like to appear at the Final Approval Hearing.

**21. Do I have to come to the hearing?**

No. Class Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have, but you are welcome to attend the hearing at your own expense. If you send an objection, you don't have to come to the hearing to talk about it. As long as your written objection was filed or mailed on time and meets the other criteria described above and in the Settlement Agreement, the Court will consider it. You may also hire an attorney to attend on your behalf at your own expense, but you don't have to.

**22. May I speak at the hearing?**

Yes. If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Final Approval Hearing concerning any part of the proposed settlement by filing an objection that includes a statement that you intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing.

## GETTING MORE INFORMATION

**23. Where can I get additional information?**

This Notice summarizes the proposed Settlement. More details are in the Settlement Agreement, which is available at [www.hpbepoasettlement.com](http://www.hpbepoasettlement.com)

You may contact the Settlement Administrator by phone, email, or in writing at:

*Kittlitz v. Half Price Books, Records, Magazines Inc.*  
c/o CPT Group, Inc.  
50 Corporate Park  
Irvine, CA 92606  
Email: [hpbeoasettlement@cptgroup.com](mailto:hpbeoasettlement@cptgroup.com)

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT, THE CLERK OF THE COURT, THE JUDGE, OR DEFENDANT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT OR CLAIMS PROCESS.**