Packaged Seafood Products Indirect 2 — Settlement Summary

Last Modified on 10/02/2026 6:01 pm EDT

Packaged Seafood Products Antitrust Litigation – Tuna End Purchaser (Indirect Purchaser Settlement)

Summary

This class action alleges that major packaged tuna manufacturers conspired to fix, raise, and stabilize the prices of canned and pouched tuna products in violation of federal and state antitrust and unfair competition laws between June 2011 and July 2015. Settlements totaling **$152.2 million** have been reached with StarKist, Dongwon Industries (DWI), and the Lion Companies on behalf of indirect (end) purchasers. The Court approved the StarKist and Lion Settlements on November 22, 2024, and distribution is underway.

Announcements

Replacement Checks Mailed – September 28, 2026: Replacement checks were mailed on **September 28, 2026** to all Affected Class Members — defined as those whose original checks were dishonored after being deposited. All Affected Class Members received an email from the Claims Administrator explaining the situation. If you did not receive such an email, you are not an Affected Class Member. Replacement checks include an additional **$20** to help offset bank fees incurred. If your bank charged more than $20 in fees due to the dishonored check, email **info@TunaEndPurchaserSettlement.com** with documentation of the extra charges for review. For check verification or questions, call **866-615-0977** and press 8 to speak with a live agent.

Undeposited Original Checks: If you have not yet deposited or cashed your original check, there are sufficient funds available to cover all payments and your check is safe for deposit. Please deposit your check.

Filing Deadline Passed: The claim filing deadline of **December 31, 2024** has passed. Class members who did not submit a valid claim form by that date and did not previously file a claim in the COSI Settlement will not receive a payment but remain bound by the Court's judgment.

Court Approval: The Court held a Fairness Hearing on November 22, 2024, and approved the StarKist and Lion Settlements on the same day.

Settlement Amount

The combined settlements total **$152.2 million**. This amount covers settlements with StarKist, DWI (Dongwon Industries), and the Lion Companies. A per-claimant estimate is not published on the settlement website.

Class Period

June 1, 2011 through July 1, 2015

Filing Deadline

The initial claims deadline of **December 31, 2024** has passed. No additional filing opportunity is available. Class

members who previously filed a valid claim in the COSI Settlement did not need to file again.

Who Qualifies

The StarKist and Lion Settlement Class includes all persons and entities who:

- Resided in one of the following jurisdictions: **Arizona, Arkansas, California, the District of Columbia, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, or Wisconsin**; *and*
- **Indirectly purchased** packaged tuna in cans or pouches **smaller than forty ounces** for end consumption and not for resale; *and*
- The tuna was produced by any Defendant, or any current or former subsidiary, affiliate, or co-conspirator thereof; *and*
- The purchase was made during the Class Period (June 1, 2011 – July 1, 2015).

Note: Purchases of meal kits are excluded from the Settlement Class.

Who Is Excluded

- The Court and the Defendants
- Individuals who previously opted out of the COSI Settlement Class or the certified Class and whose exclusion was approved by the Court
- Purchasers of meal kits
- Direct purchasers (those who bought packaged tuna directly from a Defendant — see *www.TunaDirectPurchaserCase.com*)
- Purchasers in states or territories not listed in the class definition above

How to File

The filing deadline has passed (December 31, 2024). No further claims can be submitted. For FRS clients who filed timely claims, the following process applied:

- Submit a Claim Form online via the settlement website or postmark a paper form by December 31, 2024.
- Class members who previously filed a valid claim in the COSI Settlement did not need to file a separate claim for the StarKist and Lion Settlements.
- Claims were submitted through the settlement website or mailed to: **Tuna End Purchaser Settlement, c/o JND Legal Administration, PO Box 91442, Seattle, WA 98111**.

For questions about existing claims or the replacement check issue, contact the settlement administrator:

- **Phone:** 866-615-0977 (press 8 for a live agent regarding check issues)
- **Email:** info@TunaEndPurchaserSettlement.com
- **Mail:** Tuna End Purchaser Settlement, c/o JND Legal Administration, PO Box 91442, Seattle, WA 98111

Defendants

- **StarKist Co.** – One of the largest packaged tuna brands in the United States; alleged to have participated in the price-fixing conspiracy.
- **Dongwon Industries (DWI)** – Parent company of StarKist; named as a co-conspirator in the alleged scheme.
- **Lion Companies** – Another major packaged tuna producer; alleged to have participated in the same unlawful price-fixing conspiracy.

All Defendants deny many of the allegations and have asserted defenses to the End Payer Plaintiffs' claims. They

agreed to settle to avoid continued litigation, the risk of an adverse jury verdict, and substantial trial costs.

Case History

- **June 2011 – July 2015:** Alleged conspiracy period during which Defendants purportedly fixed the price of packaged tuna products.
- **2015:** Case filed; consolidated as Case No. 15-MD-2670 DMS (MSB) in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California.
- **July 2019:** Court certified a class of End Payer Plaintiffs and appointed Wolf Haldenstein Adler Freeman & Herz LLP as Class Counsel.
- **Post-July 2019:** Defendants appealed the Class Certification Order.
- **April 8, 2022:** Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the District Court's Class Certification Order.
- **August 8, 2022:** Defendants petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court to review the Ninth Circuit's decision.
- **November 14, 2022:** U.S. Supreme Court denied the petition, declining to review the Class Order.
- **2022–2024:** End Payer Plaintiffs reached settlements with StarKist, DWI, and the Lion Companies totaling $152.2 million.
- **November 8, 2024:** Deadline to object to the StarKist and Lion Settlements.
- **November 22, 2024:** Court held the Fairness Hearing and approved the StarKist and Lion Settlements on the same day.
- **December 31, 2024:** Claim filing deadline passed.
- **2025–2026:** Distribution underway; initial settlement checks issued.
- **September 28, 2026:** Replacement checks mailed to Affected Class Members whose original checks were dishonored after deposit, with an additional $20 included to offset bank fees.

Source

Settlement website: **https://www.TunaEndPurchaserSettlement.com** (home page)

Direct purchaser case (separate): www.TunaDirectPurchaserCase.com

Last Updated

2026-10-02

Reviewer Notes

- **Changes from previous version:**
  - **Announcements section updated:** The prior announcement described replacement checks as forthcoming ("will be issued as quickly as possible") and instructed class members not to re-deposit original checks. The source page now confirms replacement checks were **mailed on September 28, 2026**. The announcement has been revised to reflect the confirmed mailing date, the clarification that only those whose checks were *dishonored after deposit* are Affected Class Members, and the instruction that those with undeposited original checks should deposit them (funds are confirmed available). The prior caution against re-depositing the original check has been removed as it is no longer applicable per the updated site language.
  - **Phone instructions updated:** The source page specifies pressing 8 to speak with a live agent regarding check issues; this detail has been added to the How to File contact section.
  - **Case History updated:** The "2025–2026" entry has been expanded to note the September 28, 2026 replacement check mailing as a discrete event.
  - **Last Updated date changed** from 2026-09-22 to 2026-10-02.
- **Source:** All information drawn exclusively from the Packaged Seafood Indirect Homepage (single monitored

page).

- **No contradictions detected** in the current source page. The case is in active post-distribution phase; the confirmed replacement check mailing is consistent with the prior announcement of a processing issue.
- **Per-claimant payment amount:** Still not published on the settlement website.
- **COSI Settlement:** Still referenced on the homepage but no additional detail provided. FRS should maintain a separate article if one exists for the COSI phase.
- **Action item for FRS clients:** Clients who were Affected Class Members (received an email from the Claims Administrator about a dishonored check) should have received a replacement check as of September 28, 2026. Clients charged more than $20 in bank fees should be directed to email info@TunaEndPurchaserSettlement.com with documentation. Clients who have not yet deposited their original check should do so — funds are confirmed available.