

Judge finalizes \$75M deal in NYPD summons quotas lawsuit

BY JOHN ANNESE

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Stephen Neuwirth from Quinn Emanuel, co-lead counsel speaks. (ANDREW SAVULICH/NEW YORK DAILY NEWS)

A judge on Monday finalized a blockbuster \$75 million settlement the city agreed to pay in a class-action lawsuit charging that the NYPD issued 900,000 summonses without legal justification to fill quotas.

Manhattan Federal Judge Robert Sweet referred to the settlement as “the second-largest in NYC history.”

Sweet added, “The non-monetary benefits could be, in the Court’s view, ‘a game changer’ for NYC communities.”

The city and the plaintiffs agreed to the settlement in January.

“The parties will move forward with executing the agreement,” city law department spokesman Nick Paolucci said.



The city maintains that the NYPD does not use quotas. As part of the settlement, however, the department will send notices to all officers that quotas are banned. (© GARY HERSHORN / REUTERS/REUTERS)

The city maintains the NYPD does not use quotas. As part of the settlement, however, the department will send notices to all officers that quotas are banned and will be subject to investigations by the Internal Affairs Bureau.

“This settlement serves as a historic contribution to advancing civil rights with respect to police conduct,” said lawyer Elinor Sutton, a partner in Quinn Emanuel the firm appointed as co-lead counsel.

Filed in 2010, the suit focused on “c summonses” officers wrote for minor offenses like disorderly conduct and drinking in public.

Some 900,000 of those summonses issued between 2007 and 2015 were dismissed for failing to articulate probable cause.

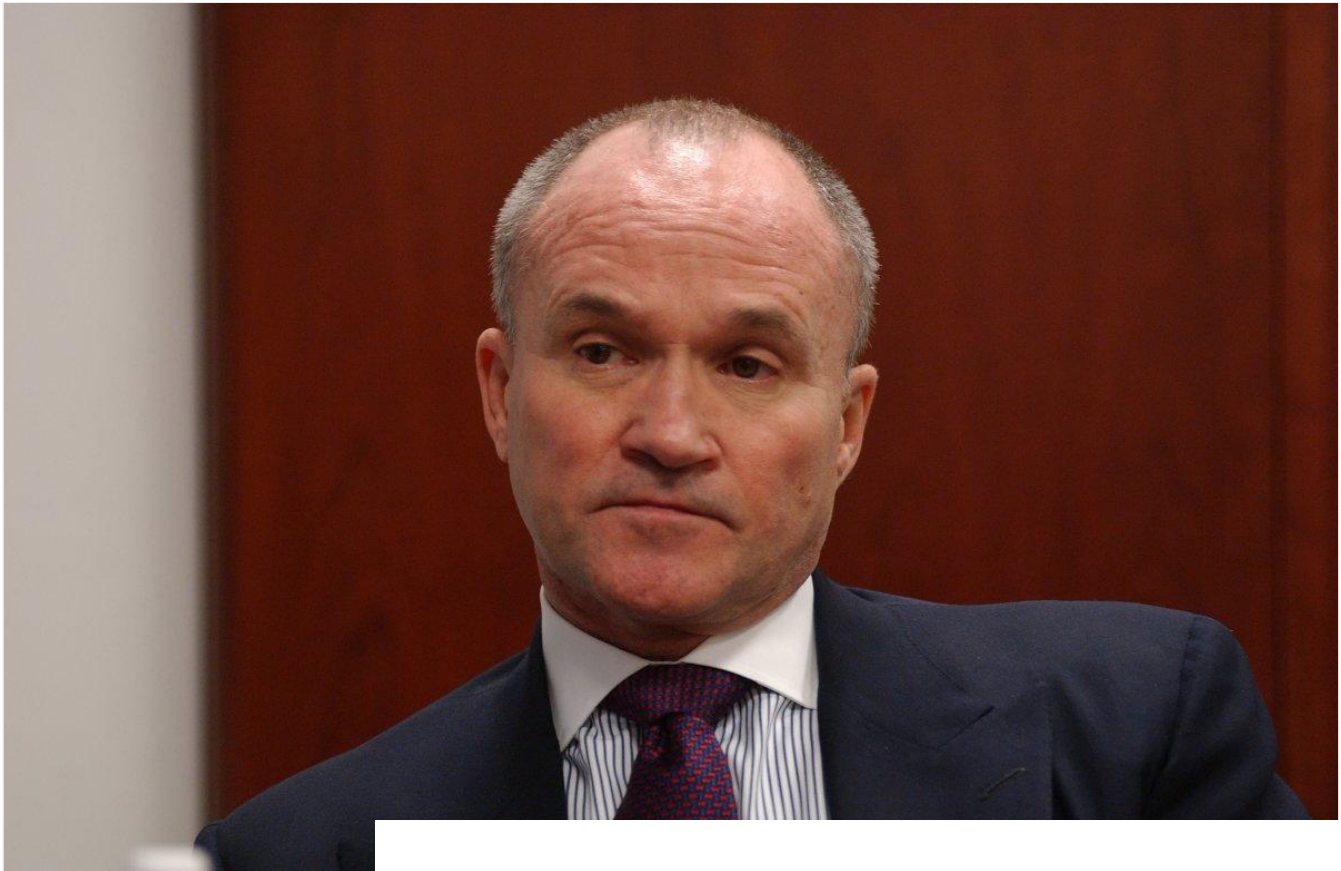


Sharif Stinson, the lead plaintiff was hit with two summonses in 2010 for trespassing and disorderly conduct after leaving his aunt's Bronx apartment. Both summonses were dismissed by a judge. (ANDREW SAVULICH/NEW YORK DAILY NEWS)

The people who received those summonses will be eligible for payments capped at \$150 per incident.

Almost 25 % of the settlement will cover legal fees, according to Sweet's decision.

Sharif Stinson, the lead plaintiff, was hit with two summonses in 2010 for trespassing and disorderly conduct after leaving his aunt's Bronx apartment. A judge dismissed both summonses. The plaintiffs argued the NYPD engaged in a "stunning pattern" of evidence destruction regarding quotas, and the suit revealed most of former NYPD Commissioner Raymond Kelly's emails were deleted toward the end of his tenure. Kelly said he had no role in the deleted messages.



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(CARROLL, PAT)

In 2014, the city paid out \$98 million to settle a case alleging the FDNY discriminated against minority applicants. John Annese
With Stephen Rex Brown

WITH STEPHEN REX BROWN

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