

Were You Detained Under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* in a Provincial Jail Between May 30, 2009 and November 27, 2017?

If YES, A Class Action May Affect Your Rights.

A Court authorized this notice. You are not being sued.

- You could be affected by a class action involving immigration detainees detained in Provincial Jails.
- A Court has approved a lawsuit as a class action for current and former immigration detainees detained in Provincial jails and prisons. **If you know a current or former immigration detainee who cannot read this notice please share this information with them.**
- The Court has not decided whether Ontario or Canada did anything wrong, and there still has to be a court case about whether Ontario or Canada did anything wrong. There is no money available now and no guarantee there will ever be any money. However, your rights are affected, and you have a choice to make now. This notice is to help you make that choice.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS AT THIS STAGE

DO NOTHING	<p>Stay in this lawsuit and wait for the outcome. Share in possible benefits from the outcome but give up certain individual rights.</p> <p>By doing nothing, you keep the possibility of getting money or other benefits that may come from a trial or settlement. But, you give up any rights to sue Ontario or Canada on your own about the same legal claims in this lawsuit.</p>
REMOVE YOURSELF (OPT OUT)	<p>Get out of this lawsuit and get no benefits from it. Keep rights.</p> <p>If you ask to be removed (opt out) and money or benefits are later awarded, you won't share in those. But, you keep any rights to sue Ontario or Canada on your own about the same legal claims in this lawsuit, subject to any applicable limitation period.</p>

- Lawyers must prove the claims against Ontario or Canada at a trial or a settlement must be reached. If money or benefits are obtained you will be notified about how to ask for your share.
- Your options are explained in this notice. To be removed from the lawsuit, you must ask to be removed by **March 27, 2018**.

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BASIC INFORMATION

1. Why is there a notice?

This lawsuit has been “certified” as a Class Action. This means that the lawsuit meets the requirements for class actions and may proceed to trial. If you are included, you may have legal rights and options before the Court decides whether the claims being made against Ontario and Canada on your behalf are correct. This notice explains all of these things.

A judge of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice is currently overseeing this case. The case is known as *Dadzie v. Ontario* Court File No. CV-16-55837600-00CP. The people who sued are called the Plaintiffs. Ontario and Canada are the Defendants.

2. What is this lawsuit about?

The lawsuit says that Ontario and Canada improperly subjected immigration detainees to chronic lockdowns in provincial prisons for staffing-related reasons. The lawsuit says that such lockdowns constitute systemic negligence and breach detainees' rights under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. Ontario and Canada deny these claims. The Court has not decided whether the Plaintiffs or the Defendants are right. The lawyers for the Plaintiffs will have to prove their claims in Court.

If you are having a difficult time dealing with these issues you can call 1-866-281-1103 (TTY: 1-877-627-7027) for assistance.

3. Why is this a class action?

In a class action people called the “Representative Plaintiffs” (in this case, Godday Dadzie and Al Zeekemens) sued on behalf of people who have similar claims. All of these people are a “Class” or “Class Members.” The court resolves the issues for all class members in one case, except for those who remove themselves from the class.

4. Who is a member of the Class?

The Class includes:

All persons detained under Division 6 of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, S.C. 2001, c. 27 at Ontario correctional institutions as defined in the *Ministry of Correctional Services Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.22 (the "**Correctional Institutions**") between May 30, 2009 and November 27, 2017 (solely with respect to their detention under Division 6 of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*), except the Excluded Persons.

"**Excluded Persons**" are all persons who were detained at the Elgin-Middlesex Detention Centre, the Ontario Correctional Institute and the St. Lawrence Valley Correctional and Treatment Centre (solely with respect to their detention under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* at those Correctional Institutions)

5. What are the Plaintiffs asking for?

The Plaintiffs are asking for money or other benefits for the Class. They are also asking for lawyers' fees and costs, plus interest.

6. Is there any money available now?

No money or benefits are available now because the Court has not yet decided whether Ontario or Canada did anything wrong, and the two sides have not settled the case. There is no guarantee that money or benefits will ever be obtained. If they are, you will be notified about how to ask for your share.

YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

You must decide whether to stay in the Class or whether to remove yourself before a possible trial, and you have to decide this by **March 27, 2018**.

7. What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you do nothing you will automatically remain in the lawsuit. You will be bound by all Court orders, good or bad. If any benefit is awarded, you may need to take action in order to receive any benefits.

8. What if I don't want to be in the Lawsuit?

If you do not want to be in the lawsuit, you must remove yourself – this is sometimes referred to as “opting out.” If you remove yourself, you will not receive any benefit that may be obtained from the lawsuit. You will not be bound by any Court orders and you keep your right to sue Ontario or Canada as an individual regarding the issues in this case.

To remove yourself, send a letter that says you want to be removed from the Class in *Dadzie v Ontario*. Include your name, address, telephone number, and signature. You can also get an Opt Out Form at ImmigrantdetaineeClassAction.ca. You must mail your Removal request or Opt Out Form postmarked by **March 27, 2018** to: Immigrant Detainee Class Action, 3-505 133 Weber St. North Waterloo, ON N2J 3G9, or by email at: Immigrantdetainee@crowco.ca.

Call 1-866-281-1103 (TTY: 1-877-627-7027) if you have any questions about how to get out of the Class.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

9. Do I have a lawyer in the case?

Yes. The Court has appointed Koskie Minsky LLP and Henein Hutchison LLP from Toronto to represent you and other Class Members as “Class Counsel.” You will not be personally charged for these lawyers. If you want to be represented by another lawyer, you may hire one to appear in Court for you at your own expense.

10. How will the lawyers be paid?

Class Counsel will only be paid if they win a trial or if there is a settlement. The Court has to also approve their request to be paid. The fees and expenses could be deducted from any money obtained for the Class, or could be paid separately by the Defendants.

A TRIAL

11. How and when will the Court decide who is right?

If the lawsuit is not dismissed or settled, the Plaintiffs will have to prove their claims at a trial that will take place in Toronto. During the trial, a Court will hear all of the evidence, so that a decision can be reached about whether the Plaintiffs or the Defendants are right about the claims in the lawsuit. There is no guarantee that the Plaintiffs will win any money or benefits for the Class.

12. Will I get money after the trial?

If the Plaintiffs obtain money or benefits as a result of a trial or settlement, you will be notified about how to ask for a share or what your other options are at that time. These things are not known right now. Important information about the case will be posted on the website, ImmigrantdetaineeClassAction.ca, as it becomes available.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

13. How do I get more information?

You can get more information at ImmigrantdetaineeClassAction.ca, by calling toll free at 1-866-281-1103 (TTY: 1-877-627-7027), or writing to: Immigrant Detainee Class Action, 3-505 133 Weber St. North Waterloo, ON N2J 3G9, or by email at: Immigrantdetainee@crowco.ca.