



Washington Cathode Ray Tube (“CRT”) Settlement

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is this lawsuit about?

The lawsuit claims that the Defendants conspired to fix, raise, maintain or stabilize prices of CRTs resulting in overcharge to consumers who bought products containing CRTs. The Washington State Attorney General’s Office brought the suit on behalf of Washington State agencies and as *parens patriae* on behalf of Washington residents. The Defendants deny the State’s allegations. The Court has not decided who is right.

2. What is a CRT?

A CRT is a vacuum tube that was used to display images in televisions and computer monitors. Before LCD, Plasma, and LED display technologies became popular, CRTs were the main technology used in these devices.

3. What is *parens patriae* authority?

The doctrine of *parens patriae* allows the Washington State Attorney General’s Office to bring a lawsuit under the antitrust laws on behalf of Washington residents to recover restitution. The Washington Attorney General may also seek injunctive relief and civil penalties.

4. How do I know if I may recover money in the Washington Attorney General’s *parens patriae* lawsuit?

You or your business may file a claim for recovery if you purchased one or more CRT television(s) or CRT computer monitor(s):

- between March 1, 1995 and November 25, 2007;
- while residing in Washington (or, if you are a business, while you were headquartered in Washington); and
- from a retailer (or someone other than directly from the manufacturer of the CRT).

You may not file a claim if:

- You or your business purchased the CRT television(s) or CRT computer monitor(s) for resale and not for your own or your business’s own use.

- You purchased the CRT television(s) or CRT computer monitor(s) second-hand.
- The CRT television(s) or CRT computer monitor(s) you or your business purchased was (were) purchased outside of Washington.
- You are an individual who resided outside of Washington when you purchased your CRT television(s) or CRT computer monitor(s)
- Your business was headquartered outside of Washington when it purchased CRT television(s) or CRT computer monitor(s)

The Washington Attorney General also sought monetary damages on behalf of the State of Washington, including its state agencies. However, Washington State agencies are not eligible to participate in the claims process and will receive damages recovered on their behalf through a separate process.

Washington county, municipality, school district, port district, or other political subdivision are not eligible to file claims or to recover from the Settlement Fund.

5. Who are the Defendant companies?

The Defendants are companies that manufactured and/or supplied CRTs:

- Samsung SDI Co., Ltd. *f/k/a* Samsung Display Device Co., Ltd., Samsung SDI America, Inc., Samsung SDI (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd., Samsung SDI Mexico S.A. De C.V., Samsung SDI Brasil Ltda., Shenzhen Samsung SDI Co., Ltd and Tianjin Samsung SDI Co. Ltd. (“Samsung”);
- LG Electronics, Inc., LG Electronics U.S.A., Inc. (“LG”);
- Koninklijke Philips Electronics N.V. *a/k/a* Royal Philips Electronics N.V., Philips Electronics North America Corporation, Philips Electronics Industries (Taiwan), Ltd. (“Philips”);
- Toshiba Corporation, Toshiba America Electronic Components, Inc. (“Toshiba”);
- Panasonic Corporation *f/k/a* Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd., Panasonic Corporation of North America, MT Picture Display Co., Ltd. (“Panasonic”);
- Hitachi, Ltd., Hitachi Displays, Ltd., Hitachi Electronic Devices (USA), Inc., Hitachi Asia, Ltd. (“Hitachi”);
- Chunghwa Picture Tubes Ltd., CPTF Optronics Co., Ltd., and Chunghwa Picture Tubes (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. (“Chunghwa”).

6. What do the settlements provide?

The settling defendants have settled the claims the Washington State Attorney General’s Office brought on behalf of Washington State agencies and as *parens patriae* on behalf of Washington residents for a total of \$39.65 million. The costs to administer the claims process as well as the attorney fees and costs incurred by the Washington State Attorney General’s Office will come out of the Settlement Fund.

7. How much money can I get?

The maximum amount you could recover equals the amount the State alleges you were overcharged for each device containing a CRT—a total of \$20 per CRT computer monitor and \$6 per CRT television. However, your recovery could be a smaller amount than the maximum because there is a limited amount of money in the Settlement Fund.

The amount paid per product and the number of claims allowed per consumer will depend on the number of claims submitted.

It is possible that any money remaining in the Settlement Fund after claims are paid will be distributed to charities, governmental entities, and other beneficiaries.

In order to receive a payment, you will need to file a valid claim form, which can be found on the website for the Washington State Attorney General's office, <https://www.atg.wa.gov/>, by emailing crtclaims@atg.wa.gov, or by calling 1-206-332-7080.

8. When will I get a payment?

The funds will be distributed at the conclusion of the claims administration process, with distribution to begin in 2019.

9. How can I get a payment?

If you meet the requirements described in Question 4 and you want to participate in the settlement, you must complete and submit a Claim Form. The deadline to file your Claim Form will be announced when the Washington State Attorney General hires a claims administrator.

A claims form can be found on the website for the Washington State Attorney General's office, <https://www.atg.wa.gov/>, by emailing crtclaims@atg.wa.gov, or by calling 1-206-332-7080. Completed claims can be emailed to crtclaims@atg.wa.gov or mailed to:

CRT WASHINGTON CLAIMS
C/O ANTITRUST DIVISION
WASHINGTON STATE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
800 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 2000
SEATTLE, WA 98104

An online claims filing process will be implemented upon the hiring of a claims administrator.

10. Can someone else submit a claim on my behalf?

We will not accept or pay claims filed by someone else on behalf of you or your business. Claims are not assignable. That means that when you submit your claim the name and address of the claimant must match the name and address to which the payment is to be sent. Invalid claims will not be paid.

For individuals, the name of the person verifying the claim information must match that of the person making the claim.

For corporations or other business entities, the individual verifying the claim information must be a duly authorized officer of the corporation or business entity.

The process of filing a claim is designed to be straightforward. If you have questions about how to file a claim call 1-206-332-7080 or email crtclaims@atg.wa.gov.

11. Can I submit an incomplete claim form by the deadline and supply further information later?

No. In order to have a valid claim, your claim form must be complete at the time of filing. You should not leave any part of your claim form blank or include inaccurate information that you intend to update later. If you determine you have made a mistake on your claim form after submitting it call 1-206-332-7080 or email crtclaims@atg.wa.gov.

12. Do I have a lawyer representing me?

As noted above, the Washington State Attorney General's Office is representing consumers as *parens patriae* (see Question 4). You do not have to pay the Washington Attorney General separately. If you wish to seek the advice of your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.