

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
SHERMAN DIVISION**

IN RE DZS INC. SECURITIES LITIGATION

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:
ALL ACTIONS

CIVIL NO. 4:23-CV-549-SDJ
MASTER DOCKET

PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM

To be eligible to receive a share of the Net Settlement Fund in connection with the Settlement of this Action, you must complete and sign this Proof of Claim and Release Form (“Claim Form”) and mail it by first-class mail to the address below, or submit it online at www.DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com, with supporting documentation, so that it is **postmarked (if mailed) or received (if submitted online) no later than October 14, 2026.**

Mail to:

In re DZS Inc. Securities Litigation,
c/o Claims Administrator
1650 Arch Street, Suite 2210
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Failure to submit your Claim Form by the date specified will subject your claim to rejection and may preclude you from being eligible to receive any money in connection with the Settlement.

Do not mail or deliver your Claim Form to the Court, the Parties to the Action, or their counsel. Submit your Claim Form only to the Claims Administrator at the address set forth above.

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PART I – CLAIMANT INFORMATION

Please complete all applicable fields in the Claimant Information section below.

The Claims Administrator will use this information for all communications regarding this Claim Form. If this information changes, you **MUST** notify the Claims Administrator in writing at the address above. Complete names of all persons and entities must be provided. **Enter the name information below exactly how you would like it to appear on the check.**

Beneficial Owner Name		
Co-Beneficial Owner Name		
Entity Name (if Claimant is not an individual)		
Representative or Custodian Name (if different from Beneficial Owner(s) listed above)		
Address 1 (Street Name and Number)		
Address 2 (Apartment, unit, or box number)		
City	State	ZIP
Foreign Province	Foreign Country	Postal Code
Telephone Number (cell or home)	Telephone Number (work)	
Email Address		
Account Number (if filing for multiple accounts, file a separate Claim Form for each unique account type)		
Last four digits of Social Security Number (individuals)	OR	Taxpayer Identification Number (estates, trusts, etc.)

Before continuing, please review the information above carefully. Incomplete, inconsistent, or illegible claimant information may delay processing of your claim or require the Claims Administrator to request additional information. If your address or contact information changes after you submit this Claim Form, you must notify the Claims Administrator in writing.

PART II – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. It is important that you completely read the Notice of Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action (the “Notice”), including the Plan of Allocation of the Net Settlement Fund set forth in the Notice. The Notice is also available on the Settlement website at: www.DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com. The Notice describes the proposed Settlement, how Class Members will be affected by the Settlement, and how the Net Settlement Fund will be distributed if the Settlement and Plan of Allocation are approved by the Court. The Notice also contains the definitions of many of the defined terms (which are indicated by initial capital letters) used in this Claim Form. By signing and submitting this Claim Form, you will be certifying that you have read and that you understand the Notice, including the terms of the releases described therein and provided for herein.

2. By submitting this Claim Form, you will be making a request to share in the proceeds of the Settlement described in the Notice. If you are not a Class Member (see the definition of the Class in question 5 of the Notice), do not submit a Claim Form. **You may not, directly or indirectly, participate in the Settlement if you are not a Class Member.** Thus, if you are excluded from the Class, any Claim Form that you submit, or that may be submitted on your behalf, will not be accepted.

3. **Submission of this Claim Form does not guarantee that you will share in the proceeds of the Settlement. The distribution of the Net Settlement Fund will be governed by the Plan of Allocation set forth in the Notice or by such other plan of allocation as the Court approves.**

4. On the Schedule of Transactions in Part III of this Claim Form, provide all of the requested information with respect to your holdings, purchases, acquisitions, and sales of DZS Inc. (“DZS”) common stock (symbol: DZSI) and whether such transactions resulted in a profit or a loss. **Failure to report all transaction and holding information during the requested time period may result in the rejection of your claim.**

5. **Please note:** Only shares of DZS common stock purchased or otherwise acquired between May 4, 2022 to November 9, 2023, inclusive, are eligible under the Settlement and the proposed Plan of Allocation set forth in the Notice. However, under the “90-day look-back period” (described in the Plan of Allocation), sales of DZS common stock as late as February 8, 2024 will be used for purposes of calculating certain Recognized Loss amounts under the Plan of Allocation. Therefore, in order for the Claims Administrator to be able to balance your claim, the requested purchase information during this period must also be provided.

6. You are required to submit genuine and sufficient documentation for all of your transactions in and holdings of DZS common stock set forth in the Schedule of Transactions in Part III. Documentation may consist of copies of brokerage confirmation slips or monthly brokerage account statements, or an authorized statement from your broker containing the transactional and holding information found in a broker confirmation slip or account statement. The Parties and the Claims Administrator do not independently have information about your investments. **IF SUCH DOCUMENTS ARE NOT IN YOUR POSSESSION, PLEASE OBTAIN COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS OR EQUIVALENT DOCUMENTS FROM YOUR BROKER. FAILURE TO SUPPLY THIS DOCUMENTATION MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF YOUR CLAIM. DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.**

7. **Please keep a copy of all documents that you send to the Claims Administrator. Also, do not highlight any portion of the Claim Form or any supporting documents.**

8. Use Part I of this Claim Form entitled “CLAIMANT INFORMATION” to identify the beneficial owner(s) of DZS common stock. The complete name(s) of the beneficial owner(s) must be entered. If you held the DZS common stock in your own name, you were the beneficial owner as well as the record owner. If, however, your shares of DZS common stock were registered in the name of a third party, such as a nominee or brokerage firm, you were the beneficial owner of these shares, but the third party was the record owner. The beneficial owner, not the record owner, must sign this Claim Form to be eligible to participate in the Settlement. If there were joint beneficial owners each must sign this Claim Form and their names must appear as “Claimants” in Part I of this Claim Form.

9. **One Claim should be submitted for each separate legal entity or separately managed account.** Separate Claim Forms should be submitted for each separate legal entity (e.g., an individual should not combine his or her IRA transactions with transactions made solely in the individual’s name). Generally, a single Claim Form should be submitted on behalf of one legal entity, including all holdings and transactions made by that entity on one Claim Form. However, if a single person or legal entity had multiple accounts that were separately managed, separate Claims may be submitted for each such account. The Claims Administrator reserves the right to request information on all the holdings and transactions in DZS common stock made on behalf of a single beneficial owner.

10. Agents, executors, administrators, guardians, and trustees must complete and sign the Claim Form on behalf of persons represented by them, and they must:

- (a) expressly state the capacity in which they are acting;
- (b) identify the name, account number, Social Security Number (or other taxpayer identification number), address, and telephone number of the beneficial owner of (or other person or entity on whose behalf they are acting with respect to) the DZS common stock; and
- (c) furnish herewith evidence of their authority to bind to the Claim Form the person or entity on whose behalf they are acting. (Authority to complete and sign a Claim Form cannot be established by stockbrokers demonstrating only that they have discretionary authority to trade securities in another person’s accounts.)

11. By submitting a signed Claim Form, you will be swearing that you:

- (a) own(ed) the DZS common stock you have listed in the Claim Form; or
- (b) are expressly authorized to act on behalf of the owner thereof.

12. By submitting a signed Claim Form, you will be swearing to the truth of the statements contained therein and the genuineness of the documents attached thereto, subject to penalties of perjury under the laws of the United States of America. The making of false statements, or the submission of forged or fraudulent documentation, will result in the rejection of your claim and may subject you to civil liability or criminal prosecution.

13. Payments to eligible Authorized Claimants will be made only if the Court approves the Settlement, after any appeals are resolved, and after the completion of all claims processing.

14. **PLEASE NOTE:** As set forth in the Plan of Allocation, each Authorized Claimant shall receive his, her, or its *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Fund. If the prorated payment to any Authorized Claimant calculates to less than \$10.00, no distribution will be made to that Authorized Claimant.

15. If you have questions concerning the Claim Form, or need additional copies of the Claim Form or the Notice, you may contact the Claims Administrator by email at info@DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com, or by toll-free phone at (855) 915-4285, or you can visit the website, www.DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com, where copies of the Claim Form and Notice are available for downloading.

16. NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILERS: Certain claimants with large numbers of transactions may request, or may be requested, to submit information regarding their transactions in electronic files. To obtain the **mandatory** electronic filing requirements and file layout, you may visit the settlement website at www.DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com, or you may email the Claims Administrator's electronic filing department at info@DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com.

17. **Any file not in accordance with the required electronic filing format will be subject to rejection.** The **complete** name of the beneficial owner of the securities must be entered where called for (*see* ¶ 8 above). No electronic files will be considered to have been submitted unless the Claims Administrator issues an email confirming receipt of your submission. **Do not assume that your file has been received until you receive that email. If you do not receive such an email within 10 days of your submission, you should contact the electronic filing department at info@DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com to inquire about your file and confirm it was received.**

IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE

YOUR CLAIM IS NOT DEEMED FILED UNTIL YOU RECEIVE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POSTCARD. THE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR WILL ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF YOUR CLAIM FORM BY MAIL, WITHIN 60 DAYS. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POSTCARD WITHIN 60 DAYS, CALL THE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR TOLL-FREE AT (855) 915-4285.

PART III – SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS IN DZS COMMON STOCK

Do not include information regarding any securities other than DZS common stock. Please include proper documentation with your Claim Form as described in Part II – General Instructions, ¶ 6, above.

1. HOLDINGS AS OF THE OPENING OF TRADING ON MAY 4, 2022. – State the total number of shares of DZS common stock held as of the opening of trading on May 4, 2022. If none, write “zero” or “0.” _____				
2. PURCHASES FROM MAY 4, 2022, THROUGH FEBRUARY 8, 2024 – Separately list each and every purchase or acquisition of DZS common stock from May 4, 2022, through February 8, 2024. (Must be documented.)				
Date of Purchase/ Acquisition (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Purchased/Acquired	Purchase/Acquisition Price Per Share	Total Purchase/ Acquisition Price (excluding any taxes, commissions, and fees)	Confirm Proof of Purchase/ Acquisition Enclosed
/ /		\$	\$	☐
/ /		\$	\$	☐
/ /		\$	\$	☐
/ /		\$	\$	☐
3. SALES FROM MAY 4, 2022, THROUGH FEBRUARY 8, 2024 – Separately list each and every sale or disposition of DZS common stock from May 4, 2022, through February 8, 2024. (Must be documented.)				IF NONE, CHECK HERE ☐
Date of Sale/Disposition (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Sold/Disposed	Sale Price Per Share	Total Sale Price (excluding any taxes, commissions, and fees)	Confirm Proof of Sale/Disposition Enclosed
/ /		\$	\$	☐
/ /		\$	\$	☐
/ /		\$	\$	☐
/ /		\$	\$	☐
4. HOLDINGS AS OF FEBRUARY 8, 2024 – State the total number of shares of DZS common stock held as of the close of trading on February 8, 2024. If none, write “zero” or “0.” _____				
IF YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR THE SCHEDULE ABOVE, ATTACH EXTRA SCHEDULES IN THE SAME FORMAT. PRINT THE BENEFICIAL OWNER’S FULL NAME AND LAST FOUR DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY/TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE. IF YOU DO ATTACH EXTRA SCHEDULES, CHECK THIS BOX. ☐				

PART IV – RELEASE OF CLAIMS AND SIGNATURE

YOU MUST ALSO READ THE RELEASE AND CERTIFICATION BELOW AND SIGN ON PAGE 8 OF THIS CLAIM FORM.

I (we) hereby acknowledge that, pursuant to the terms set forth in the Stipulation, without further action by anyone, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, I (we), on behalf of myself (ourselves) and my (our) (the claimant(s)') heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns, in their capacities as such, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of the judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged each and every Released Plaintiffs' Claims against the Released Defendants' Parties, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting any or all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against any of the Released Defendants' Parties.

CERTIFICATION

By signing and submitting this Claim Form, the claimant(s) or the person(s) who represent(s) the claimant(s) agree(s) to the release above and certifies (certify) as follows:

1. that I (we) have read and understand the contents of the Notice and this Claim Form, including the releases provided for in the Settlement and the terms of the Plan of Allocation;
2. that the claimant(s) is a (are) Class Member(s), as defined in the Notice, and is (are) not excluded by definition from the Class as set forth in the Notice;
3. that I (we) own(ed) the DZS common stock identified in the Claim Form and have not assigned the claim against any of the Defendants or any of the other Released Defendants' Parties to another, or that, in signing and submitting this Claim Form, I (we) have the authority to act on behalf of the owner(s) thereof;
4. that the claimant(s) has (have) not submitted any other claim covering the same purchases of DZS common stock and knows (know) of no other person having done so on the claimant's (claimants') behalf;
5. that the claimant(s) submit(s) to the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to claimant's (claimants') claim and for purposes of enforcing the releases set forth herein;
6. that I (we) agree to furnish such additional information with respect to this Claim Form as Class Counsel, the Claims Administrator, or the Court may require;
7. that the claimant(s) waive(s) the right to trial by jury, to the extent it exists, and agree(s) to the determination by the Court of the validity or amount of this Claim, and waive(s) any right of appeal or review with respect to such determination;
8. that I (we) acknowledge that the claimant(s) will be bound by and subject to the terms of any judgment(s) that may be entered in the Action; and
9. that the claimant(s) is (are) NOT subject to backup withholding under the provisions of Section 3406(a)(1)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code because (i) the claimant(s) is (are) exempt from backup withholding or (ii) the claimant(s) has (have) not been notified by the IRS that he, she, or it is subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends or (iii) the IRS has notified the claimant(s) that he, she, or it is no longer subject to backup withholding. **If the IRS has notified the claimant(s) that he, she, it, or they is (are) subject to backup withholding, please strike out the language in the preceding sentence indicating that the claim is not subject to backup withholding in the certification above.**

UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I (WE) CERTIFY THAT ALL OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ME (US) ON THIS CLAIM FORM IS TRUE, CORRECT, AND COMPLETE, AND THAT THE DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED HERewith ARE TRUE AND CORRECT COPIES OF WHAT THEY PURPORT TO BE.

Signature of claimant Date

Print claimant name here

Signature of joint claimant, if any Date

Print joint claimant name here

If the claimant is other than an individual, or is not the person completing this form, the following also must be provided:

Signature of person signing on behalf of claimant Date

Print name of person signing on behalf of claimant here

Capacity of person signing on behalf of claimant, if other than an individual, *e.g.*, executor, president, trustee, custodian, etc. (Must provide evidence of authority to act on behalf of claimant – see ¶ 10 on page 4 of this Claim Form.)

REMINDER CHECKLIST

1. Sign the above release and certification. If this Claim Form is being made on behalf of joint claimants, then both must sign.
2. Attach only ***copies*** of acceptable supporting documentation as these documents will not be returned to you.
3. Do not highlight any portion of the Claim Form or any supporting documents.
4. Keep copies of the completed Claim Form and documentation for your own records.
5. The Claims Administrator will acknowledge receipt of your Claim Form by mail, within 60 days. Your claim is not deemed filed until you receive an acknowledgment postcard. **If you do not receive an acknowledgment postcard within 60 days, please call the Claims Administrator toll-free at (855) 915-4285.**
6. If your address changes in the future, or if this Claim Form was sent to an old or incorrect address, you must send the Claims Administrator written notification of your new address. If you change your name, inform the Claims Administrator.
7. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your claim, contact the Claims Administrator at the address below, by email at info@DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com, or by toll-free phone at (855) 915-4285, or you may visit www.DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com.

THIS CLAIM FORM MUST BE MAILED TO THE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL OR SUBMITTED ONLINE AT WWW.DZSISECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM, **POSTMARKED (OR RECEIVED) NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 14, 2026**. IF MAILED, THE CLAIM FORM SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:

In re DZS Inc. Securities Litigation,
c/o Claims Administrator
1650 Arch Street, Suite 2210
Philadelphia, PA 19103

A Claim Form received by the Claims Administrator shall be deemed to have been submitted when posted, if a postmark date on or before **October 14, 2026**, is indicated on the envelope and it is mailed First Class, and addressed in accordance with the above instructions. In all other cases, a Claim Form shall be deemed to have been submitted when actually received by the Claims Administrator.

You should be aware that it will take a significant amount of time to fully process all of the Claim Forms. Please be patient and notify the Claims Administrator of any change of address.

Email: info@DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com
Website: www.DZSISecuritiesSettlement.com
Toll-Free Number: (855) 915-4285