



Madoff Victim Fund

P.O. Box 6310
Syracuse, NY 13217-6310



Dear Petitioner,

On behalf of everyone at the Madoff Victim Fund (“MVF”), I hope that you and your family are safe and riding out this global health crisis as well as possible. A very high percentage of Madoff victims are in the most at-risk age group for the virus, so we pray that you have not been infected. Most victims – along with our entire staff – have been subject to stay-at-home orders for many weeks that have upended everyone’s lives. Mounting economic dislocation is another factor beyond our ability to measure at present, but which we hope has not harmed you further.

This backdrop makes me particularly happy to enclose a check representing your share of MVF’s *fifth* distribution (“D5”). We have not only reached the 70% payout milestone, but we have gone well beyond it with a new recovery level of **73.65%** of your fraud losses. Altogether, 26,045 victims are receiving D5 checks aggregating \$438.1 million, bringing MVF’s cash payouts to over \$2.7 billion. We also hold over \$1.3 billion in reserves for potential future payments to specific victims.

Sometimes terrible events bring out the best in us, and that has certainly been true for MVF’s staff in this crisis. These checks were printed and mailed by MVF’s employees working in Syracuse, New York. Upstate New York has not been as badly hit as New York City, where the virus has taken a massive toll. Nonetheless, the situation has been anything but normal for the skeleton staff of volunteers who have come physically to our offices to issue these checks, as well as for those working from home. Coping with the new risks required us to change some things, but MVF and the Department of Justice (“DOJ”) were determined to get these new checks to you in this time of peril.

Since our last distribution in July 2019, MVF and DOJ have resolved hundreds of requests for reconsideration. We have also been able to resolve hundreds more claims that remained unfinished due to unique issues. This work and other measures provided sufficient funds for D5. This work will continue intensively over coming months as we resolve the remaining claims, RFRs and the situation of certain particular vehicles. This will eventually enable us to use our full reserves either to make payments to newly approved claims or in additional payments to all victims.

We continue to be humbled by the experience of helping victims around the world affected by a monstrous and devastating crime. My staff and I have used every possible effort to help offset the financial and emotional damage for victims of this crime. We believe in the rule of law, and that no person should have their life and dignity stolen without the strongest possible response from a civilized society. That is what America’s laws envision, and we have been proud to play our part in delivering on that promise. To date we have assisted over 38,000 victims, and we will continue pursuing our mission of hope and recovery until our resources have been fully deployed.

I hope that you – and all those dear to you – ride out this terrible health storm in safety and comfort. When you have an opportunity, please consider writing to us to let us know how you are doing. For our part, my staff and I will continue to do our utmost to advance MVF’s critical work for every victim’s benefit.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Breeden
Special Master

PLEASE CASH YOUR CHECK PROMPTLY – IT EXPIRES IN 180 DAYS

The tax treatment of this distribution payment is your responsibility. Please consult your tax adviser for advice regarding the proper treatment of this distribution payment.

For U.S. taxpayers, this distribution constitutes a partial return of principal as compensation for the financial losses you sustained in the fraud committed at Madoff Securities. The tax consequences of this distribution may vary depending on your individual circumstances and whether you claimed a theft loss deduction in accordance with IRS Rev. Proc. 2009-20. Every recipient should consult your tax advisor regarding whether this distribution constitutes a reportable payment. Please note that the Department of Justice and the Special Master **cannot** provide tax advice to victims. **THE MATERIAL CONTAINED HEREIN IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT AND SHOULD NOT BE RELIED UPON AS TAX ADVICE.**