UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

JULIA JUNGE and RICHARD JUNGE, on behalf of themselves and a class of similarly situated investors,

Plaintiffs,

v.

GERON CORPORATION and JOHN A. SCARLETT,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:20-cv-00547-WHA (DMR)

Class Action

(Consolidated with Case No. 3:20-cv-01163-WHA)

(Related to Case No. 3:20-cv-02823-WHA; 3:22-mc-80051-WHA)

[PROPOSED] JUDGMENT APPROVING CLASS ACTION **SETTLEMENT**

WHEREAS, a consolidated securities class action is pending in this Court captioned Julia Junge and Richard Junge v. Geron Corporation and John A. Scarlett, Case No. 3:20-cv-00547-WHA (the "Action")¹;

WHEREAS, by Order dated April 2, 2022, the Court certified the Action to proceed as a class action on behalf of all persons who purchased Geron Corporation ("Geron") common stock during the period from March 19, 2018, to September 26, 2018, inclusive (the "Class Period"), and who were damaged thereby,² appointed Lead Plaintiffs Julia Junge and Richard Junge as Class

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² Excluded from the Class by definition are the Defendants, directors and officers of Geron, and their Families and affiliates. Also excluded from the Class are: (i) the persons and entities who excluded themselves by submitting a request for exclusion from the Class by July 22, 2022, or whose late notice to be excluded from the Class has been accepted by the Court, in connection with the Original Class Notice (as set forth on Appendix 1 to the Stipulation); and (ii) any persons or entities who exclude themselves by submitting a request for exclusion in connection with the Settlement Notice or Supplemental Settlement Notice. A complete list of exclusions reported to the Court as timely received as of March 9, 2023, by Epiq Claims and Class Solutions ("Epiq"), the Claims Administrator appointed by the Court, one request filed as ECF No. 264, and all additional requests for exclusion received by Epiq, and reported to the Court in advance of the August 24, 2023 Settlement Fairness Hearing (in response to the Supplemental Settlement Notice), is attached at Appendix 1 to this Judgment. Phillip Tougas and Patricia O'Grady, who excluded themselves from the Class in response to the Original Class Notice, and were identified at numbers 68 and 75 on the Appendix 1 to the Stipulation (ECF No. 247, at 38 of 38), have since submitted a Proof of Claim

¹ The Court's docket reflects the case name as *Tollen v. Geron Corp. et al*, Case No. 3:20-cv-00547-WHA, which was amended by Lead Plaintiffs. (ECF Nos. 92, 103.)

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Representatives for the Class, and appointed Lead Counsel Kaplan Fox & Kilsheimer LLP ("Kaplan Fox") as Class Counsel for the Class;

WHEREAS, by Order dated May 3, 2022, the Court approved the proposed form and content of the Original Class Notice to be disseminated to the Class Members to notify them of, among other things: (i) the Action pending against Defendants; (ii) the Court's certification of the Action to proceed as a class action on behalf of the Class; and (iii) their right to request to be excluded from the Class by July 22, 2022, the effect of remaining in the Class or requesting exclusion, and the requirements for requesting exclusion;

WHEREAS, the Original Class Notice was mailed beginning on May 23, 2022, to all potential Class Members who could be identified through reasonable effort, resulting in the mailing of over 116,079 copies of the Original Class Notice, and 74 requests for exclusion representing 81 individuals were reported as received by Epiq Class Action and Claims Solutions, Inc. at the time of entry of the Stipulation;

WHEREAS, (a) Julia Junge and Richard Junge ("Lead Plaintiffs" and "Class Representatives"), on behalf of themselves and the Class; and (b) defendants Geron and Dr. John A. Scarlett ("Dr. Scarlett," and together with Geron, "Defendants," and together with Lead Plaintiffs, the "Parties") have entered into a Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated September 2, 2022 (the "Stipulation"), that provides for a complete dismissal with prejudice of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action on the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation, subject to the approval of this Court (the "Settlement");

WHEREAS, unless otherwise defined in this Judgment, the capitalized terms herein shall have the same meaning as they have in the Stipulation;

WHEREAS, by Order dated October 13, 2022 (the "Preliminary Approval Order"), and the October 17, 2022, Order Setting Schedule in Advance of March 30, 2023, Settlement Fairness Hearing (ECF Nos. 253 and 259), this Court: (a) preliminarily approved the Settlement; (b) ordered that notice of the proposed Settlement be provided to Class Members; and (c) scheduled a hearing

and Release Form in connection with the Settlement, and therefore, are deemed to have withdrawn their respective exclusion requests.

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regarding final approval of the Settlement;

WHEREAS, due and adequate notice has been given to the Class;

WHEREAS, the Court conducted hearings on March 30, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time (the "Settlement Fairness Hearing") and on August 24, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. Pacific Time (the "Second Settlement Fairness Hearing") to consider, among other things, (a) whether the terms and conditions of the Settlement are fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Class, and should therefore be approved; and (b) whether a judgment should be entered dismissing the Action with prejudice as against the Defendants; and

WHEREAS, the Court having reviewed and considered the Stipulation, all papers filed and proceedings held herein in connection with the Settlement, all oral and written comments received regarding the Settlement, and the record in the Action, and good cause appearing therefor;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

- 1. <u>Jurisdiction</u> – The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Action, and all matters relating to the Settlement, as well as personal jurisdiction over all of the Parties and each of the Class Members.
- 2. <u>Incorporation of Settlement Documents</u> – This Judgment incorporates and makes a part hereof: (a) the Stipulation filed with the Court on September 2, 2022; and (b) the Settlement Notice, the Summary Settlement Notice and the Supplemental Settlement Notice.
- 3. Notice – The Court finds that the dissemination of the Settlement Notice, the Supplemental Settlement Notice and the publication of the Summary Settlement Notice and Supplemental Settlement Notice: (a) were implemented in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order; (b) constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances; (c) constituted notice that was reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to apprise Class Members of (i) the effect of the proposed Settlement (including the Releases to be provided thereunder); (ii) Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses; (iii) their right to object to any aspect of the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or Lead Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses; and (iv) their right to appear at the Settlement Fairness Hearing and/or Second Settlement Fairness Hearing; (d) constituted due,

adequate, and sufficient notice to all persons and entities entitled to receive notice of the proposed Settlement; and (e) satisfied the requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the United States Constitution (including the Due Process Clause), the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4, as amended, and all other applicable law and rules.

- 4. **Final Settlement Approval and Dismissal of Claims** Pursuant to, and in accordance with, Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, this Court hereby fully and finally approves the Settlement set forth in the Stipulation in all respects (including, without limitation: the amount of the Settlement; the Releases provided for therein; and the dismissal with prejudice of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action), and finds that the Settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Class. The Parties are directed to implement, perform, and consummate the Settlement in accordance with the terms and provisions contained in the Stipulation.
- 5. The Action and all of the claims asserted against Defendants in the Action by Lead Plaintiffs and the other Class Members are hereby dismissed with prejudice. The Parties shall bear their own costs and expenses, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Stipulation.
- 6. **Binding Effect** The terms of the Stipulation and of this Judgment shall be forever binding on Defendants, Lead Plaintiffs and all other Class Members (regardless of whether or not any individual Class Member submits a Claim Form or seeks or obtains a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund), as well as their respective successors and assigns. A list of potential Class Members requesting exclusion as of March 9, 2023 and as of July 14, 2023 (in accordance with the Supplemental Settlement Notice), according to the records of the Claims Administrator, as well as one request filed as ECF No. 264, is set forth in Appendix 1 hereto.
- 7. Releases The Releases set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Stipulation, together with the defined terms contained in the Stipulation, are expressly incorporated herein in all respects. The Releases are effective as of the Effective Date. Accordingly, this Court orders that:
- (a) Without further action by anyone, and subject to paragraph 8 below, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs and each of the other Class Members, on behalf of themselves, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of this Judgment shall have, fully,

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finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged any and all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against Defendants and Defendants' Released Parties, whether or not such Class Member executes and delivers a Claim or objects to the Settlement, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting, commencing, instituting, or continuing to prosecute any action or other proceeding in any court of law or equity, arbitration tribunal, or administrative forum, asserting any or all of the Released Plaintiffs' Claims against any of the Defendants' Released Parties. This Release shall not apply to any of the Excluded Plaintiffs' Claims (as that term is defined in paragraph 1(qq) of the Stipulation).

- (b) Without further action by anyone, and subject to paragraph 8 below, upon the Effective Date of the Settlement, Defendants, on behalf of themselves, and their Related Parties, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, resolved, relinquished, waived, and discharged any and all Released Defendants' Claims against Lead Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs' Released Parties, and shall forever be barred and enjoined from prosecuting, commencing, instituting, or continuing to prosecute any action or other proceeding in any court of law or equity, arbitration tribunal, or administrative forum, asserting any or all of the Released Defendants' Claims against any of the Plaintiffs' Released Parties. This Release shall not apply to any of the Excluded Defendants' Claims (as that term is defined in paragraph 1(pp) of the Stipulation).
- No person or entity shall have any claim against Lead Plaintiffs, Lead (c) Counsel, the Claims Administrator, or any other agent designated by Lead Counsel, or Defendants' Released Parties and/or their respective counsel, arising from distributions made substantially in accordance with the Stipulation, the Plan of Allocation approved by the Court, or any order of the Court. Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants, and their respective counsel, and all other Releasees shall have no liability whatsoever for the investment or distribution of the Settlement Fund, or the Net Settlement Fund, the Plan of Allocation, or the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of any claim or nonperformance of the Claims Administrator, the payment or withholding of taxes (including interest and penalties) owed by the Settlement Fund, or any losses incurred in connection therewith.

- 8. Notwithstanding paragraphs 7(a) (c) above, nothing in this Judgment shall bar any action by any of the Parties to enforce or effectuate the terms of the Stipulation or this Judgment.
- 9. **Rule 11 Findings** The Court finds and concludes that the Parties and their respective counsel have complied in all respects with the requirements of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in connection with the institution, prosecution, defense, and settlement of the Action.
- 10. <u>No Admissions</u> Neither this Judgment, the Term Sheet, the Stipulation (whether or not consummated), including the exhibits thereto and the Plan of Allocation contained therein (or any other Plan of Allocation that may be approved by the Court), the negotiations leading to the execution of the Term Sheet and the Stipulation, nor any proceedings taken pursuant to or in connection with the Term Sheet, the Stipulation, and/or approval of the Settlement (including any arguments proffered in connection therewith):
- shall be offered against any of the Defendants' Released Parties as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Defendants' Released Parties with respect to the truth of any fact alleged by Lead Plaintiffs or the validity of any claim that was or could have been asserted or the deficiency of any defense that has been or could have been asserted in this Action or in any other litigation, or of any liability, negligence, fault, or other wrongdoing of any kind of any of the Defendants' Released Parties or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Defendants' Released Parties, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Stipulation;
- (b) shall be offered against any of the Plaintiffs' Released Parties, as evidence of, or construed as, or deemed to be evidence of any presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Plaintiffs' Released Parties that any of their claims are without merit, that any of the Defendants' Released Parties had meritorious defenses, or that damages recoverable under the Amended Complaint would not have exceeded the Settlement Amount or with respect to any liability, negligence, fault, or wrongdoing of any kind, or in any way referred to for any other reason as against any of the Plaintiffs' Released Parties, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil,

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criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Stipulation; or shall be construed against any of the Releasees as an admission, concession, or presumption that the consideration to be given under the Settlement represents the amount that could be or would have been recovered after trial;

- (c) provided, however, that the Parties and the Releasees and their respective counsel may refer to this Judgment and the Stipulation to effectuate the protections from liability granted hereunder and thereunder or otherwise to enforce the terms of the Settlement. Defendants' Released Parties may file the Stipulation and/or this Judgment in any other action that may be brought against them in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of res judicata, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction, or any theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim.
- 11. **Retention of Jurisdiction** – Without affecting the finality of this Judgment in any way, this Court retains continuing and exclusive jurisdiction over: (a) the Parties for purposes of the administration, interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of the Settlement; (b) the disposition of the Settlement Fund; (c) any motion for an award of attorneys' fees and/or Litigation Expenses by Lead Counsel in the Action that will be paid from the Settlement Fund; (d) any motion to approve the Plan of Allocation; (e) any motion to approve the Class Distribution Order; and (f) the Class Members for all matters relating to the Action.
- 12. Separate orders shall be entered regarding approval of a Plan of Allocation and the motion of Lead Counsel for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses. Such orders shall in no way affect or delay the finality of this Judgment and shall not affect or delay the Effective Date of the Settlement.
- 13. **Modification of the Agreement of Settlement** – Without further approval from the Court, Lead Plaintiffs and Defendants are hereby authorized to agree to and adopt such amendments or modifications of the Stipulation or any exhibits attached thereto to effectuate the Settlement that: (a) are not materially inconsistent with this Judgment; and (b) do not materially limit the rights of Class Members in connection with the Settlement. Without further order of the Court, Lead

[PROPOSED] JUDGMENT APPROVING CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

Appendix 1

List of Exclusions

- 1				
3	Name		City	State
	1.	Kimberly A Bourque	Carlisle	PA
4	2.	Calvin Hackley	Upper Marlboro	MD
ا ہے	3.	Thomas J Pizzuto and Thomas J.	Malvern	PA
5		Pizzuto IRA and Thomas J.		
6		Pizzuto Roth IRA		
١	4.	Susan Rothstein Schwimmer	New York	NY
7	5.	Wesley Le	Escondido	CA
	6.	Arpiben Shah	Deer Park	NY
8	7.	Arthur Groome	Heath	TX
9	8.	Richard H Ronan	Newark	ОН
	9.	Sam Karhbet	Lafayette	LA
10 11 12	10.	Robert W Hutchinson	Reading	PA
	11.	Marco Tiberii	Charlton	MA
	12.	Danny Charbonneau	Canton	TX
	13.	Igor Maksymyuk	Irvine	CA
	14.	Sudipto Mondal	Saint Paul	MN
13	15.	Tammy Davis	New Waterford	ОН
	16.	Ansamma Saju Paul	Philadelphia	PA
14	17.	Bruce A Sanders (Retail Acct)	Marietta	GA
	18.	Matthew F Sanders (Roth IRA)	Marietta	GA
15	19.	Donna L Sanders	Marietta	GA
	20.	Joseph M Moscogiuri	Toms River	NJ
16	21.	Darryl J Wolff	Cape Coral	FL
17	22.	Deborah E Wolff	Cape Coral	FL
1 /	23.	Amanda K Wolff	Cape Coral	FL
18	24.	Ashley Hettinger	Cedar Rapids	IA
	25.	Jacob Cunningham	Kansas City	KS
19	26.	Franklin Hare	Sterling Heights	MI
<u>,</u>	27.	Edward Bonde	King of Prussia	PA
20	28.	Bob Flick	Crandall	TX
21	29.	Javad Vahidi	Los Angeles	CA
- 1	30.	Howard B Brown	Hiawassee	GA
22	31.	Andrew Shatley	Bear	DE
_	32.	Hanford Quock	Castro Valley	CA
23	33.	Dale Newell	Hamburg	NY
24	34.	Timothy A Fram	Lowell	MA
∠ +	35.	Gregory D Isaac	Parma	MI
25	36.	Iris L Sun	Foster City	CA
	37.	David A Griffin	Stoughton	MA
26	38.	Charles D Carter	Carrollton	ОН
	39.	Sandra L Hoffman	Temperance	MI
27	40.	Youngwon Hahn	Everett	WA
$_{28}$	41.	Jason Baker	Raleigh	NC
_	42.	Tyler Coleman	Whitmore Lake	MI
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-9- Case No. 3:20-cv -00547-WHA (DMR)

1	43.	Shahram Safavi	San Diego	CA			
	44.	Keith Shuster	Swedesboro	NJ			
2	45.	Alex Amor	Eagan	MN			
2	46.	Demetrios Liaros	Bradenton	FL			
3	47.	Robert Stupar	Chicago	IL			
4	48.	William Stupar	Chicago	IL			
7	49.	William Charles Waldrop	Goochland	VA			
5	50.	Janet Lavonne Little	Cedar Bluff	VA			
	51.	Sanders Saint Jour	Brooklyn	NY			
6	52.	Carol Bratton	Aptos	CA			
_	53.	Steven A Demarest	Davie	FL			
7	54.	Sherri L Despiegler	Davie	FL			
8	55.	Daniel Ruihan Qi	Orlando	FL			
9	56.	Matt Fina	Cary	IL			
	57.	Preston Jones	Grand Prairie	TX			
	58.	Alexander Dietl	Ithaca	NY			
	59.	Tony Russo	Hueytown	AL			
11	60.	Christopher Szoly	Rocky River	OH			
	61.	Maurice L Bakke and Maurice L.	Gainesville	VA			
12		Bakke Single Account and					
12		Maurice L. Bakke and Mary					
13		Bakke JTWROS					
	62.	Mary Bakke	Gainesville	VA			
14	63.	Monty Milne	Phoenixville	PA			
1.5	64.	Duan Zhang	Bristol	CT			
15	65.	Alvin Laohapant	Silver Spring	MD			
16	66.	Michael Hardwick (deceased)	Aiken	SC			
	67.	Patricia W Hardwick (executor)	Aiken	SC			
17	68.	Spencer Wu	Henderson	NV			
	69.	Varghese Xavier	Floral Park	NY			
18	70.	Alan Lauver					
19	71.	Matthew Stratton	Anderson	SC			
19	72.	Piotr Niedzwiedz	Orlando	FL			
20	73.	Ron Brockway	Medina	ОН			
_	74.	Gary Cornell Woolridge	Smith's Parish	Bermuda			
21	75.	Charles B VonCanon III	Mooresville	NC			
	76.	McKayla Pate	Lovettsville	VA			
22	77.	Chad Allie	Frisco	TX			
23	78.	George Brodbeck	Berkeley	Australia			
23	79.	Carl J Frank	Osceola	WI			
24	80.	Aaron Kurjan	Traverse City	MI			
	81.	Subrina Chowtie	Towson	MD			
25	82.	Erin Bramer Landtroop	Dripping Springs	TX			
26	83.	Daniel Targonski	Maspeth	NY			
26	84.	Timothy Townsend-Gant Sr	Portland	OR			
27	85.	Kimbarlie Zimmerman	Brooklyn Park	MN			
<i>ا ا</i>	86.	Matthew Johnson	Altoona	PA			
28	87.	Andrew Indovina	Fairport	NY			
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	-10- Case No. 3:20-cv -00547-WHA (DMF						
	[Proposed] Judgment Approving Class Action Settlement						

1	88.	Shaila Sadia	Sterling	VA
	89.	Seth Schiffbauer	Phoenix	AZ
2	90.	Stephanie Gray	Goldsboro	NC
ر ا	91.	Victoria Stubbs	Laurel	MD
3	92.	Shane Forler	Wilmington	NC
4	93.	Cagri Yenigun	Savoy	IL
۱'	94.	Sarah Virden	Ormond Beach	FL
5	95.	Jerry Holick	Plano	TX
	96.	Pietro Hassan Geroli	Montreal	Canada
6	97.	Alex Hernandez-Hualde	Virginia Beach	VA
ا ہ	98.	David Lee	Pasadena	CA
7	99.	Larry W Riley	Port St Lucie	FL
8	100.	Mary C Riley	Port St Lucie	FL
0	101.	Lim Hock Thong	1 of t St Edele	Singapore
9	102.	Lee Sok Cheng		Singapore
	103.	Ryan Jentz		Singapore
10	104.	James Marcus	Franklin Lakes	NJ
	105.	Ranjith Kumar Chilumuru	O'Fallon	MO
11	106.	Mark A AuBuchon	Marysville	WA
12	107.	Christopher Moraal	Natick	MA
12	108.	Ryan Hubler	Aberdeen	NJ
13	109.	Andrew Morris	Minneapolis	MN
	110.	Gil Huggins	Seneca	SC
14	111.	Henry R. Darlington	Tempe	AZ
1	112.	Stanley R. Riddell	Sammamish	WA
15	113.	Richard B. Smith	York	PA
16	114.	Katie Bielecki	TOTA	171
10	115.	Todd Ousley	Riverview	FL
17	116.	Robert Jones	Dixon	IL
	117.	Gordon Blair	Williamsburg	VA
18	118.	Glenn Shepherd	Laverock	PA
10	119.	Therese Roth	Nyack	NY
19	120.	Beverly Ann Hutchins	Brunswick	ME
20	121.	Garry Barber	Dians with	1112
_	122.	Rasha Abedi Shekib Ahmad	Charlottesville	VA
21	123.	Ollie Winston Coggin IV	Charlottesvine	V 1 k
_	124.	R. Sundaramoorthi		
22	125.	Mark Larrabee IRA and Mark		
22		Larrabee and Kasey Larrabee	Southington	CT
23		Joint Brokerage Account	Southington	
24	126.	Jesus Almaguer		
_	127.	Thomas Brueck	Northvale	NJ
25	128.	David John Hobbs (deceased)	Queensland	Australia
	120.	Matthew David Smith (executor)	Queensland	Australia
26	129.	Tracey Fligg	Tiffin	IA
27	130.	Noah J. Simmons	Lodi	OH
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