

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

_____)	
In re:)	Chapter 11
)	
AMERICAN SIGNATURE, INC., <i>et al.</i> , ¹)	Case No. 25-12105 (JKS)
)	
Debtors.)	(Joint Administration Requested)
_____)	
		Ref. Docket No. 7

**INTERIM ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING, BUT NOT
DIRECTING, THE DEBTORS TO (A) PAY PREPETITION
EMPLOYEE WAGES, SALARIES, OTHER COMPENSATION,
AND REIMBURSABLE EMPLOYEE EXPENSES AND (B) CONTINUE
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF**

Upon the motion (the "Motion")² of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") for entry of an interim order (this "Interim Order"): (a) authorizing, but not directing, the Debtors to (i) pay certain prepetition employee wages, salaries, other compensation, reimbursable employee expenses, and (ii) continue employee benefits programs in the ordinary course, including payment of certain prepetition obligations related thereto; (b) scheduling a final hearing to consider approval of the Motion on a final basis, and (c) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon the First Day Declaration; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: American Signature, Inc. (6162); American Signature Home Inc. (8573); American Signature USA Inc. (6162); ASI Pure Promise Insurance LLC (6162); ASI Elston LLC (7520); ASI – Laporte LLC (6162); ASI Polaris LLC (6162); ASI Thomasville LLC (6162); and American Signature Woodbridge LLC (6162). The Debtors' business address is 4300 E. 5th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43235.

² Capitalized terms used in this Interim Order but not immediately defined have the meanings given to such terms in the Motion.



Delaware, dated February 29, 2012; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtors' notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing before this Court (the "Hearing"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion is granted on an interim basis as set forth herein.
2. The final hearing (the "Final Hearing") on the Motion shall be held on January 5, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time. Any objections or responses to entry of a final order on the Motion shall be filed on or before 4:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time, on December 29, 2025.
 - (a) proposed counsel to the Debtors, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 919 North Market Street, 17th Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Laura Davis Jones (ljones@pszjlaw.com);
 - (b) the Office of the United States Trustee, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Malcolm M. Bates (malcolm.m.bates@usdoj.gov);
 - (c) counsel to any statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases;
 - (d) counsel to the DIP Agent and Prepetition ABL Agent, Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP, Two International Place, Boston, MA 02110, Attn: John F. Ventola, Esq. (jventola@choate.com), Jonathan D. Marshall, Esq.

(jmarshall@choate.com), and Lucas B. Barrett, Esq. (lbarrett@choate.com), and Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., One Rodney Square, 920 North King Street, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn. Daniel J. DeFranceschi (defranceschi@RLF.com), John H. Knight (Knight@RLF.com) and Matthew P. Milana (Milana@RLF.com); and (e) counsel to the Prepetition Term Agent, Goldberg Kohn, 55 East Monroe Street, Chicago, IL 60603-5792, Attn: Randall L. Klein (randall.klein@goldbergkohn.com) and Zachary J. Garrett (zachary.garrett@goldbergkohn.com) and Blank Rome LLP, 1201 N. Market Street, Suite 800, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Stanley B. Tarr (stanley.tarr@blankrome.com).

3. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, in their sole discretion, to: (a) continue, modify, change, and discontinue the Employee Compensation and Benefits solely to the extent such actions occur in the ordinary course of business during these chapter 11 cases without the need for further Court approval, subject to applicable law, and (b) pay and honor prepetition amounts outstanding under or related to the Employee Compensation and Benefits Programs in the ordinary course of business, up to the amounts set forth in paragraph 4 of this Interim Order; *provided* that pending entry of the Final Order, the Debtors shall not make transfers on account of any Employee Compensation and Benefits obligations to or for the benefit of any individual that, when aggregated, exceed the priority amounts set forth in sections 507(a)(4) or 507(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code. Nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the payment of any amounts which violate, implicate, or otherwise are subject to 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors will seek approval of any insider bonus or incentive programs, if any, under separate motion under section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code.

4. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, subject to the restrictions contained in this Interim Order, and pending entry of the Final Order, the Debtors are authorized,

but not directed, in their sole discretion, to pay, remit, or reimburse, as applicable, not more than an aggregate amount of \$5,336,000 for the following obligations:

Employee Obligation	Interim Amount
Unpaid Employee Compensation	\$2,550,000
Paid Time Off	\$0
Commissions	\$1,600,000
Supplemental Workforce Compensation	\$95,000
Withholding Obligations	\$580,000
Reimbursable Expenses	\$25,000
Employee Compensation	\$4,850,000
Health Benefit Plans	\$336,000
Stop Loss Premiums	\$10,000
Non-Insider Employee Incentive Program	\$140,000
Employee Benefits Programs	\$486,000
Total	\$5,336,000

5. Pursuant to section 362(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, Employees are authorized to proceed with their claims under the Workers' Compensation Program in the appropriate judicial or administrative forum and the Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to continue the Workers' Compensation Program in the ordinary course. This modification of the automatic stay pertains solely to claims under the Workers' Compensation Program.

6. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to forward any unpaid amounts on account of Deductions or Payroll Taxes to the appropriate third-party recipients or taxing authorities in accordance with the Debtors' prepetition policies and practices.

7. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to pay costs and expenses incidental to payment of the Employee Compensation and Benefits obligations, including all administrative and processing costs and payments to outside professionals.

8. Nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the payment of any amounts which violates or implicates section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code; *provided* that nothing herein shall prejudice the Debtors' ability to seek approval of relief pursuant to section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code at a later time.

9. Nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the Debtors to cash out unpaid Paid Time Off, except where applicable nonbankruptcy law requires such payment.

10. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Interim Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, nothing in this Interim Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the validity, priority, or amount of any particular claim against a Debtor entity; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party-in-interest's right to dispute any particular claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any particular claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Interim Order or the Motion; (e) a request or authorization to assume any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors' or any other party-in-interest's rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (g) a concession by the Debtors or any other party-in-interest that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) satisfied pursuant to this Interim Order are valid and the Debtors and all other parties-in-interest expressly reserve their rights to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or to seek avoidance of all such liens. Any payment made pursuant to this Interim Order should not be construed as an admission as to the validity, priority, or amount of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party-in-interest's rights to subsequently dispute such claim.

11. The banks and financial institutions on which checks were drawn or electronic payment requests made in payment of the prepetition obligations approved herein are authorized

to receive, process, honor, and pay all such checks and electronic payment requests when presented for payment, and all such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the Debtors' designation of any particular check or electronic payment request as approved by this Interim Order without any duty of further inquiry and without liability for following the Debtors' instructions.

12. The Debtors are authorized to issue postpetition checks, or to effect postpetition fund transfer requests, in replacement of any checks or fund transfer requests that are dishonored as a consequence of these chapter 11 cases with respect to prepetition amounts authorized to be paid in connection with any Employee Compensation and Benefits Programs.

13. The contents of the Motion satisfy the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b).

14. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of such Motion and the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and the Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.

15. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Interim Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

16. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Interim Order in accordance with the Motion.

17. This Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Interim Order.

November 25, 2025

Kate Skokler
USBJ