Case 25-90817 Document 43 Filed in TXSR on 12/20/25

Docket #0043 Date Filed: 12/20/2025 United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### **ENTERED**

December 18, 2025

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:

§ § § AMPLE, INC., et al., 1 Case No. 25-90817 (CML)

Chapter 11

Debtors. (Jointly Administered)

ORDER (A) AUTHORIZING DEBTORS TO (I) PAY PREPETITION WAGES, SALARIES, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, AND OTHER COMPENSATION, AND (II) MAINTAIN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS AND PAY RELATED **OBLIGATIONS; AND (B) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF** 

Upon the emergency motion (the "Motion")<sup>2</sup> of the Debtors for entry of an order (this "Order") pursuant to sections 105(a), 363(b), and 507 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules 6003 and 6004, (a) authorizing, but not directing, the Debtors to (i) pay all prepetition and post-petition obligations owed on account of wages, salaries, expense reimbursements, and other compensation to their employees and certain independent contractors, together with all related fees, costs, and expenses incident to the foregoing (including amounts owed to third-party service providers, administrators, and taxing authorities); and (ii) maintain, continue, and, as applicable, wind down in the ordinary course the Debtors' compensation, expense reimbursement, and employee benefit programs and policies, as such programs and policies were in effect as of the Petition Date, as they may be modified, amended, or supplemented from time to time in the ordinary course of business; and (b) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and the Court having reviewed the Motion and the First Day Declaration; and the Court having

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases") and the last four digits of each Debtor's taxpayer identification number are: Ample Inc. (4015) and Ample Texas EV, LLC (6832). A copy of this Order is available on (a) the Court's website, at www.txs.uscourts.gov and (b) the website maintained by the Debtors' claims and noticing agent, Verita Global at https://veritaglobal.net/ample.

Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meaning ascribed to them in the Motion.

jurisdiction to consider the Motion and the relief requested therein in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and the Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2) and that the Court may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and the 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 it appearing that proper and adequate notice of the Motion has been given and that no other or further notice is necessary; and upon the record herein; and after due deliberation thereon; and all objections, if any, to the Motion having been withdrawn, resolved, or overruled; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and the Court having determined that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest, it is hereby

#### ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED THAT:

1. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, in their discretion and business judgment, and in the ordinary course consistent with the Debtors' prepetition practices and the terms of this Order, to (i) pay the Workforce Obligations owed to the Workforce and related fees, costs, and expenses incident to the foregoing, including, without limitation, amounts owed to Sequoia One PEO, LLC ("Sequoia"), benefit carriers, and the Payroll Taxing Authorities, in each case in the ordinary course of business (whether arising before or after the Petition Date); (ii) maintain, and continue to honor and pay amounts with respect to, the Debtors' compensation, expense reimbursement, and business programs and policies for the Workforce (including the Employee Benefits) as in effect as of the Petition Date and as they may be modified, amended, or supplemented from time to time in the ordinary course of business; and (iii) continue to deduct and to transmit the Deductions from payroll checks as authorized by Employees, as required under

any employee-related plan, program, or policy, or as required by applicable law; *provided that*, the Debtors shall not honor any prepetition Employee Wages and Compensation Obligations to any individual that exceeds the priority amounts set forth in sections 507(a)(4) and 507(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code except as set forth below.

- 2. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to continue their compensation, expense reimbursement, and Employee Benefits programs on a post-petition basis, and in each case to pay any accrued amounts thereunder as they become due in the ordinary course of business; provided that nothing in this Order shall be deemed to authorize the Debtors to pay any severance, retention, or bonus obligations, or to make any payments to any "insiders" of the Debtors (such persons who meet the definition of "insider" provided in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code, collectively, "Insiders") that would be inconsistent with section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code or that would cause any individual to receive payment on account of prepetition wages or benefits in excess of the caps set forth in sections 507(a)(4) and 507(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code, absent further order of this Court. For the avoidance of doubt, the Debtors shall not (a) make any bonus, incentive, retention, or severance payments; or (b) make any payments prohibited by section 503(c).
- 3. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to transmit any Deductions previously withheld or deducted from the Employee payroll to the appropriate third-party recipient.
- 4. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, in their discretion and business judgment, and in the ordinary course of business, to (a) modify, change, and discontinue any program, policy, or practice with respect to the Workforce Obligations (including the Employee Benefits) and (b) implement new programs, policies, and practices with respect to the Workforce

Obligations during the Chapter 11 Cases to the extent consistent with this Order and the limitations set forth in the Motion.

- 5. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, any payment to be made hereunder, and any authorization contained herein, shall be subject to any interim and final orders, as applicable, approving any post-petition secured debtor-in-possession financing of the Debtors, and/or the Debtors' entry into any post-petition financing facilities or credit agreements, and any budgets in connection therewith governing any such postpetition financing and/or use of cash collateral (each such order, a "DIP Order" and, together, the "DIP Orders"). To the extent there is any inconsistency between the terms of any DIP Order and any action taken or proposed to be taken hereunder, the terms of the DIP Order shall control.
- 6. Neither this Order nor any payments made by the Debtors pursuant to the Motion or this Order shall be deemed to change the classification of any claim or to in any way change the rights or create new rights of any Employees, Contracted Labor, or any other person, including, without limitation, the creation of any right to payment entitled to administrative expense priority pursuant to sections 503 and 507 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 7. The Banks are authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay any and all checks issued, or to be issued, and electronic funds transfers requested, or to be requested, by the Debtors relating to such obligations, to the extent that sufficient funds are on deposit in available funds in the applicable bank accounts to cover such payments. The Banks are authorized to accept and rely on all representations made by the Debtors with respect to which checks, drafts, wires, or automated clearing house transfers should be honored or dishonored in accordance with this or any other order of this Court, whether such checks, drafts, wires, or transfers are dated prior to, on, or subsequent to the Petition Date, without any duty to inquire otherwise.

- 8. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to issue new postpetition checks, or effect new electronic funds transfers, and to replace any prepetition checks or electronic fund transfer requests that may be lost or dishonored or rejected as a result of the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases with respect to any prepetition amounts that are authorized to be paid pursuant to this Order.
- 9. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Order authorizes the Debtors to pay, compromise, assume, or otherwise affect any claims asserted by former employees, including claims arising under the WARN Act or analogous state or local laws, all of which are expressly preserved.
- 10. Nothing in the Motion or this Order, or any payment made pursuant to this Order, is intended to be or shall be deemed as (a) an implication or admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against the Debtors; (b) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's right to dispute the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim; (c) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable non-bankruptcy law; (d) a waiver of the obligation of any party in interest to file a proof of claim; (e) a promise or requirement to pay any particular claim; (f) a waiver of any claims or causes of action which may exist against any entity under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; (g) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; or (h) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code. Any payment made pursuant to this Order is not intended to be and should not be construed as an admission to the validity of any claim or waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights to dispute such claim subsequently.

11. The requirements set forth in Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b) are satisfied.

12. Notice of the Motion is adequate under the Bankruptcy Rules, including

Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a), and the Bankruptcy Local Rules.

13. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), to the extent applicable, this Order shall

be effective and enforceable immediately upon entry hereof.

14. The Debtors are further authorized and empowered to take all actions necessary or

appropriate to implement the relief granted in this Order.

15. The Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or

related to the implementation, interpretation, or enforcement of this Order.

Signed: December 18, 2025

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

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United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

In re: Case No. 25-90817-cml

Ample, Inc. Chapter 11

Debtor

# **CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE**

District/off: 0541-4 User: ADIuser Page 1 of 2
Date Rcvd: Dec 18, 2025 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 2

The following symbols are used throughout this certificate:

Symbol Definition

Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP, adding the last four digits to complete the zip +4, or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS

regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Dec 20, 2025:

Recipi ID Recipient Name and Address

db + Ample, Inc., 99 Park Lane, Brisbane, CA 94005-1309

TOTAL: 1

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.

Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI). Electronic transmission is in Eastern

Standard Time.

Recip ID Notice Type: Email Address Date/Time Recipient Name and Address

pp + Email/Text: kccnoticing@kccllc.com

Dec 18 2025 20:26:00 Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC d/b/a Verita

Glob, 222 N. Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 300, El

Segundo, CA 90245-5614

TOTAL: 1

### BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, \*duplicate of an address listed above, \*P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

Recip ID Bypass Reason Name and Address

cr Twelve Bridge Capital, LLC

TOTAL: 1 Undeliverable, 0 Duplicate, 0 Out of date forwarding address

## NOTICE CERTIFICATION

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Dec 20, 2025 Signature: /s/Gustava Winters

## CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on December 18, 2025 at the address(es) listed below:

Name Email Address

Andrew Jimenez

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee andrew.jimenez@usdoj.gov

Evan Gershbein

on behalf of Other Prof. Kurtzman Carson Consultants LLC d/b/a Verita Global ECFpleadings@kccllc.com,

# Case 25-90817 Document 43 Filed in TXSB on 12/20/25 Page 8 of 8

District/off: 0541-4 User: ADIuser Page 2 of 2
Date Rcvd: Dec 18, 2025 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 2

ECFpleadings@kccllc.com

Hugh Massey Ray, III

on behalf of Debtor Ample Texas EV LLC hugh.ray@pillsburylaw.com,

bankruptcee@yahoo.com;nancy.jones@pillsburylaw.com;docket@pillsburylaw.com

Hugh Massey Ray, III

on behalf of Debtor Ample Inc. hugh.ray@pillsburylaw.com,

bankruptcee@yahoo.com;nancy.jones@pillsburylaw.com;docket@pillsburylaw.com

Michael Fishel

 $on \ behalf \ of \ Creditor \ Twelve \ Bridge \ Capital \ \ LLC \ michael @Fishel Law Group.com, \ michael-fishel-2874 @ecf.pacerpro.com \\$ 

US Trustee

USTPRegion07.HU.ECF@USDOJ.GOV

Vianey Garza

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee vianey.garza@usdoj.gov

TOTAL: 7