Case 24-22548-CMG Doc 135 Filed 02/07/25 Entered 02/10/25 00:30:17 Dec Main Docket #0135 Date Filed: 02/07/2025

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Caption in Compliance with D.N.J. LBR 9004-1(b)

DEBEVOISE & PLIMPTON LLP

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Proposed Co-Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor in Possession

In re:

CCA Construction, Inc.,1

Debtor.

Case No. 24-22548 (CMG)

Order Filed on February 7, 2025

U.S. Bankruptcy Court District of New Jersey

by Clerk

Chapter 11

Judge: Christine M. Gravelle

The last four digits of the Debtor's federal tax identification number the purposes of this chapter 11 case is 445 South Street, Suite 310, Morristow..., 242254825021000000000002

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Debtor: CCA Construction, Inc. Case No.: 24-22548 (CMG)

Caption of Order: Order Authorizing the Employment and Retention of Debevoise &

Plimpton LLP as Bankruptcy Co-Counsel for the Debtor Effective

as of the Petition Date

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT AND RETENTION OF DEBEVOISE & PLIMPTON LLP AS BANKRUPTCY CO-COUNSEL FOR THE DEBTOR EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

The relief set forth on the following pages, numbered two (2) through six (6), is **ORDERED**.

DATED: February 7, 2025

Honorable Christine M. Gravelle United States Bankruptcy Judge Case 24-22548-CMG Doc 135 Filed 02/07/25 Entered 02/10/25 09:39:17 Desc Main Document Page 3 of 20

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Debtor: CCA Construction, Inc. Case No.: 24-22548 (CMG)

Caption of Order: Order Authorizing the Employment and Retention of Debevoise &

Plimpton LLP as Bankruptcy Co-Counsel for the Debtor Effective

as of the Petition Date

Upon CCA's application [Docket No. 98] (the "Application")² for the entry of an order authorizing CCA's employment and retention of Debevoise & Plimpton LLP ("Debevoise") as bankruptcy co-counsel effective as of the Petition Date, pursuant to sections 327(a) and 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 2014(a) and 2016, and Local Rule 2014-1; and upon the Labovitz Declaration and the Wei Declaration; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the Application and the relief requested therein pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and the Amended Standing Order of Reference to the Bankruptcy Court Under Title 11 of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, entered July 23, 1984, and amended on September 18, 2012 (Simandle, C.J.); and consideration of the Application and the relief requested therein being a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and venue being proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and the Court having reviewed the Application, the Labovitz Declaration and the Wei Declaration; and the Court being satisfied based on the representations made in the Application, the Labovitz Declaration and the Wei Declaration that (a) Debevoise does not hold or represent an interest adverse to CCA's estate and (b) Debevoise is a "disinterested person" as defined in section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code and as required by section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code; and notice of the Application appearing to be adequate and appropriate under the circumstances; and any objections to the requested relief having been withdrawn or overruled on the merits; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is hereby ORDERED that:

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² Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Application.

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Debtor: CCA Construction, Inc. Case No.: 24-22548 (CMG)

Debevoise in the chapter 11 case.

Caption of Order: Order Authorizing the Employment and Retention of Debevoise &

Plimpton LLP as Bankruptcy Co-Counsel for the Debtor Effective

as of the Petition Date

1. The Application is granted as set forth herein.

2. Pursuant to sections 327(a) and 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, CCA is authorized to employ and retain Debevoise as its attorneys in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Application and that certain engagement letter attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** (the

"Engagement Letter"), effective as of December 22, 2024 (the "Petition Date").

3. Debevoise shall apply for (a) compensation for professional services rendered and (b) reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with CCA's chapter 11 case, in both cases subject to the Court's approval and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code (including, but not limited to, sections 331 and 330 of the Bankruptcy Code), the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules and any other applicable procedures or orders of the Court. Debevoise shall make a reasonable effort to comply with the U.S. Trustee Guidelines, both in connection with the Application and the interim and final fee applications to be filed by

- 4. Notwithstanding anything in this Order to the contrary, Debevoise is also authorized to represent CCA and the non-Debtor defendants in connection with the Baha Mar Litigation and all fees incurred in connection with the Baha Mar Litigation shall be paid by the non-Debtor defendants, and not by CCA, and Court approval shall not be required for such related fees.
- 5. In order to avoid any duplication of effort and provide services to CCA in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, Debevoise shall coordinate with Cole Schotz P.C. and any additional firms CCA retains regarding their respective responsibilities in the chapter 11

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case. As such, Debevoise shall use its best efforts to avoid duplication of services provided by any of CCA's other retained professionals in the chapter 11 case.

6. Prior to any increases in Debevoise's rates set forth in the Application, Debevoise shall file a supplemental affidavit with the Court and provide 10-days' notice to CCA, the U.S. Trustee and any official committee appointed in the chapter 11 case. All parties in interest retain their rights to object to any rate increase on all grounds, including the reasonableness standard set forth in section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, and the Court retains the right to review any rate increase pursuant to section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 7. Debevoise shall (i) only bill 50% for non-working travel; (ii) not seek the reimbursement of any fees or costs, including attorney fees and costs, arising from the defense of any filed objections to any of Debevoise's fee applications in this chapter 11 case; (iii) use the billing and expense categories set forth in the U.S. Trustee Guidelines (Exhibit D-1 "Summary of Compensation Requested by Project Category"); and (iv) provide any and all monthly fee statements, interim fee applications, and final fee applications in "LEDES" format to the United States Trustee.
- 8. Notwithstanding anything in the Application or the Labovitz Declaration to the contrary, Debevoise shall seek reimbursement from the Debtor's estate for its engagement-related expenses at the firm's actual cost paid.
- 9. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Application or the Engagement Letter, to the extent that Debevoise uses the services of independent contractors or subcontractors (collectively, the "Contractors") in this chapter 11 case, Debevoise (a) shall

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passthrough the cost of such Contractors to CCA at the same rate that it pays the Contractors; (b) shall seek reimbursement for actual out-of-pocket expenses only; (c) shall ensure that the Contractors submit the same connections disclosures as required of professionals by Bankruptcy Rule 2014; and (v) attach any such Contractor invoices to its monthly fee statements, interim fee applications and/or final fee applications filed in this case. No agreement or understanding exists between Debevoise and any other person other than as permitted by Bankruptcy Code section 504 to share compensation for services rendered in connection with this chapter 11 case, nor shall Debevoise share or agree to share compensation received for services rendered in connection with this case with any other person other than as permitted by Bankruptcy Code section 504.

- 10. Notwithstanding Debevoise's Terms of Engagement, the provision concerning fee disputes is null and void during the pendency of this Chapter 11 Case.
- 11. To the extent the Application, the Labovitz Declaration, or any engagement agreement pertaining to this retention is inconsistent with this Order, the terms of this Order shall govern.
- 12. CCA and Debevoise are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted pursuant to this Order in accordance with the Application.
- 13. Notwithstanding any Bankruptcy Rule or Local Rule to the contrary, the terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.
- 14. The Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation of this Order.

EXHIBIT 1

Engagement Letter

Debevoise & Plimpton

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP 66 Hudson Boulevard New York, NY 10001 +1 212 909 6000

PRIVILEGED & CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION

September 12, 2024

James McMahon CCA Construction, Inc. 445 South Street, Suite 310 Morristown, NJ 07960

Dear Mr. McMahon:

We are grateful that you have asked Debevoise & Plimpton LLP to act as counsel to CCA Construction, Inc., CSCEC Bahamas, Ltd. and CCA Bahamas Ltd. (collectively, "Client"). This engagement letter and the attached Debevoise & Plimpton Terms of Engagement (the "Terms of Engagement") together set forth the terms that will govern our work for Client on the matter(s) described in this letter. This engagement letter supplements our November 27, 2023, engagement letter with you.

1. Scope of Engagement

Client has engaged us to represent it in connection with evaluating and implementing a potential restructuring of its financial obligations, whether in-court or out-of-court, and such related additional matters for which you request our services or advice. In this engagement, we are representing Client and not any of its affiliates or any other entity or person associated with or related to Client.

We understand that you will be our principal contact for communications at Client from whom we will receive our instructions, although we may also be working with and receiving instructions from others within your organization during this engagement.

If additional services are requested by Client and agreed to by us, this engagement letter and the attached Terms of Engagement will also apply to such services, unless superseded by another written engagement letter. Our representation is limited to the services that Client requests and we agree to perform on Client's behalf.

2. Staffing

As discussed, Natasha Labovitz and I will lead our firm's work on this matter, and the principal counsel and associates on the matter will be Elie Worenklein, Rory Heller and Shefit Koboci. Other attorneys and support personnel may also perform services. I will be happy to discuss project management and staffing matters with you at any time.

3. <u>Billing Policies and Procedures</u>

Our fees for our services will be based upon our customary hourly rates for matters of this kind.

Our current hourly rates for this matter range from \$810 per hour for our newest associates to \$2,280 per hour for our most experienced partners. The current hourly rate for myself and Natasha Labovitz is \$2,280 per hour; Elie Worenklein's hourly rate is \$1,640; Rory Heller's hourly rate is \$1,315; Shefit Koboci's hourly rate is \$1,205. Rates for project assistants, legal assistants and other support personnel range from \$355 per hour to \$820 per hour. These rates are subject to adjustment by the firm from time to time.

In addition to the above, and in recognition of our relationship:

- Our hourly rates for attorneys and other time-keepers who work on this matter will be subject to a 10% discount from our standard hourly rates.
- In the event that the only three entities required to file for bankruptcy are the Client (i.e., CCA Construction, Inc., CSCEC Bahamas, Ltd. and CCA Bahamas Ltd.), we will, with respect to any fees that are incurred on or prior to the later of October 31, 2024 or 30 days after entry of the state court judgment, apply a discount of 25% for any fees that are incurred in excess of \$750,000 and apply a discount of 50% for any fees incurred in excess of \$1,000,000.
- In the event that more than three entities are required to file for bankruptcy, we will, with respect to any fees that are incurred on or prior to the later of October 31, 2024 or 30 days after entry of the state court judgment, apply a discount of 25% for any fees that are incurred in excess of \$1,000,000 and apply a discount of 50% for any fees incurred in excess of \$1,500,000.
- Please note that the above fee discounts of 25% and 50% shall not apply to any fees incurred for M&A transactions, a prepackaged/prearranged plan, DIP financing, litigation appellate work for NY state court, or combatting an attempted injunction against filing.

To the extent insurance coverage may be available to pay for our services, Client will be responsible for paying any difference between the amount covered and paid by insurance and our above-stated rates for the matter. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, Client shall be responsible for submitting any and all claims to said insurer(s), and shall not withhold or otherwise delay payment of our fees pending reimbursement or a coverage decision or calculation by an insurer or other third party.

We will bill Client for disbursements and other charges that we incur on its behalf. These disbursements and charges may include, among others, filing fees and fees and expenses incurred in connection with court reporters, transcripts, expert witnesses, document retrieval services, travel, postage, express deliveries, and local and other counsel (where appropriate); and charges for messenger services, document preparation (including word processing and duplicating), computerized legal research and other database services, and certain overtime and administrative expenses.

If a disbursement or other charge is significant, our usual practice is to ask Client to pay the provider directly upon receipt of the applicable invoice. In addition, for large expenses the provider may require Client to prepay all or a portion of such expenses.

In accordance with our standard billing practice, we expect to bill Client on a monthly basis or, in accordance with the retainer arrangement described below, more frequently to the extent that such billing may result in our bills exceeding the amount of our estimated fees and expenses described below. In our experience, clients find monthly billing to be helpful in monitoring the nature and amount of services. Depending on the circumstances, estimated or summary bills may be provided during certain billing cycles, with supporting time descriptions and expense summaries to follow thereafter. We expect that Client will pay the amounts shown as due on these statements promptly upon their receipt.

We will seek to consult with you in advance before undertaking any major new task in our representation of Client, and to keep you informed where our fees, disbursements and other charges stand on an ongoing basis, if you so request.

A retainer in the amount of \$250,000 will be payable promptly in connection with our work on this assignment, which is intended to be an "advance payment retainer," as defined in Opinion 816 of the New York State Bar Association Committee on Professional Ethics and Entegra Power Group, LLC v. Dewey & Leboeuf LLP (In re Dewey & Leboeuf LLP), 493 B.R. 421, 430 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2013). The amount of the initial advance payment retainer has been set to approximate our estimate of fees, expenses and other disbursements that are expected to be accrued and unpaid by Client between payment cycles. Debevoise's estimate of expected fees and expenses may change based upon actual or expected fees and expenses incurred or expected to be incurred, as applicable. Client agrees to provide additional advance payment retainers upon request by Debevoise to ensure that the amount of any advance payment retainers remains at or above our estimated fees and expenses. Client further agrees that Debevoise may apply the advance payment retainers to satisfy any outstanding fees as services are rendered and to expenses as they are incurred. If an insurer pays such fees and expenses under a Client insurance policy. Debevoise shall refund the Client for any such amounts paid by an insurer.

Client understands and agrees that any advance payment retainers are earned by Debevoise upon receipt; any advance payments retainers become property of Debevoise upon receipt; Client no longer has any property interest in any advance payment retainers upon Debevoise's receipt; any advance payment retainers will be placed in Debevoise's general account and will not be held in a client trust, escrow or similar account; and Client will not earn interest on any advance payment retainer. Client and Debevoise agree that, at the conclusion of this engagement, if the aggregate amount of any advance payment retainers held by Debevoise exceeds the amount of Debevoise's final bill for fees, expenses and other disbursements, then Debevoise will refund the excess amount to Client.

Client further understands and agrees that the use of advance payment retainers is an integral condition of our engagement and is necessary to ensure that Client continues to have access to our services; Debevoise is compensated for its representation of Client; Debevoise is not a prepetition creditor in the event that Client commences, or has commenced against it, a case under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101, et seq.; and, in light of the foregoing, the provision of the advance payment retainers is in Client's best interests. The provision of one or more advance payment retainers does not affect Client's right to terminate this representation or the attorney-client relationship.

4. Conflicts

At present, we are not aware of any conflicts of interest in undertaking this representation. As Client is aware, however, our firm represents many other companies and individuals (including other clients who are or may become Client's competitors) in a variety of matters, including, but not limited to, mergers, acquisitions, financings, restructurings, bankruptcies, investigations, fund formations, litigations, and regulatory matters.

It is possible that during the time we are representing Client, some of our present or future clients will have disputes, transactions, or other matters with or involving Client or its affiliates. We may also be asked to seek discovery from Client or its affiliates in connection with the representation of another client in a litigation, arbitration, or other dispute resolution proceeding. In light of the foregoing, we wish to clarify, and confirm Client's agreement, that our representation of Client will not prevent us from representing existing or new clients that may have interests that are adverse to or otherwise different from those of Client or its affiliates, so long as the matter for the other client is neither substantially related to our work for Client nor a litigation, arbitration, or other dispute proceeding in which Client is named as a party adverse to such other client.

Our firm has an active bankruptcy practice. We may from time to time be retained by other clients to represent their interests in bankruptcy cases or out-of-court restructurings in which Client or one of its affiliates is or may be a party with interests adverse to or otherwise different from those of these other clients. Client agrees that our

representation of Client in the matters described in this letter will not, in and of itself, disqualify us from representing other clients in such bankruptcies or restructurings so long as we do not represent such other clients in any litigation in which Client is named as a party adverse to such other clients.

In the course of representing Client we may from time to time consult with the lawyers in our firm responsible for advising our firm, or with outside counsel, on our professional obligations relating to our representation of Client. Such consultations may involve matters including professional ethics issues and potential or actual conflicts of interest. Client acknowledges and agrees that, notwithstanding that there may be potential for conflict between us and Client in consideration of our professional obligations, we are free to consult with our own counsel on such matters without Client's consent and that such consultations are confidential and subject to our attorney-client privilege, as communications between our firm's personnel and counsel to our firm; Client agrees that it shall have no right to such communications.

By consenting to the arrangements described in this letter, Client will be waiving any conflict of interest that might arise in the situations described above and agreeing not to seek to disqualify us or otherwise to assert a conflict in those situations.

We agree that Client's consent to and waiver of conflicts in the preceding paragraphs do not permit us, without Client's prior consent, to disclose to another client confidential information about Client obtained in the course of our representation of Client. Conversely, we will not disclose to Client or use on its behalf any information with respect to which we owe a duty of confidentiality to another client or person.

5. Governing Law and Dispute Resolution

This engagement letter, the attached Terms of Engagement (with the exception of sections B and C thereof) and any other matters relating to or arising directly or indirectly out of our relationship with Client shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, without giving effect to the choice of law provisions thereof.

If a dispute arises as to the amount of the fee being charged, Client may have the right to seek arbitration or mediation of the fee dispute under a procedure established in New York State for resolution of certain fee disputes pursuant to Part 137 of the Chief Administrator Rules. We will provide you with the necessary information regarding such processes in the event of a dispute, or at any time upon request.

Except to the extent otherwise required by such Chief Administrator Rules, any dispute or claim arising out of or in any way relating to our representation of Client, including any work that might have been done prior to entering into this engagement letter (and including, without limitation, any claim of malpractice or breach of contract,

or any claim relating to fees, costs, charges or expenses for the representation) shall be finally settled by arbitration, and judgment upon the award may be entered by any court having jurisdiction thereof or having jurisdiction over the relevant party or its assets.

The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution ("<u>CPR</u>") Non-Administered Arbitration Rules in effect at the time of the arbitration, except as they may be modified herein or by mutual agreement of our firm and Client (collectively, the "parties"). The seat of the arbitration shall be New York, New York and it shall be conducted in the English language. The arbitration shall be conducted by three arbitrators, of whom each party shall appoint one, with the third arbitrator selected by the two party-appointed arbitrators pursuant to the CPR Non-Administered Arbitration Rules.

The parties agree that the arbitration shall be kept confidential and that the existence of the proceeding and any element of it shall not be disclosed beyond the tribunal, the parties and their counsel, experts, insurers and any other person necessary to the conduct of the proceeding. These confidentiality obligations shall not apply if disclosure is required by law or in judicial or administrative proceedings, or as far as disclosure is necessary to enforce the rights arising out of the award.

This agreement to arbitrate shall constitute an irrevocable waiver of each party's right to a trial by jury, discovery that would customarily be available in a judicial proceeding, and appeal, but the arbitrator shall have the power to grant any remedy for money damages or equitable relief that would be available to such party in a dispute before a court of law in New York. The arbitration shall be governed by the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. §§ 1 et seq. The parties further agree that the arbitral tribunal shall have primary responsibility to hear and determine challenges to the jurisdiction of the arbitral tribunal.

6. Terms of Engagement

The attached Terms of Engagement form an integral part of this engagement letter and are binding on the parties hereto. In the event of any inconsistency between this engagement letter and the attached Terms of Engagement, the terms set forth in this engagement letter shall prevail. In the event of any conflict between the terms of this engagement letter or the attached Terms of Engagement, on the one hand, and any outside counsel guidelines or policies adopted by Client, on the other hand, this engagement letter and the Terms of Engagement shall prevail.

* * *

Above all, our relationship with Client must be based on trust, confidence and clear understanding. If you have any questions about this engagement letter and the attached Terms of Engagement, or about any aspect of the work that the firm, or any of

the firm's lawyers, is performing for Client, please call me directly to discuss the matter. We encourage you to inquire about any matter concerning the attorney-client relationship that is in any way unclear or unsatisfactory.

Please confirm Client's agreement by countersigning a copy of this engagement letter in the space provided below and returning such countersigned copy to me. Please note, however, that Client instructing us or continuing to instruct us on this matter or any other matter on which we agree to represent Client pursuant to the terms of this engagement letter will constitute Client's full acceptance of the terms set out above and attached.

We invite you to consult with us at any time and on any topic. We look forward to continuing our relationship and working with you on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Sinf. Zi

Sidney P. Levinson

ACCEPTED AND AGREED:

CCA Construction, Inc., CSCEC Bahamas Ltd. and CCA Bahamas, Ltd.

James McMahon General Counsel



DEBEVOISE & PLIMPTON TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT

Debevoise & Plimpton is a global law firm with offices in the United States, Europe and Asia. It provides services through Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, a limited liability partnership registered in New York and headquartered in New York, and through related entities operating in certain other jurisdictions. The following terms apply either generally or in respect of a specific matter, as appropriate, to the provision of such services. Each matter in respect of which we provide services to you is, for the purposes of these Terms of Engagement, a "Matter". References to "you", "your", or the "Client" are to our client(s) in the Matter. References to "we", "our", "us", the "firm", or "Debevoise" are to the Debevoise & Plimpton entity or entities providing services to you. References to the "Agreement" are to the engagement letter to which these Terms of Engagement are attached and these Terms of Engagement.

A. GENERAL TERMS

- A.1 Client identification. Many jurisdictions have adopted or are in the process of changing or creating antimoney laundering, counter-terrorist financing, embargo, trade sanctions or similar laws, regulations and policies. As part of the firm's responsibility for compliance with such laws, regulations and policies, the firm may be obliged to take detailed steps to verify the identity of our clients and their beneficial owners (if any) and the source of our clients' funds and wealth. Accordingly, prior to commencement of work, the firm may have already requested, or may be requesting shortly, that you provide us with required identification and other documents. A delay or failure on your part to provide information required for verification purposes may prevent us from commencing or continuing work on a Matter. The firm reserves the right to request additional information that it believes is necessary, advisable or appropriate to verify identity and/or to ensure the firm's compliance with applicable laws, regulations and policies from time to time.
- A.2 Client assistance and cooperation. To enable us to represent you effectively and for our relationship to succeed, you agree to cooperate fully with us in our representation of you and to make available to us any documents or other information, personnel or agents as necessary to assist us in our representation of you. It is essential for you to provide us with all factual information reasonably relevant and material to the subject matter of our representation, and we will rely on the accuracy and completeness of any documents or other information you may provide.
- A.3 Confidentiality. We owe a duty of confidentiality to you. We will not disclose any confidential information that we obtain as a result of our provision of services to you except as you expressly permit; as required by applicable law or regulation; if consistent

- with the applicable professional conduct rules; or as required to our professional advisers and third parties who provide business support services to us, subject to their entering into contractual duties of confidentiality with us.
- A.4 Sharing Client information with Debevoise entities.
 You agree that we may share information relating to you or a Matter with all Debevoise & Plimpton entities that are part of our global law firm and any lawyers associated with such entities, all of which are bound by the terms of this Agreement including our confidentiality obligations to you.
- A.5 Change in control. In the event that Client is acquired or is otherwise subject to a change in control (including by a person or group becoming a controlling affiliate of yours) after the inception of this engagement, it is understood that the firm does not represent the acquiring entity or such controlling affiliate or otherwise establish a lawyer-client relationship with such entity or affiliate by virtue of such change in control. Furthermore, Client will provide us with sufficient notice to permit us to withdraw as your lawyers, subject to our ethical obligations, if we determine that such affiliation, acquisition or merger creates a conflict of interest, or if we determine that it is otherwise not in the best interests of the firm to continue to represent Client. In addition, Client acknowledges and agrees that any applicable privilege of Client belongs to Client alone and not to any acquiring or successor entity separate from Client, and on behalf of any such acquiring or successor entity Client waives any right or title to, and interest in, Client's privileged information to the extent that such acquiring or successor entity otherwise has any right or title to, or interest in, such information.
- A.6 No third party reliance. Our advice, whether provided in written, oral or any other form, is provided for your benefit alone and solely for the purposes of the

(Rev'd March 2024)

- particular Matter to which it relates. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, our advice may not be used or relied on by any third party.
- Use of legal due diligence reports by non-clients. You A.7 understand that in the event that we prepare for you a legal due diligence report in connection with a proposed transaction, such report will be prepared solely to assist you in evaluating the proposed transaction. Our report may not be relied upon by any other person or entity, or for any other purpose. You may not describe, show or furnish our report to any other person or entity, and no other person or entity may use our report, without our prior written consent. We may withhold consent in our sole discretion, and any such consent may be conditional upon, among other things, written acknowledgment from any person or entity receiving or using our report that we have not authorized reliance by, owe no duty to and have no liability to such person or entity in connection with our due diligence investigation or our report.
- A.8 Estimates are not binding. Any fee estimate, budget, or projection of hours we may provide is not a commitment to cap our fees or perform the services contemplated within a fixed amount of time or for a fixed fee. Any estimate, budget, or projection of hours is by its nature inexact and our actual fees and other charges may vary.
- A.9 Full payment of all amounts. Our fees, disbursements and other charges as described in this Agreement and as shown on our statements are to be paid without any reduction for withholding taxes or other governmental charges, unless otherwise agreed to by you and us. In appropriate circumstances, Client may also be responsible for value added, sales or other taxes related to our fees, disbursements or other charges.
- A.10 Third party payment of legal fees, disbursements and other charges. Sometimes our fees, disbursements and other charges, or a portion of them, are paid by a third party, such as an insurer. In this event, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, you will remain responsible for paying the difference, if any, between the amounts shown on our statements and any amounts paid by the third party. The full payment of our fees, disbursements and other charges is ultimately your responsibility as Client.
- A.11 <u>Conflicts check</u>. To enable us to conduct a conflicts check, you represent that you have identified for us all persons and entities that are or may become involved in a Matter to the best of your knowledge. You agree

- that you will promptly notify us if you become aware of any other persons or entities that are or may become involved in a Matter.
- A.12 Privacy. Our privacy policy describes our practices with regard to our collection and use of personal information in the course of our business, including in the course of performing legal services for Client. In particular, our privacy policy describes the types of personal information we collect; how we collect, use and share personal information; our legal bases for using personal information; how long we keep personal information; how we protect personal information; the countries to which we may transfer personal information; and the rights of individuals regarding their personal information. Our privacy policy is accessible on our website at https://www.debevoise.com/footer/privacy. It is updated from time to time, so we encourage you to review it regularly.

Client represents and warrants to us that any personal information relating to third parties which Client provides to us is collected, used and shared by Client in accordance with applicable data protection laws. In addition, Client agrees to give to us reasonable notice of any proposed transfer by Client to us of data which include personal information and, to the extent necessary to comply with data protection laws, to provide a copy of our privacy policy to any third party whose personal information is transferred by Client to us. In no event shall we retain, use, sell or disclose any third party personal data (including any "consumer's personal information" as that phrase is used in the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018) that we have received from Client for any purpose other than for the specific purpose of performing the services specified in this Agreement, except as may be required and/or permitted by law.

A.13 Use of technology. The firm will use communication, word processing, support, analytic, storage and other technologies in the course of providing services to Client. To enable us efficiently to provide our services to Client, we may use technology service providers that host, store or process confidential or other information that Client provides to us and/or documents or data that we create or use in the course of providing services to Client. These technology service providers may in turn use other parties (including so-called "cloud service providers") to provide their services. Although we use commercially reasonable efforts to require our technology service providers to protect the confidentiality and security of

confidential information, documents and data provided to them or to which they otherwise might have access, we are unable to guarantee that such providers, or fourth party providers who assist our technology service providers, will not themselves be subject to data security breaches, or that information, documents and data we provide will not be used by such providers in an unauthorized manner. By entering into this Agreement, Client consents to our use of such providers in providing our services.

- A.14 Email communications. We recommend that all email communication between us and Client be encrypted in transit. Encryption can help avoid the risks attendant to communication by email, which is capable of being intercepted by others. Our systems are configured to send and receive encrypted email by default, and we would be happy to work with you if you choose to configure your systems to enforce encrypted format. If that is not feasible or you choose not to do so, you consent to the use of unencrypted email in our communications.
- A.15 Third party electronic communication providers. We advise against the use of third party electronic communication programs, such as WeChat or WhatsApp, for transmitting confidential information to us, as we cannot vouch for the security of any information transmitted through the use of such programs. If you choose to communicate with us by using any such program, however, such communication by you will be treated as your consent for us to communicate with you using that program.
- A.16 Termination. Client may terminate our representation at any time for any reason. Subject to ethical obligations, we reserve the right to withdraw from an engagement if our statements are not being paid in a timely manner, if for any other reason the lawyerclient relationship is not proceeding in a satisfactory manner, or to comply with other legal requirements such as sanctions restrictions. Our representation regarding the Matter to which this Agreement applies will end upon completion of our legal services under this Agreement, when the firm has performed no services for Client under this Agreement for a period of six months or longer, at such time as it reasonably appears that the need for our legal services in connection with the Matter has ended, or at such time as legally required, whichever is earliest.

In the event we choose to terminate our representation, as set forth in our Agreement, you agree not to contest our withdrawal from any court or administrative proceeding.

Upon termination of our representation in a particular Matter (even if the firm continues active involvement in other Matters on your behalf), the firm will have no further duty to inform you of future developments or changes in law as may be relevant to such Matter. Further, unless we mutually agree in writing to the contrary, the firm will have no obligation to monitor renewal or notice dates or similar deadlines that may arise in connection with Matters for which the firm had been retained but for which we are no longer engaged.

A.17 Disposition of files. Once our work on a Matter ends, at Client's request, the firm will return, retain, or discard the materials pertaining to the Matter to which Client may be entitled under applicable law (the "Client File"). However, unless Client provides written notice to us within one year after a Matter has concluded concerning how Client would like the Client File to be handled, Client understands and agrees that we may retain or destroy the Client File (including all materials contained therein) at our discretion and consistent with our ethical obligations. Client understands that "materials" include originals as well as copies, and also that "materials" include paper files as well as information stored in other forms, including email, electronic documents, audio and video recordings and file materials in other formats.

> Our own files pertaining to the Matter will be retained by the firm (as opposed to being sent to Client) or destroyed. These firm files include, for example, certain internal correspondence and work product, firm administrative records, time and expense reports, personnel and staffing materials, and accounting records.

> We reserve the right to make and retain, at our expense, copies of all materials generated or received by us in the course of our representation. If Client requests copies of materials from us, copies that we generate will be made at Client's expense. Should Client wish us to retain a large quantity of paper or electronic documents, we will negotiate with Client a reasonable charge, based upon the quantity of the material to be retained and the manner and duration of its retention.

A.18 Hosting data. The firm may offer to electronically host and maintain a platform for Client to share information within Client, or as Client chooses, with other individuals. To the extent that the firm agrees to

- offer such a service, you agree to be bound by the "Terms of Use" found at https://extranet.debevoise.com/debevoise/termsOfUse.action, as those terms may be periodically updated. You also agree that to the fullest extent permitted by law you will not hold the firm, its partners, employees or affiliates or our service providers liable for any damage related to or arising out of the use of such a platform.
- A.19 Response to subpoenas or other lawful process. If the firm or any of its personnel are required by subpoena or other lawful process to provide testimony or produce documents or records, including electronic records, relating to the firm's representation of you, we will, to the extent permitted by applicable law, inform you before responding so that you have the opportunity to intervene or interpose any objections. You agree to reimburse the firm for its time and expenses incurred in responding to any such requests (with time to be billed at our standard hourly rates then in effect for the particular individuals involved, unless otherwise agreed), even if our representation of you has ended, including the time and expenses incurred in reviewing documents, appearing at depositions or hearings, and otherwise addressing issues raised by any such requests.
- A.20 <u>Publicity</u>. You agree that the firm may, as a part of our public marketing efforts, identify Client as a client and indicate the nature of the Matter and the results achieved, so long as the firm does not disclose Client's confidential information or secrets as defined by applicable professional conduct rules.
- A.21 Reporting. Legislation on money laundering, terrorist financing and financial sanctions places the firm under a legal duty in certain circumstances, where we know or suspect that a Matter involves money laundering or a breach of financial sanctions, to disclose information to the relevant regulatory authorities, to cease providing services or to take other actions as required by law, regulation or order. If, while we are acting for you, it becomes necessary to make a disclosure, the law may prohibit us from informing you that a disclosure has been made or of the reasons for it. To the extent that the law permits us to do so, we will tell you about the issue(s) identified and explain what action we may need to take.
- A.22 UK and European Union "DAC6" reporting. The UK and EU Mandatory Disclosure Rules, introduced pursuant to EU Directive 2018/822 of 25 May 2018 (also sometimes known as "DAC6" rules), may

- require us to report details of certain arrangements entered into by our clients to a tax authority in the UK or EU. To be reportable, the arrangement must be cross-border, involving the UK or an EU Member State, and have certain hallmarks. We will consult with you before making any such report if we consider that the rules apply to a Matter.
- A.23 Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting. The U.S. Corporate Transparency Act requires certain corporate entities to report beneficial ownership information ("BOI") to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN") of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Upon request, we are pleased to advise Client in assessing applicable BOI reporting obligations, and also to assist in making any required initial BOI report filings. In the absence of our agreement in writing to provide such advice and assistance, however, we disclaim any obligation to do so. We also disclaim any obligation to update or correct any such reporting to FinCEN in the absence of a written agreement providing that we shall do so.
- A.24 <u>Indian taxpayer identification number</u>. Our Indian unique identification number (PAN) is AAFFD9304D.
- A.25 Release of information to third parties retained by Client. On occasion, our Clients request that we release information about the services we provide to third parties retained by Client, including e-billing platforms and legal analytics firms. In the event that you request us to provide information to such third parties and we agree to do so, you acknowledge that we have no liability for any loss or unauthorized use of information that may occur in connection with our provision of such information, whether through a breach or other information security default of the third party or through other circumstances. You also acknowledge that our firm bears no responsibility for any loss or weakening of the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege or protection that may come about as a result of our fulfilling any such request.
- A.26 Severability. If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof is held invalid or unenforceable in an arbitration or judicial proceeding, the invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Agreement which can be given effect without such provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this Agreement are declared to be severable.
- A.27 <u>Entire agreement</u>. The engagement letter and these Terms of Engagement set out the entire agreement

between you and us concerning our provision of legal services. Any modifications of or amendments to this Agreement must be in writing and agreed by all parties. In the event of any conflict between this Agreement and any outside counsel guidelines or policies adopted by Client, this Agreement will govern.

- B. ADDITIONAL TERMS APPLICABLE WHEN SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY DEBEVOISE ENTITIES IN LONDON, FRANKFURT, PARIS OR LUXEMBOURG
- B.1 Insider lists and inside information. In applicable circumstances and in accordance with the UK Market Abuse Regulation and/or the EU Market Abuse Regulation we will draw up and maintain a list of persons at our firm who act for you and have access to inside information about you in relation to a Matter, provided that you inform us when particular information to which you give us access is inside information and when it ceases to be inside information. We will provide to you a copy of the insider list as soon as possible upon request and we will keep the list for five years from the date it was drawn up or last updated. You acknowledge that we are authorized to disclose the insider list and other information relating to Client to a relevant regulatory authority which may request such information and that we have no obligation to notify you of our compliance with any such regulatory request.
- B.2 Proportional liability. Your other advisers may seek to exclude, cap or otherwise limit their liability in connection with their provision of services to you relating to a Matter, as a result of which our own liability to you may be proportionately increased. We would not regard this as appropriate or fair and accordingly you agree that the total amount you may recover from us (and our other Debevoise entities) if we (and our other Debevoise entities) become subject to a claim by you arising out of a Matter, will not exceed what it would have otherwise been in the absence of any such exclusion, cap or limitation by another adviser.
- B.3 <u>Liability cap</u>. We may, if permitted by local law and professional conduct rules, limit our aggregate liability to you for breach of contract or negligence in respect of a Matter to an amount specified in the relevant engagement letter.

- C. ADDITIONAL TERMS APPLICABLE WHEN SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY DEBEVOISE LONDON
- C.1 Details of Debevoise London. Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, whose office is at 65 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7NQ, is a limited liability partnership registered in New York. It is authorized and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority. The SRA Code of Conduct for Firms and the SRA Code of Conduct for Solicitors and Registered Foreign Lawyers, at https://www.sra.org.uk/solicitors/standardsregulations/code-conduct-firms/ and https://www.sra.org.uk/solicitors/standardsregulations/code-conduct-solicitors/ respectively, apply to Debevoise London and to our lawyers and employees. The Bar Standards Board Code of Conduct at http://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/regulatoryrequirements/bsb-handbook/the-handbook-publication also applies to our barristers. Debevoise London's VAT number is GB 524658924.
- C.2 Professional indemnity insurance. Debevoise London is required to hold a minimum level of insurance cover under the Solicitors' Indemnity Insurance Rules. You may obtain information about our insurance, including contact details of our insurer and the territorial coverage of the insurance, from our London Managing Partner.
- C.3 <u>Financial services</u>. During the course of our provision of services to you nothing we do is, or should be construed as, an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity for the purposes of the UK Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.
- C.4 <u>Lien</u>. We may exercise a lien over your files, i.e. keep all your documents and materials relating to a Matter, while there is still money owing to us for legal fees, disbursements and other charges. This lien may be similar to liens that apply by statute or common law in other jurisdictions.
- C.5 <u>SRA Accounts Rules</u>. The SRA Accounts Rules require us to have an interest policy which provides for the payment of interest on any monies held by us for you in a client account. You may obtain a copy of our policy from our London Managing Partner.
- C.6 <u>Dispute resolution</u>. If you are at any time dissatisfied with the service you are receiving from us, or with any of our statements, or would like to discuss with us any aspect of a Matter or how our service to you could be

improved, please contact the partner responsible for the overall supervision of the Matter or our London Managing Partner. Our complaints procedure is available on request.

If you are dissatisfied with our handling of your complaint you may be entitled to ask the Legal Ombudsman to consider the complaint. Contact details for, and details of the qualification criteria for access to, the Legal Ombudsman are at www.legalombudsman.org.uk.

You may apply to the court for an assessment of any of our statements under Part III of the Solicitors Act 1974.

If a dispute arises between us out of or in connection with the Agreement, or the provision of our services to you whether carried out before, on or after the date of the Agreement, or any non-contractual obligation arising out of or in connection with the Agreement, and it is not resolved under one of the procedures set out above, it will be resolved pursuant to the dispute resolution procedures set forth in the engagement letter.

D. ADDITIONAL TERMS APPLICABLE WHEN SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY DEBEVOISE SHANGHAI

- D.1 Details of Debevoise Shanghai. Debevoise & Plimpton Shanghai Representative Office ("Debevoise Shanghai") is located at 13/F Kerry Centre Tower One 1515 Nanjing Road West Shanghai, 200040, China. Debevoise Shanghai is licensed to operate as a foreign law firm in China by the Ministry of Justice. Under Ministry of Justice regulations, foreign law firms in China are permitted, amongst other things, to provide consultancy services on non-Chinese law and on international conventions and practices, and to provide information on the impact of the Chinese legal environment. Under the same regulations, foreign law firms in China are not permitted to practice Chinese law, including rendering legal opinions upon Chinese law. Debevoise Shanghai's services in the Matter do not constitute an opinion upon Chinese law. If you require such an opinion, you should obtain it from licensed Chinese counsel and we would be pleased to arrange for assistance.
- D.2. Privacy and Data Protection. By voluntarily providing us with data (including any sensitive personal information included therein), you agree

that we may share information relating to you or a Matter with all Debevoise & Plimpton entities that are part of our global law firm and any lawyers associated with such entities. If you wish to restrict the sharing of your information beyond China and retain your information within China, you should inform us in writing before we commence substantive work on the Matter. You understand that, in any event, Client will ultimately retain liability for any cross-border transfer of Client's data that we effect in connection with the transactions or proceedings for which we are engaged, and to the extent legally permitted, we disclaim any liability in connection with any such transfer.

D.3 <u>Liability Cap</u>. We may limit our aggregate liability to you for breach of contract or negligence in respect of a Matter to an amount specified in the relevant engagement letter.