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Counsel for Highland Capital Management, L.P.

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	§ §	Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., ¹	§ §	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	§ §	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §	
Plaintiff,	§ §	Adversary Proceeding No.
VS.	ş	No. 20-3190-sgj11
JAMES D. DONDERO,	§ §	
Defendant.	§	

¹ The Debtor's last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (6725). The headquarters and service address for the above-captioned Debtor is 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201.



PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR AN ORDER REQUIRING MR. JAMES DONDERO TO SHOW CAUSE WHY HE SHOULD NOT BE HELD IN CIVIL CONTEMPT FOR VIOLATING THE TRO

Highland Capital Management, L.P., the plaintiff in the above-captioned adversary proceeding (the "<u>Adversary Proceeding</u>") and the debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "<u>Debtor</u>" or "<u>Highland</u>") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case ("<u>Bankruptcy Case</u>"), by and through its undersigned counsel, files this motion (the "<u>Motion</u>") seeking entry of an order requiring Mr. James Dondero (hereinafter, "<u>Mr. Dondero</u>") to show cause why he should not be held in civil contempt for violating the Court's *Order Granting Debtor's Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order against James Dondero* (Adv. Pro. Docket No. 10) (the "<u>TRO</u>"). In support of the Motion, the Debtor respectfully states the following:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

This Court has jurisdiction over the Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and
 1334(b). The Motion is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A) and (O).

2. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1409.

3. The predicates for the relief requested in the Motion are sections 105(a) and 362(a) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>") and Rules 7065 and 7001 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "<u>Bankruptcy Rules</u>").

RELIEF REQUESTED

4. The Debtor requests that this Court issue the proposed form of order to show cause, attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (the "<u>Proposed Order</u>"), pursuant to sections 105(a) and 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Rules 7001 and 7065 of the Bankruptcy Rules.

5. The evidence and arguments supporting the Motion are set forth in the Debtor's *Memorandum of Law in Support of Its Motion for an Order Requiring Mr. James Dondero to*

2

Show Cause Why He Should Not Be Held in Civil Contempt for Violating the TRO (the "<u>Memorandum of Law</u>"), and the Declaration of John A. Morris in Support of the Debtor's Motion for an Order Requiring Mr. James Dondero to Show Cause Why He Should Not Be Held in Civil Contempt for Violating the TRO (the "<u>Morris Declaration</u>"), and the exhibits annexed thereto, filed contemporaneously with this Motion. For the reasons set forth the Memorandum of Law, the Debtor requests that the Court (i) find and hold Mr. Dondero in contempt for violating the TRO; (ii) direct Mr. Dondero to produce to the Debtor and the UCC, within three days all financial statements and records of Dugaboy and Get Good for the last five years; (iii) direct Mr. Dondero is estate an amount of money equal to two times the Debtor's actual expenses incurred in bringing this Motion, payable within three calendar days of presentment of an itemized list of expenses; (iv) impose a penalty of three times the Debtor's actual expenses incurred in connection with any future violation of any order of this Court, and (v) grant the Debtor such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

6. In accordance with Rule 7007-1 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas (the "Local Rules"), contemporaneously herewith and in support of this Motion, the Debtor is filing: (a) its Memorandum of Law, (b) the Morris Declaration, and (c) the Debtor's Motion for Expedited Hearing on Motion for an Order Requiring Mr. James Dondero to Show Cause Why He Should Not Be Held in Civil Contempt for Violating the TRO (the "Motion to Expedite").

7. Based on the exhibits annexed to the Morris Declaration, and the arguments contained in the Memorandum of Law, the Debtor is entitled to the relief requested herein as set forth in the Proposed Order.

3

8. Notice of this Motion has been provided to Mr. Dondero. The Debtor submits that no other or further notice need be provided.

WHEREFORE, the Debtor respectfully requests that the Court (i) enter the Proposed Order substantially in the formed annexed hereto as **Exhibit A** granting the relief requested herein, and (ii) grant the Debtor such other and further relief as the Court may deem proper. Dated: January 7, 2021.

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

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-and-

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Counsel for Highland Capital Management, L.P.

EXHIBIT A

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	§ § Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., ¹	<pre> §</pre>
Debtor.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$ 8
Plaintiff,	§ Adversary Proceeding No §
VS.	§ No. 20-3190-sgj11 §
JAMES D. DONDERO,	\$ \$
Defendant.	§

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ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR AN ORDER REQUIRING MR. JAMES DONDERO TO SHOW CAUSE WHY HE SHOULD NOT BE HELD IN CIVIL <u>CONTEMPT FOR VIOLATING THE TRO</u>

Having considered (a) the Debtor's Motion for an Order Requiring Mr. James Dondero to Show Cause Why He Should Not Be Held in Civil Contempt for Violating the TRO [Docket No. __] (the "Motion"); ² (b) the Debtor's Memorandum of Law in Support of Its Motion for an Order Requiring Mr. James Dondero to Show Cause Why He Should Not Be Held in Civil *Contempt for Violating the TRO* [Docket No. __] (the "Memorandum of Law"); (c) the exhibits annexed to the Declaration of John A. Morris in Support of the Debtor's Motion for an Order Requiring Mr. James Dondero to Show Cause Why He Should Not Be Held in Civil Contempt for Violating the TRO [Docket No. __] (the "Morris Declaration"); and (d) all prior proceedings relating to this matter, including the December 10, 2020 hearing on the Debtor's Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order and Preliminary Injunction against James Dondero [Docket No. 6] (the "TRO Hearing") and the hearing (the "Restriction Motion Hearing") on the Motion for Order Imposing Temporary Restrictions on Debtor's Ability, as Portfolio Manager, to Initiate Sales by Non-Debtor CLO Vehicles [Bankr. Case Docket No. 1528] that was brought by certain financial advisory firms and investment funds that are represented by the law firm K&L Gates (collectively, the "K&L Gates Clients"); and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; 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 sanctions are warranted under sections 105(a) and 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the

² Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

Debtor's estate, its creditors, and other parties-in-interest; and this Court having found that the Debtor's notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and that no other notice need be provided; and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish good 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 and for the reasons set forth in the record on this Motion, it is **HEREBY ORDERED THAT**:

1. The Motion is **GRANTED** as set forth herein.

2. Mr. Dondero shall show cause before this Court on Friday, January 8, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. (Central Time) why an order should not be granted: (i) finding and holding Mr. Dondero in contempt for violating the TRO; (ii) directing Mr. Dondero to produce to the Debtor and the UCC within three days all financial statements and records of Dugaboy and Get Good for the last five years; (iii) directing Mr. Dondero to pay the Debtor's estate an amount of money equal to two times the Debtor's actual expenses incurred in bringing this Motion and addressing Mr. Dondero's conduct that lead to the imposition of the TRO and this Motion (*e.g.*, responding to the K&L Gates Clients' frivolous motion and related demands and threats and taking Mr. Dondero's deposition), payable within three (3) calendar days of presentment of an itemized list of expenses, (iv) imposing a penalty of three (3) times the Debtor's actual expenses incurred in connection with any future violation of any order of this Court, and (iv) granting the Debtor such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

3. The Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or relating to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

END OF ORDER