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Attorneys for James Dondero

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Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and **HCRE** Partners, LLC

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Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P.

FOR THE NORTHERN	DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS D	IVISION
In re:	§ Case No. 19-34054
	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ Chapter 11
	§
Debtor.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§
	§
Plaintiff,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj
T failtfiff,	§
vs.	Ş
15.	Ş
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND	Ş
THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	Ş
THE DOORDOT HAVESTMENT TROST,	§
Defendants.	§

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT



HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$ \$
Plaintiff,	\$ \$
vs.	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005-sgj §
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	\$
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$ \$
Plaintiff,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006-sgj
vs.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	\$ \$
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007-sgj
Plaintiff, vs.	\$ \$
	\$ \$
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	8 § § § §
Defendants.	\$ 8

APPENDIX IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Defendants James Dondero, NexPoint Advisors, L.P., Highland Capital Management

Services, Inc., and HCRE Partners, LLC file this Appendix in Support of their Opposition to Plaintiff

Highland Capital Management, L.P.'s Motion for Partial Summary Judgment, and request the Court

take judicial notice of the documents contained herein.

Exhibit	Document	Appendix Page(s)
1	Declaration of James Dondero, dated January 20, 2022	App. 1-23
А	HCMS Payment Ledger	App. 24-25
В	Nancy Dondero's Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust effective October 14, 2015	App. 26-31
С	Documents showing J. Dondero proof of service as Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust and subsequent resignation	App. 32-72
D	Letter to J. Pomerantz from D. Lynn, dated February 1, 2021	App. 73-74
Е	Termination of Amended and Restated Shared Services Agreement, among Highland Capital Management, L.P. and NexPoint Advisors, L.P., dated November 30, 2020	App. 75-76
2	Declaration of Nancy M. Dondero, dated January 20, 2022	App. 77-85
А	Nancy Dondero's Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust effective October 14, 2015	App. 86-91
3	Declaration of Michael Aigen, dated January 20, 2022	App. 92-95
А	Transcript of the Video Deposition of James P. Seery, Jr. on October 21, 2021, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005	App. 96-185
В	Transcript of the Remote Deposition of Bruce McGovern on November 9, 2021, Adv. Proc. No 21-03003	App. 186-200
С	List of Promissory Notes	App. 201-202
D	Email from F. Waterhouse to K. Hendrix, dated November 25, 2020	App. 203-208
Е	Email from F. Waterhouse to K. Hendrix, dated December 31, 2020	App. 209-210
F	Expert Report of Steven J. Pully	App. 211-235
G	Expert Report of Alan M. Johnson	App. 236-262
Н	Highland Capital Management, L.P.'s Responses and Objections to Defendants' Joint Discovery Requests, dated September 27, 2021	App. 263-300

Dated: January 20, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Deborah Deitsch-Perez

Deborah Deitsch-Perez State Bar No. 24036072 Michael P. Aigen State Bar No. 24012196 STINSON LLP 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777 Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 560-2201 telephone (214) 560-2203 facsimile Email: deborah.deitschperez@stinson.com Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com ATTORNEYS FOR JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. AND NEXPOINT REAL ESTATE PARTNERS, LLC

/s/Clay M. Taylor

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/s/Davor Rukavina

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ATTORNEYS FOR NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P. AND HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that, on January 20, 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served via the Court's CM/ECF system on counsel for Plaintiff Highland Capital Management, L.P. and on all other parties requesting or consenting to such service in this case.

/s/Deborah Deitsch-Perez Deborah Deitsch-Perez

Exhibit 1

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Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P.

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

In re:	§	Case No. 19-34054
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ §	Chapter 11
Debtor.	ş	
Destor.	8	
HICHI AND CADITAL MANACEMENT I D	Š	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	ş	
Plaintiff,		Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj
VS.	§	
	§	
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE		
DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§	
Defendants.	ş	

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$
Plaintiff,	ş
vs.	\$ \$
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.,	\$ \$
Defendant.	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	
Plaintiff,	Ş
vs.	
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$
Defendants.	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	
Plaintiff,	
vs.	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	ş
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007-sgj
Plaintiff, vs.	
vs. HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	Š
Defendants.	

DECLARATION OF JAMES DONDERO

I, James Dondero, hereby swear under oath and penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the United States of America that the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1. My name is James Dondero. I am over the age of 21, have never been convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude, and am otherwise qualified to give this Declaration. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this Declaration.

A. Background.

2. I am currently a named Defendant in Adversary Proceedings No. 21-03003-sgj, 21-03005-sgj, 21-03006-sgj, and 21-03007-sgj. I have personal knowledge of the facts contained in this declaration, and if called as a witness to testify, I could and would do so competently.

3. I co-founded Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("HCM") in the year 2000, and have been working in the financial services industry for over thirty (30) years. I served as HCM's President and Chief Executive Officer until my resignation on January 9, 2020.

4. Along with having served as CEO for HCM, I have also served as a high-level executive and controlling portfolio manager for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. ("NexPoint"), HCRE Partners, LLC ("HCRE"), Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("HCMS"), and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. ("HCMFA"). I have spent years of service to these companies as a chief executive, and am familiar with each company's internal management and operational structures and procedures.

B. The Promissory Notes.

1. HCM Issued Three (3) Notes to Me.

5. On February 2, 2018, I borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$3,825,000.00 (the "February 2018 Note").¹ The February 2018 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.66%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the February 2018 Note was a payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note, and was made, as indicated in the promissory note, to help satisfy personal tax obligations.

6. On August 1, 2018, I borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$2,500,000 (the "August 1, 2018 Note").² The August 1, 2018 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.95%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the August 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note, which was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note.

7. On August 13, 2018, I borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$2,500,000 (the "August 13, 2018 Note").³ The August 13, 2018

¹ Pl. Appx. 00678-679.

² *Id.* at 00681-682.

³ *Id.* at 00684-685.

Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.95%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the August 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note.

2. HCM Issued one (1) Term Note to NexPoint.

8. On May 31, 2017, NexPoint borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$30,746,812.33 (the "NexPoint Term Note").⁴ The NexPoint Term Note bore an interest rate of 6%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. The NexPoint Term Note was due in thirty (30) equal annual payments, due by the 31st day of December of each calendar year, with the final payment being due on December 31, 2047. This Term Note is paid current. The NexPoint Term Note allowed for prepayment, and was also subject to an acceleration clause upon failure to pay any installment as it became due. The purpose of the NexPoint Term Note was in-part to consolidate several prior notes made between NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and HCM. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note. This promissory note was also ambiguous with respect to the prepayment of future interest and the application of any

⁴ *Id.* at 00042-43.

prepayment between accrued interest, future interest, and principal, and it did not contain any provision concerning what the impact of prepayments would be on future scheduled payments.

3. HCM Issued Five (5) Notes to HCRE.

9. On November 27, 2013, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$100,000 (the "November 27, 2013 Note").⁵ The November 27, 2013 Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the November 27, 2013 Note was payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes.

10. On May 31, 2017, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$6,059,831.51 (the "HCRE Term Note").⁶ The HCRE Term Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. The HCRE Term Note was due in thirty (30) equal annual payments, due the 31st day of December of each calendar year, with the final payment being due on December 31, 2047. The HCRE Term Note allowed for prepayment, and was also subject to an acceleration clause upon failure to pay any installment as it became due. The purpose of the HCRE Term Note was made in-part to consolidate several prior notes made between HCRE Partners, LLC, and HCM. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was

⁵ *Id.* at 00202-203.

⁶ *Id.* at 00218-219.

ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

11. On October 12, 2017, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$2,500,000 (the "October 12, 2017 Note").⁷ The October 12, 2017 Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the October 12, 2017 Note was payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes.

12. On October 15, 2018, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$750,000 (the "October 15, 2018 Note").⁸ The October 15, 2018 Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the October 15, 2018 Note was payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes.

⁷ *Id.* at 00205-206.

⁸ Id. at 00208-209.

13. On September 25, 2019, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$900,000 (the "September 25, 2019 Note").⁹ The September 25, 2019 Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the September 25, 2019 Note was payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes.

4. HCM Issued five (5) Notes to HCMS.

14. On March 28, 2018, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$150,000.00 (the "March 28, 2018 Note").¹⁰ The March 28, 2018 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.88%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the March 28, 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

⁹ *Id.* at 00211-212.

¹⁰ Id. at 00118-119.

15. On June 25, 2018, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$200,000.00 (the "June 25, 2018 Note").¹¹ The June 25, 2018 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 3.05%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the June 25, 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

16. On May 29, 2019, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$400,000.00 (the "May 29, 2019 Note").¹² The May 29, 2019 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.39%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the June 25, 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

¹¹ *Id.* at 00121-122.

¹² *Id.* at 00124-125.

17. On June 26, 2019, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$150,000.00 (the "June 26, 2019 Note").¹³ The June 26, 2019 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.37%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. On its original terms, the June 26, 2019 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

18. On May 31, 2017, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$20,247,628.02 (the "HCMS Term Note").¹⁴ The HCMS Term Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th per annum. The HCMS Term Note was due in thirty (30) equal annual payments, due the 31st day of December of each calendar year, with the final payment being due on December 31, 2047. This Term Note has been paid current. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note. This promissory note was also ambiguous with respect to the prepayment of future interest and the application of any prepayment between accrued interest, future interest, and principal, and it did not contain any

¹³ *Id.* at 00127-128.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 00134-135.

provision concerning what the impact of prepayments would be on future scheduled payments. Attached to this Declaration as "Exhibit A" is an amortization table showing payments made on the HCMS Term Note, which was kept in the normal and ordinary course of business and made by someone with knowledge of the payments at the time it was created.

C. Dugaboy, as the "Majority Interest" Approved Compensation.

19. HCM was formed as a limited partnership under the laws of the State of Delaware, and was governed by a Limited Partnership Agreement ("LPA").¹⁵ The LPA was entered into on December 24, 2015, between Strand Advisors, Inc. (the General Partner), and the following Limited Partners:

- (1) The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("Dugaboy"),
- (2) The Mark and Pamela Okada Family Trust Exempt Trust #1,
- (3) The Mark and Pamela Okada Family Trust Exempt Trust #2, and
- (4) Mark Okada.¹⁶

20. Pursuant to the LPA – specifically in Section 3.10(a) –HCM's "Majority Interest[holder]" was entitled to approve the compensation of HCM's General Partner and any "Affiliate" of the General Partner.¹⁷ The LPA defines the Majority Interest as "the owners of more than fifty percent (50%) of the Percentage Interests of Class A Limited Partners."¹⁸ The Dugaboy Family Trust ("Dugaboy") represented the Majority Interest of the Limited Partners, owning a 74.4426% interest of the Limited Partners Class A Interest.¹⁹

¹⁸ *Id.* at 00612.

¹⁵ *Id.* at 00606-641.

¹⁶ *Id.* at 00636-638.

¹⁷ *Id.* at 00622.

¹⁹ *Id.* at 00639.

21. My sister Nancy Dondero has served as the Dugaboy Family Trustee since her appointment in 2015. Attached as "Exhibit B" is a copy of Nancy Dondero's Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust effective October 14, 2015, a record which was kept in the ordinary course of business and made by someone with knowledge of the appointment. Prior to Nancy Dondero's service, Grant Scott served as Dugaboy Family Trustee until October 12, 2015. Grant Scott's resignation letter is contained within Exhibit B. Prior to Grant Scott's service as Dugaboy Family Trustee, I personally served as Dugaboy Family Trustee until my resignation on August 26, 2015. Attached as "Exhibit C" is proof of my service as Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust and my subsequent resignation prior to Grant Scott's appointment, a record which was kept in the ordinary course of business and made by someone with knowledge of the document. .

D. Dugaboy Agreed That HCM Would Not Collect on the Notes Upon Fulfillment of Conditions Subsequent, Making the Notes Potentially Deferred Compensation.

22. Based on my years of experience in working in Private Equity, I am familiar with the compensation structure of similarly situated Private Equity firms. Based on this experience, I am also very familiar with the compensation structure of other similarly situated executives like myself.

23. At HCM, as at other comparable capital investment firms, it was common practice to compensate executives with forgivable loans. My compensation was no exception to this practice. In fact, I was undercompensated in my position compared to similarly-situated contemporaries in my field. I know that several other individuals may have received loans by HCM that were forgiven. These individuals include Mike Hurley, Tim Lawler, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Gibran Mahmud, Jean-Luc Eberlin, and Appu Mundassery and this was also a common practice and another company in which I have an interest, NexBank Capital, Inc.

24. At either the end of 2017 or the beginning of 2018, Dugaboy – through Nancy Dondero – entered into a verbal agreement (the "2017 Agreement") with myself that HCM would not collect on any of the aforementioned Notes issued in 2017 if certain events occurred. Specifically, if one of specific portfolio companies – either MGM, Cornerstone, or Trussway – were sold for above cost, or sold in a circumstance outside of my control, HCM agreed that the Notes would be forgiven. In late 2013 or early 2014, the Dugaboy Family Trustee had made an identical agreement that applied to the November 27, 2013 Note. The Agreement assured HCM that the monetization of these portfolio companies would have my utmost focus and attention, and served as an incentive for me to work particularly hard to make sure these assets were successful. Further, this agreement provided the additional benefit to HCM of not increasing my base salary, which I normally would have requested and obtained. However, reaching this agreement made my compensation conditional on performance, and ensured that HCM would not immediately realize a change in its financial position through an increase in my salary, something I had the right to increase.

25. At either the end of 2018 or the beginning of 2019, Dugaboy and I entered into another agreement that was identical to the Agreement made in the preceding year (the "2018 Agreement"). This 2018 Agreement covered all the Notes at issue in this litigation that were issued in 2018. The 2018 Agreement provided the same benefits to the HCM as the 2017 Agreement.

26. At either the end of 2019 or the beginning of 2020 (prior to January 9, 2020), Dugaboy and I entered into another agreement that was identical to the 2018 Agreement (the "2019 Agreement"). Again, the 2019 Agreement applied to all the Notes at issue in this litigation that were issued in 2019. The 2019 Agreement provided the same benefits to HCM as the 2018 and 2017 Agreements. Collectively, the 2017, 2018, and 2019 Agreements are referred to herein as the "Agreements." I understand that Plaintiff claims in its Motion that Nancy Dondero and I do not agree about whether I identified the Notes subject to the Agreements. Despite unclear questioning at my deposition, I testified that I identified the Notes that were subject to the Agreements when entering into the Agreements (which is how Nancy Dondero was aware that they involved the different companies) and I specifically remember discussing and identifying the Notes to Nancy Dondero.

27. In my years of experience in this industry, and experience working with financial auditors, although the Agreements were not disclosed to the financial auditors at HCM, such a disclosure was not necessary since it would not be considered material. When compared to the considerable size of HCM's assets, the Agreement on such small comparative Notes was *de minimus* when viewed in light of such large assets. Therefore, the Agreement was non-material and did not require disclosure.

28. Prior to the commencement of any Adversary Proceedings concerning the Notes, I mentioned to Frank Waterhouse that there were mechanisms in place for forgiving the Notes, or for having them considered as compensation and not being an asset to the Debtor's estate. This came up in the context of discussing what we called the "Pot Plan" discussion for resolving the bankruptcy. I did not discuss every detail of the Agreements, because the important point was that he was made aware that the Notes should be considered as part of my compensation in connection with a resolution of the bankruptcy. By that time there was a great likelihood that some or all of the portfolio companies would be able to be sold for far more that their acquisition price.

29. Further, opposing counsel was alerted on February 1, 2021 that one of the defenses in this litigation was that the Notes were subject to forgiveness as potential compensation. In a letter from my one of my attorneys– to opposing counsel at Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, LLP,

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the late retired Bankruptcy Judge Lynn, my lead counsel, made that disclosure. A true and correct copy of this letter is attached to this Declaration as "Exhibit D."

E. The Agreements Were Made in Good Faith.

30. The Agreements made between myself and Dugaboy were all entered into in good faith. At no point in time were any of these Agreements made with the intent to hinder or defraud HCM as payee. Dugaboy had the right to approve my compensation under the LPA, and it was exercising that right when it agreed to make the Notes forgivable as compensation, provided that I performed successfully as a HCM executive and made sure that the aforementioned illiquid assets were sold for at-or-above cost.

F. HCM Waived Any Rights to Collect on the Notes When Dugaboy Made the Agreements.

31. When the Agreements were made, HCM waived any rights it had to demand repayment of the demand Notes until it became impossible for the condition subsequent to be met. However, I still intended to make periodic interest payments because I understood that until forgiveness actually occurred, the notes were still bona fide notes. Also, making periodic payments kept the Notes from becoming unreasonably large in the event the conditions for forgiveness did not come to pass. The term loans had requirements for interest payments to be made until the conditions for forgiveness were met, which, as discussed below, were met.

G. Under its Shared Services Agreement with NexPoint, HCM was Responsible for the NexPoint Term Note Payments Being Made.

32. NexPoint and HCM entered into a written Shared Services Agreement (the "NexPoint SSA") on January 1, 2018, in which HCM provided a broad array of services to NexPoint, and essentially covered all functional areas of NexPoint's business other than executive

and investment functions.²⁰ In my experience, these types of shared services agreements are common in my industry, and exist to help consolidate function and manpower between a large entity (like HCM) and smaller entities (like NexPoint) that share overlapping ownership structures.

33. The NexPoint SSA outlined multiple areas in which HCM would provide services for NexPoint, which resulted in HCM providing virtually the entire workforce for NexPoint's business. Among the areas of services provided under the NexPoint SSA, HCM provided services for NexPoint's back- and middle-office divisions, legal compliance and risk divisions, tax division, administrative services division, management of NexPoint's clients and accounts, and many other divisions.²¹ Again, this type of shared services agreement covering these types of services is common in the private equity market where ownership overlaps.

34. The result of this shared services agreement was that HCM was responsible for making debt payments on behalf of NexPoint – considered a "back and middle office" task – which included making payments on the NexPoint Term Note. In fact, HCM made the NexPoint Term Note payments – consistent with the SSA, which specifically provided that HCM would make payments to creditors – on December 31 of 2017, 2018, and 2019, without any specific authorization or permission from any of the makers.

35. Although HCM sought to provide notice of termination of the NexPoint SSA in November of 2020, that termination date was subsequently extended and the SSA was still active and in full effect as of December 31, 2020, the date on which the 2020 annual installment payment was due. The letters providing for the subsequent extension of the NexPoint SSA is attached to this Declaration as "Exhibit E"²² Because HCM was still responsible for making these types of

²⁰ *Id.* at 04163-04181.

²¹ Id. at 04165-04167, NexPoint SSA, Section 2.02 "Provision of Services" (a-l).

²² See attached Exhibit B, (Letters confirming Jim Dondero's resignation as Dugaboy Family Trustee, and the appointment of Nancy Dondero as Dugaboy Family Trustee)

payments for NexPoint at that time under the active SSA, HCM was responsible for missing that payment. The fact that HCM did not make that payment – as it had done in previous years – was surprising to me, since I never at any point directed Frank Waterhouse to cease making term payments on any Note. In fact, I fully expected HCM's accounting staff to continue making scheduled payments on the NexPoint Note, since the SSA was still in place. The only thing I instructed Frank Waterhouse to do was to pause payment to HCM regarding the NexPoint SSA because it came to light that NexPoint was being substantially overcharged and had already substantially overpaid. I would not have instructed Frank Waterhouse to not make a \$1.4 million installment payment on the NexPoint Term Note – which could result in a default – as the \$1.4 million payment would be trivial compared to a note acceleration.

H. Under its Oral Shared Services Agreement with HCRE, HCM was also Responsible for the HCRE Term Note Payments Being Made.

36. HCRE had a similar shared services agreement (the "HCRE SSA") with HCM that was established by oral agreement. In my experience, shared services agreements are not always in written form, but established by oral agreement and patterns of conduct. HCM provided the same type of services to HCRE as it did to NexPoint, and orally agreed to do so. Similar to NexPoint, HCRE simply did not have the infrastructure or manpower to run its business without the HCRE SSA. As such, HCM provided a comprehensive array of services to HCRE that included back- and middle-office tasks like making sure HCRE's bills and loans were timely paid. This HCRE SSA was long-standing, as HCM had provided these comprehensive services to HCRE for years, and HCRE relied heavily on HCM to provide these services.

37. HCM – despite having routinely paid on bills and notes for HCRE – did not make the December 31, 2020 payment on the HCRE Term Note. At no point prior to that missed payment did I ever direct any person to terminate the HCRE SSA. Further, at no point prior to that missed payment did I ever direct anyone at HCM to miss or skip any payment on the HCRE Term Note. I fully expected HCM's accounting staff to continue providing these services and making the scheduled payments on the HCRE Term Note.

I. Under its Oral Shared Services Agreement with HCMS, HCM was also Responsible for the HCMS Term Note Payments Being Made.

38. HCMS also had a similar shared services agreement (the "HCMS SSA") with HCM that was established by oral agreement. In my experience, shared services agreements are not always in written form, but established by oral agreement and patterns of conduct. HCM provided the same type of services to HCMS as it did to NexPoint and HCRE, and orally agreed to do so. Similar to NexPoint and HCRE, HCMS simply did not have the infrastructure or manpower to run its business without the HCMS SSA. As such, HCM provided a comprehensive array of services to HCMS that included back- and middle-office tasks like making sure HCMS's bills and loans were timely paid. This HCMS SSA was long-standing, as HCM had provided these comprehensive services to HCMS for years, and HCMS relied heavily on HCM to provide these services.

39. HCM – despite having routinely paid on bills and notes for HCMS – did not make the December 31, 2020 payment on the HCMS Term Note. At no point prior to that missed payment did I ever direct any person to terminate the HCMS SSA. Further, at no point prior to that missed payment did I ever direct anyone at HCM to miss or skip any payment on the HCMS Term Note. I fully expected HCM's accounting staff to continue providing these services and making the scheduled payments on the HCMS Term Note.

J. Payments Were Made on the NexPoint, HCRE, and HCMS Term Notes to Cure Any Defaults.

40. I did not know that the NexPoint, HCRE, and HCMS Term Notes were in default until I called Frank Waterhouse from an in-person hearing in January 2021. I was surprised, angered, and annoyed to learn that such *de minimis* amounts had not been paid on the Term Notes to keep them current. After asking Frank Waterhouse what it would take to cure them and make them current, he informed me of the amounts required, and I instructed him to make sure the payments got made and that the Term Notes were cured. Much later I learned, discussed further below, that the NexPoint and HCMS loans had been substantially prepaid so that no payment was actually due in December 2021. HCM, which was responsible for keeping track of the status of the loan, did not remind me of the prepayments in December of 2020 or January of 2021. So I pressed Frank Waterhouse, who was HCM's CFO and had the ability and authority to speak on behalf of and bind HCM, to make the payments HCM should have made if it believed that end of year payments on the Term Notes were due in 2020, and he told me the amounts needed and proceeded to make the payments. I would not have caused these payments to be made if Frank Waterhouse disagreed and told me that the payments would not cure and reinstate the loans.

41. As a result of my conversation with Frank Waterhouse, I therefore believed that the Term Notes would be cured by the payments I directed Frank Waterhouse to make. Surely if the payments would not have cured the loans, he -- the lender's CFO -- would have told me that before making the payments. I could not have been clearer that I was flabbergasted that the payments had not been made and wanted the payment to be made as soon as possible to bring the loans current. I specifically discussed with Frank Waterhouse – HCM's CFO at the time – that I wanted these payments to act as cure payments for all three Term Notes. Waterhouse did not disagree with me that the payments would cure the missed payments, and he agreed to make the cure payments. However, HCM refused to accept the payments as cure for the defaults.

K. Prepayments by NexPoint and HCMS.

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42. The HCMS and NexPoint Term Notes called for annual payments to be made by December 31 of every calendar year. Not only did HCM make the required term payments, but I also instructed several prepayments to be made on these Notes throughout the years whenever HCM needed liquidity. I understood that the prepayments I caused to be made on the Term Notes, when cash flow required, would be applied to the next scheduled annual payments if payments were not otherwise able to be made, and any reconciliations would be conducted by the HCM so that the borrowers would not be in default as a result of their voluntary prepayments for HCM's benefit. I know that both NexPoint and HCMS made substantial prepayments on their term loans.

43. Between March and August of 2019, the following prepayments were made on the NexPoint Term Note: (i) \$750,000.00 on March 29, 2019; (ii) \$1,300,000.00 on April 16, 2019; (iii) \$300,000.00 on June 4, 2019; (iv) \$2,100,000.00 on June 19, 2019; (v) \$630,000.00 on July 9, 2019; and (vi) \$1,300,000.00 on August 13, 2019. These payments totaled \$6,380,000.00 in 2019. Setting aside all issues of prepayment, the normal December, 2019 payment of principal and interest on the NexPoint Term Note would have been \$2,273,970.54, leaving \$4,106,029.46 remaining to apply as prepayments on the Note.

44. I know that none of the payments listed above were scheduled payments, but rather, they were payments made upon request from HCM because it needed the liquid funds. Both NexPoint and HCM intended for these payments to count as prepayments on the NexPoint Note to be applied to the December 31, 2020 annual installment payment.

45. Similar to NexPoint, HCMS made substantial prepayments towards the HCMS Term Note between May of 2017 and December of 2020. In fact, the prepayments were so large that the HCMS Term Note's principal was paid down by almost \$14,000,000. In that timeframe, the following prepayments were made on the HCMS Term Note: (i) \$985,216.44 on June 23, 2017;

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(ii) \$907,296.25 on July 6, 2017; (iii) \$1,031,463.70 on July 18, 2017; (iv) \$1,971,260.13 on
August 25, 2017; (v) \$1,500,000.00 on December 21, 2017; (vi) \$160,665.94 on May 31, 2018;
(vii) \$1,000,000.00 on October 8, 2018; (viii) \$1,015,000.00 on May 5, 2019; (ix) \$550,000.00 on
August 9, 2019; (x) \$5,600,000.00 on August 21, 2019; and (xi) \$65,360.49 on December 30, 2019.

46. Similar to the NexPoint Term Note prepayments, none of these payments were made on December 31 of any given year, nor were any of these payments made on arrears. Instead, these payments were intended by HCMS to be applied to the annual installment payments, and were believed to be accepted as such, since HCM never declared the HCMS Term Note to be in default in either 2017, 2018, or 2019.

L. Sale of Shares of MGM.

47. I understand that Plaintiff raises the issue of a sale of Plaintiff's interest in MGM in its Motion. This sale of a small portion of Plaintiff's interest in MGM would not have implicated the Agreements because it was for a *de minimis* amount of MGM stock and was only necessitated as a result of the UCC not being willing to cooperate in a transaction as part of the bankruptcy process that was agreed to by all of the other participants.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(2), I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is

true and correct.

Dated: January 20, 2022

JAMES DONDERO

Exhibit A

HCM Services Exhibit A

Closing Date Total Commitment Rate		5/31/2017 \$ 20,247,628 2.750%				
Date	Interest Accrual	Interest Paid	Accrued Interest	Beg Prin Bal	Principal Paid	Ending Prin Bal
- /04 /004 -						~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
5/31/2017				00 047 000 00		20,247,628.02
5/31/2017	-	(25,000,04)	-	20,247,628.02	(050,400,00)	20,247,628.02
6/23/2017 6/30/2017	35,086.64	(35,086.64)	- 10,177.45	20,247,628.02	(950,129.80)	19,297,498.22
7/6/2017	10,177.45 8,723.53	(18,900.97)	10,177.45	19,297,498.22 19,297,498.22	(888,395.28)	19,297,498.22 18,409,102.95
7/18/2017	16,643.85	(16,643.85)	0.00	18,409,102.95	(1,014,819.85)	17,394,283.10
7/31/2017	17,036.87	(10,040.00)	17,036.87	17,394,283.10	(1,014,010.00)	17,394,283.10
8/25/2017	32,763.20	(199,329.33)	(149,529.26)	17,394,283.10	(1,771,930.80)	15,622,352.30
8/31/2017	7,062.16	(100,020100)	(142,467.10)	15,622,352.30	(1,111,000,000)	15,622,352.30
9/30/2017	35,310.80		(107,156.30)	15,622,352.30		15,622,352.30
10/31/2017	36,487.82		(70,668.48)	15,622,352.30		15,622,352.30
11/30/2017	35,310.80		(35,357.68)	15,622,352.30		15,622,352.30
12/21/2017	24,717.56		(10,640.13)	15,622,352.30	(1,500,000.00)	14,122,352.30
12/31/2017	10,640.13		0.00	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.30
1/31/2018	32,984.40		32,984.40	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.30
2/28/2018	29,792.36		62,776.76	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.30
3/31/2018	32,984.40		95,761.16	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.30
4/30/2018	31,920.39		127,681.54	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.30
5/31/2018	32,984.40	(160,665.94)	0.00	14,122,352.30	160,665.94	14,283,018.24
6/30/2018	32,283.53		32,283.54	14,283,018.24		14,283,018.24
7/31/2018	33,359.65		65,643.19	14,283,018.24		14,283,018.24
8/31/2018	33,359.65		99,002.84	14,283,018.24		14,283,018.24
9/30/2018	32,283.53	(110,000,00)	131,286.37	14,283,018.24	(500.000.00)	14,283,018.24
10/8/2018	8,608.94	(412,000.00)	(272,104.68)	14,283,018.24	(588,000.00)	13,695,018.24
10/31/2018 11/30/2018	23,731.78 30,954.49		(248,372.91)	13,695,018.24 13,695,018.24		13,695,018.24
12/31/2018	31,986.31		(217,418.41) (185,432.10)	13,695,018.24		13,695,018.24 13,695,018.24
1/31/2019	31,986.31		(153,445.79)	13,695,018.24		13,695,018.24
2/28/2019	28,890.86		(124,554.93)	13,695,018.24		13,695,018.24
3/5/2019	5,159.08	(37,904.91)	(157,300.76)	13,695,018.24	(977,095.09)	12,717,923.15
3/31/2019	24,913.19	(,,)	(132,387.57)	12,717,923.15	(,,	12,717,923.15
4/30/2019	28,745.99		(103,641.58)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923.15
5/31/2019	29,704.19		(73,937.39)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923.15
6/30/2019	28,745.99		(45,191.40)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923.15
7/31/2019	29,704.19		(15,487.21)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923.15
8/9/2019	8,623.80		(6,863.41)	12,717,923.15	(550,000.00)	12,167,923.15
8/21/2019	11,001.14	(4,137.73)	(0.00)	12,167,923.15	(5,595,862.27)	6,572,060.88
8/31/2019	4,951.55		4,951.55	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
9/30/2019	14,854.66		19,806.21	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
10/15/2019	7,427.33		27,233.54	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
10/31/2019	7,922.48		35,156.02	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
11/30/2019	14,854.66	(65.260.40)	50,010.68	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
12/30/2019	14,854.66	(65,360.49)	(495.15)	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88 6,572,060.88
12/31/2019 1/31/2020	495.16 15,349.81		0.00 15,349.82	6,572,060.88 6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
2/29/2020	14,359.50		29,709.32	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
3/31/2020	15,349.81		45,059.13	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
4/30/2020	14,854.66		59,913.79	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
5/31/2020	15,349.81		75,263.60	6,572,060.88	-	6,572,060.88
6/30/2020	14,854.66		90,118.26	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
7/31/2020	15,349.81		105,468.08	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
8/31/2020	15,349.81		120,817.89	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
9/30/2020	14,854.66		135,672.55	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
10/31/2020	15,349.81		151,022.36	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
11/30/2020	14,854.66		165,877.02	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
12/31/2020	15,349.81		181,226.83	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88
1/21/2021	10,398.26	(181,226.83)	10,398.26	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.88

Exhibit B

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST James D. Dondero, Primary Beneficiary

October 12, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, James D. Dondero, am writing to inform you that on October 12, 2015, I received notice from Grant James Scott that he will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "**Trust**") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust.

Pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee from Grant James Scott, I appoint Nancy Marie Dondero as the successor Family Trustee of the Trust.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.2 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with notice of my appointment of a successor Family Trustee.

Very truly yours

James D. Dondero

App. 27 DEFENDANT 000037

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST Grant James Scott, Family Trustee

October 12, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, Grant James Scott, am writing to inform you that as of October 12, 2015, I will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "**Trust**") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.1 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with written notice of my resignation.

Very truly yours, Grant James Scott

RESIGNATION OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, GRANT JAMES SCOTT, do hereby acknowledge that I voluntarily tender my resignation as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust pursuant to that Trust Agreement, dated November 15, 2010 by, between and among Dana Scott Breault, as Settlor, and Common Wealth Trust Company, as Administrative Trustee.

This resignation shall take effect immediately upon the execution hereof and delivery of a written acknowledged instrument wherein NANCY MARIE DONDERO accepts the trust and the position of Family Trustee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby sign my Resignation as Family Trustee of the above trust.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

Family rustee

10/12/2015 Date

STATE OF TEXAS § COUNTY OF DALLAS 8

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared GRANT JAMES SCOTT known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this $14^{\mu\nu}$ day of October, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires January 15, 2019

[SEAL]

Expiration: Januar

Notary Public's Signature

App. 29 DEFENDANT 000039

ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, NANCY MARIE DONDERO, appointed as Family Trustee under Article V, Section 5.2(a)(i) of The Dugaboy Investment Trust, dated November 15, 2010 (the "Trust"), hereby acknowledge and accept the position of Family Trustee of the Trust and hereby agree to faithfully perform all the duties and adopt all of the obligations imposed.

Signed this 13^{th} day of October, 2015.

Family Trustee

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF DALLAS §

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared **NANCY MARIE DONDERO** known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 14 day of October, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires January 15, 2019 [SEAL]

Notary Public's Signature

Expiration: Anuary 15, 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DELIVERY

I, JAMES D. DONDERO, acknowledge that this Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee by NANCY MARIE DONDERO was delivered to and received by me on October __, 2015.

James D. Dondero

Exhibit C

TRUST AGREEMENT

Between

DANA SCOTT BREAULT, Settlor

and

JAMES D. DONDERO and COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY, Trustees

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST

WINSTEAD PC DALLAS, TEXAS

> App. 33 DEFENDANT 000001

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST

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THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST

AGREEMENT OF TRUST made and entered into at Dallas, Texas, this _____ day of October, 2010, by and between DANA SCOTT BREAULT, as Settlor, and JAMES D. DONDERO, and COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY, as Trustees.

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

The following terms, as used in this Trust Agreement, have the meanings set forth below, unless another meaning is clearly indicated by context or circumstances:

1.1 <u>Settlor</u>. "Settlor" means DANA SCOTT BREAULT.

1.2 Jim. "Jim" means JAMES D. DONDERO.

1.3 <u>Trustees</u>. The initial Trustee of each trust created hereunder is JAMES D. DONDERO. "Trustee" means any person or entity serving as Trustee, whether original or successor and whether one or more in number. "Administrative Trustee" means COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY in its capacity as Administrative Trustee, and any successor Administrative Trustee appointed in accordance with Section 5.2(c). "Independent Trustee" means GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III, (upon his acceptance as set forth in Section 5.2(b)) in his capacity as Trustee, and any successor Independent Trustee appointed in accordance with Section 5.2(b). "Family Trustee" means JAMES D. DONDERO in his capacity as Trustee, and any successor Family Trustee appointed in accordance with Section 5.2(a). The rights, powers, duties, and obligations, of the Family Trustee, Independent Trustee and Administrative Trustee are to be exercised and allocated pursuant to Section 6.2 of this Trust Agreement.

1.4 <u>Children</u>. "Children" means REESE AVRY DONDERO, JAMESON DRUE DONDERO, and any other child born to or adopted by Jim after the date of this Trust Agreement. "Child" means one of the Children.

1.5 <u>Descendants</u>. "Descendants" means the legitimate children of the person designated and the legitimate lineal descendants of such children, and includes any person adopted before attaining age fifteen (15) and the adopted person's legitimate lineal descendants. A posthumous child shall be considered as living at the death of his parent.

1.6 <u>Code</u>. "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and corresponding provisions of future federal tax law.

1.7 <u>Per Stirpes</u>. "<u>Per Stirpes</u>," when used with respect to a distribution of property among a class of beneficiaries, shall mean by representation; that is, the Descendants of a deceased ancestor take the share such ancestor would have received had he or she been living, and the issue of a living ascendant would not take in competition with such ascendant. The <u>per</u> stirpital allocation shall commence with the most senior generation that has a living representative.

ARTICLE II

FUNDING

Settlor has transferred to the Trustee, without consideration, One Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00) which shall be administered and distributed in accordance with the terms of this Trust Agreement. Settlor and others may transfer to the Trustee properties acceptable to them, to be added to the trust estate. The Trustee shall administer the initial trust estate pursuant to the terms of Section 3.1.

ARTICLE III

DISTRIBUTION OF PRINCIPAL AND INCOME

3.1 <u>Trust for Jim</u>. The trust for the benefit of Jim shall be administered and distributed upon the following terms:

(a) <u>Distributions to Jim</u>. The Family Trustee may distribute to Jim so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Family Trustee deems necessary to provide for Jim's maintenance, support and health. Undistributed income shall be accumulated and added to principal. In exercising its discretion, the Family Trustee shall take into account the following factors:

(i) Jim is the primary beneficiary of the trust.

(ii) The Family Trustee shall take into consideration in determining Jim's needs any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by the Family Trustee to be available to Jim for these purposes.

(iii) Settlor's intention to assist or enable Jim to obtain and furnish a home commensurate with his standard of living.

(iv) Settlor's intention to assist or enable Jim to obtain capital to enter a business or profession.

(v) Any federal, state or local income taxes imposed on Jim as a result of the income and/or gains from the trust

(b) <u>Distributions by Independent Trustee</u>. The Independent Trustee may, in its sole and absolute discretion, distribute to Jim so much of the income and principal of the trust as the Independent Trustee shall deem appropriate or advisable. It is Settlor's intention to give the Independent Trustee the broadest discretion possible in determining the amount and timing of distributions of income and principal hereunder and Settlor recognizes that the Independent Trustee may, in the exercise of its discretion, determine to distribute the entire trust estate to Jim or to make no distributions to Jim during Jim's disability or for so long as Jim shall have a judgment outstanding, or for so long as any distribution might be lost to Jim's creditors. It is also Settlor's intention and desire for the Independent Trustee to consider any federal, state or local income taxes imposed on Jim as a result of the income and/or gains from the trust in determining the amount of distributions to be made to Jim under this subsection (b).

Inter Vivos Special Power of Appointment. During Jim's lifetime, he shall (c) have a special power to appoint any part or all of the trust estate to any individual or entity, except that no appointment shall be made to Jim, his creditors, his estate, or the creditors of his estate. Valid appointments may be in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions as Jim shall determine and evidence by written instrument delivered to the Trustee which specifically refers to this power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it; provided that such power of appointment shall not extend to any life insurance policies insuring Jim's life that constitute a part of the trust estate; and provided further that Jim shall not have a power to appoint by deed to or for the benefit of Jim or any individual or entity if such appointment has the effect of satisfying Jim's contractual or legal obligations. Any exercise of this power of appointment must be made in an executed and acknowledged written instrument delivered to the Trustee which to be effective must refer specifically to the power granted under this Section 3.1(c).

Independent Trustee's Power to Grant Testamentary General Power of (d) Appointment. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Independent Trustee, by signed acknowledged instrument delivered to Jim, may grant Jim a testamentary general power of appointment (as defined in Sections 2041 of the Code) over part or all of the trust estate, provided, however, that such power of appointment shall only be effective in an amount up to but not in excess of the amount, if any, above which any further addition to the amount subject to the power of appointment would increase the Net Death Taxes (as hereinafter defined) by an amount equal to or greater than the decrease in the generation-skipping transfer tax that would result from such further addition. Unless Jim's will provides otherwise by express reference to this Trust Agreement and the above power of appointment, the increase in the Net Death Taxes resulting from such power shall be paid from that amount of the principal of the trust estate over which the power is exercisable. As used in this section, the term "Net Death Taxes" shall mean the aggregate death taxes (including, without limitation, Federal, state, local and other estate taxes and inheritance taxes but exclusive of interest and penalties), after taking into account all applicable credits, payable with respect to Jim's estate.

(i) If Jim has one or more other general powers of appointment exercisable and measured substantially as provided in subsection (d) above, the amount that Jim may appoint under subsection (d) shall be reduced proportionally, based on the net fair market values of the principal of the trusts with respect to which such powers are exercisable as of the date of Jim's death, so that the aggregate of the amount so appointable under this Trust Agreement and the amount or amounts so appointable pursuant to such other power or powers together shall be no greater than the amount otherwise appointable under subsection (d) above.

(ii) The scope and terms of the power shall be defined in the instrument. Before such a power is exercised by Jim and the exercise becomes effective, the Independent Trustee may, in a similar manner, revoke or alter the power which was granted. This power shall not apply if the trust has an inclusion ratio of zero for generation-skipping transfer tax purposes. Jim shall not have a general power of appointment over any part of the trust estate unless such power is specifically granted to Jim by the Independent Trustee pursuant to this subsection.

(e) <u>Termination</u>. If not earlier terminated by distribution of the entire trust estate under the foregoing provisions, the trust shall terminate upon Jim's death. Upon termination of the trust, the Trustee shall distribute the balance of the trust estate as follows:

(i) <u>Pursuant to General Testamentary Power of Appointment</u>. This paragraph (i) shall apply if, but only if, the Independent Trustee grants Jim a general testamentary power of appointment pursuant to subsection (d) above and the Independent Trustee has not revoked the grant of that general power prior to the date of Jim's death. In that event, if Jim validly exercises such general testamentary power of appointment, the Trustee shall distribute so much of the trust estate then remaining as is validly appointed by Jim pursuant to such power in accordance with the terms of such appointment.

(ii) <u>Special Testamentary Power of Appointment</u>. This paragraph (ii) shall apply to so much of the trust estate then remaining as is not distributed pursuant to paragraph (i) above. The Trustee shall distribute the trust estate to such one or more individuals and entities, in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as Jim appoints by will or codicil which specifically refers to this power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it. However, Jim may not appoint to Jim, Jim's estate, Jim's creditors, or creditors of Jim's estate.

(iii) <u>Alternative Disposition</u>. The remaining and unappointed trust estate shall be held in trust or distributed as follows:

(1) If one or more of Jim's Descendants are then living, the Trustee shall divide the trust estate into separate equal shares, one for each then living Child and one for the then living Descendants, collectively, of each deceased Child with one or more Descendants then living. The Trustee shall administer a share for each Child in a separate trust for the primary benefit of the Child and for the Child's Descendants pursuant to Section 3.2 hereof. The Trustee shall administer a share for the Descendants of each deceased Child pursuant to Section 3.3 hereof. (2) If none of Jim's Descendants is then living, the trust estate shall be administered or distributed in accordance with Section 3.4 hereof.

3.2 <u>Trust for Child</u>. All property directed to be administered in a separate trust for a Child under this Section 3.2 shall be administered and distributed for the Child's benefit upon the following terms:

(a) <u>Distributions to Child</u>. The Trustee may distribute to the Child so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Trustee deems necessary to provide for the Child's reasonable maintenance, support, health and education. In exercising its discretion, the Trustee shall take into account the following factors:

(i) The Child's standard of living at the creation of the trust.

(ii) The Child is the primary beneficiary of the trust.

(iii) The Trustee shall take into consideration, in determining the Child's needs, any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by it to be available to the Child for these purposes.

(iv) Settlor's intention to enable or assist each Child to pursue vocational, college, graduate, and/or professional education as long as in the Trustee's judgment it is pursued to the Child's advantage and to receive an excellent earlier education.

(v) Settlor's intention that the trust distributions not serve as a disincentive to the Child's motivation to provide for her own needs in life.

(b) <u>Distributions to Child's Descendants</u>. The Trustee may distribute to the Child's Descendants so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Trustee, in its discretion, deems necessary to provide for their reasonable maintenance, support, health and education. In exercising its discretion, the Trustee shall take into account the following factors:

(i) The primary purpose of the trust.

(ii) The respective needs of each Descendant.

(iii) The Trustee shall take into consideration, in determining a Descendant's needs, any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by it to be available to the Descendant for these purposes.

(iv) Settlor's intention to enable or assist each Descendant to pursue vocational, college, graduate, and/or professional education as long as in the Trustee's judgment it is pursued to the Descendant's advantage and to receive an excellent earlier education.

(v) Settlor's intention that the trust distributions not serve as a disincentive to a Descendant's motivation to provide for his or her own needs in life, and Settlor's instruction to the Trustee to terminate or lessen distributions to a Descendant if that objective, in the judgment of the Trustee, would thereby be served.

Distributions hereunder need not be equal among the Descendants, and the Trustee may make distributions to one or more Descendants to the exclusion of others. Distributions shall be charged against the trust estate as a whole, and not against the distributive share of any Descendant upon termination of the trust.

(c) <u>Inter Vivos Special Power of Appointment</u>. The Child, acting in the Child's individual capacity, shall have a special power to appoint the income and principal of the trust to or for the benefit of one or more members of the limited class consisting of the Descendants of the Children, in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as the Child shall direct; provided that the Child shall not have a power to appoint by deed to or for the benefit of any individual if such appointment has the effect of satisfying a contractual obligation or legal support obligation of the Child. This power of appointment may be exercised subject to such terms and conditions as the Child shall direct, including an appointment in further trust, but no trust created by the exercise of such power may extend beyond the maximum term allowable with respect to any trust created under this Trust Agreement. Any exercise of this power of appointment must be made in an executed and acknowledged written instrument delivered to the Trustee which to be effective must refer specifically to the power granted under this Section 3.2(c).

Termination. If not earlier terminated by distribution of the entire trust (d) estate under the foregoing provisions, the trust shall terminate upon the death of the Child. Upon termination, the Trustee shall distribute the trust estate then remaining, or any part thereof, to such one or more members of the limited class consisting of Jim's Descendants, in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as the Child shall appoint by will or codicil which specifically refers to this power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it. However, the Child may not appoint to the Child, the Child's creditors, estate, or creditors of the Child's estate. The trust property not appointed by the Child in accordance with this special power of appointment shall be administered by the Trustees for the Child's then living Descendants pursuant to Section 3.3 hereof. If there are no Descendants of the Child then living, the Trustee shall distribute the remaining trust estate to Jim's then living Descendants, Per Stirpes. If any property is distributable to a person for whose benefit a trust which was established under this Trust Agreement is then being administered, the property shall be added to that trust and administered according to its terms. If no Descendant of Jim is then living, the Trustee shall administer or distribute the remaining trust estate pursuant to Section 3.4 hereof.

3.3 <u>Trusts for Descendants</u>. The Trustee shall divide property which is to be administered under this Section 3.3 for the Descendants of a deceased Child, among such

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Descendants, Per Stirpes. The Trustee shall administer each share created for a Descendant of a deceased Child (the "Beneficiary") in a separate trust for the Beneficiary's benefit upon the following terms:

(a) <u>Distributions</u>. The Trustee shall distribute to the Beneficiary so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Trustee deems necessary for the Beneficiary's reasonable maintenance, support, health and education. In exercising its discretion, the Trustee shall take into account the following factors:

(i) The Beneficiary's standard of living at the creation of the trust.

(ii) The Beneficiary is the primary beneficiary of the trust.

(iii) The Trustee shall take into consideration, in determining the Beneficiary's needs, any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by it to be available to the Beneficiary for these purposes.

(iv) Settlor's intention to enable or assist each Beneficiary to pursue vocational, college, graduate, and/or professional education as long as in the Trustee's judgment it is pursued to the Beneficiary's advantage and to receive an excellent earlier education.

(v) Settlor's intention that the trust distributions not serve as a disincentive to the Beneficiary's motivation to provide for his or her own needs in life.

(b) <u>Distributions to Beneficiary's Descendants</u>. The Trustee may distribute to the Beneficiary's Descendants so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Trustee, in its discretion, deems necessary to provide for their reasonable maintenance, support, health and education. In exercising its discretion, the Trustee shall take into account the following factors:

(i) The primary purpose of the trust.

(ii) The respective needs of each Descendant.

(iii) The Trustee shall take into consideration, in determining a Descendant's needs, any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by it to be available to the Descendant for these purposes.

(iv) Settlor's intention to enable or assist each Descendant to pursue vocational, college, graduate, and/or professional education as long as in the Trustee's judgment it is pursued to the Descendant's advantage and to receive an excellent earlier education.

(v) Settlor's intention that the trust distributions not serve as a disincentive to a Descendant's motivation to provide for his or her own needs in

life, and Settlor's instruction to the Trustee to terminate or lessen distributions to a Descendant if that objective, in the judgment of the Trustee, would thereby be served.

Distributions hereunder need not be equal among the Descendants, and the Trustee may make distributions to one or more Descendants to the exclusion of others. Distributions shall be charged against the trust estate as a whole, and not against the distributive share of any Descendant upon termination of the trust.

Inter Vivos Special Power of Appointment. The Beneficiary, acting in the (c) Beneficiary's individual capacity, shall have a special power to appoint the income and principal of the trust to or for the benefit of one or more members of the limited class consisting of Jim's Descendants in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as the Beneficiary shall direct; provided that the Beneficiary shall not have a power to appoint by deed to or for the benefit of any individual if such appointment has the effect of satisfying a contractual obligation or legal support obligation of the Beneficiary. Furthermore, the Beneficiary may not appoint to the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's creditors, estate or creditors of the Beneficiary's estate. This power of appointment may be exercised subject to such terms and conditions as the Beneficiary shall direct, including an appointment in further trust, but no trust created by the exercise of such power may extend beyond the maximum term allowable with respect to any trust created under this Trust Agreement. Any exercise of this power of appointment must be made in an executed and acknowledged written instrument delivered to the Trustee which to be effective must refer specifically to the power granted under this Section 3.3(c).

Termination. If not earlier terminated by distribution of the entire trust (d) estate under the foregoing provisions, the trust shall terminate at the death of the Beneficiary. Upon termination, and except as otherwise provided pursuant to Section 3.5 hereof, the Trustee shall distribute the trust estate then remaining, or any part thereof to such one or more members of the limited class consisting of Jim's Descendants, in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as the Beneficiary shall appoint by will or codicil which specifically refers to this power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it. However, the Beneficiary may not appoint to the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's creditors, estate or creditors of the Beneficiary's estate. The trust property not effectively appointed by the Beneficiary in accordance with this special power of appointment or pursuant to Section 3.5 hereof shall be distributed, Per Stirpes, to: the Beneficiary's Descendants living at the termination of the trust; or if there are no such Descendants then living, to the then living Descendants of the Child who was the parent of the Beneficiary; or if there are no such Descendants then living, to Jim's then living Descendants. If any property is distributable under this subsection to a Child, such property shall be added to the Child's Trust and administered pursuant to the terms of Section 3.2. If any property is distributable under this subsection to a Descendant of Jim (other than a Child), such property shall be administered in trust for such Descendant's benefit pursuant to the terms of this Section 3.3. If no Descendant of Jim is then living,

the Trustee shall administer or distribute the remaining trust estate pursuant to Section 3.4 hereof.

3.4 <u>Contingent Distribution</u>. If Jim and Jim's Descendants are all are deceased and no other disposition of the trust estate is called for in this Trust Agreement, the trust estate then remaining shall be distributed to those persons other than creditors and Settlor who, under the laws of Texas in force at that time, would have taken the personal property of Jim had he died intestate, a single person without Descendants, domiciled in the State of Texas, the moment after the event causing the distribution hereunder, the shares and proportions of taking to be determined by Texas laws.

3.5 General Power of Appointment for Certain Beneficiaries.

Except as provided in subsection (c) below, any provision of this Trust (a) Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, at the death of any individual ("such beneficiary") at whose death the generation-skipping transfer tax would, but for the provisions of this section, be applicable with respect to any trust created under this Trust Agreement, the Trustees shall pay out of the principal of such trust such amount as such beneficiary, by express provision referring to this Trust Agreement and this power of appointment in his or her will, appoints, to or among such beneficiary's creditors, up to but not in excess of the amount, if any, above which any further addition to the amount subject to the power of appointment would increase the Net Death Taxes (as hereinafter defined) by an amount equal to or greater than the decrease in the generation-skipping transfer tax that would result from such further addition. Unless such beneficiary's will otherwise provides by express reference to this Trust Agreement and the above power of appointment, the increase in the Net Death Taxes resulting from such power shall be paid from that amount of the principal of such trust over which such power is exercisable. The foregoing provisions of this section shall be effective only if the Trustees make a determination that the generation-skipping transfer tax would not be applicable with respect to the amount of such trust over which such power is exercisable. As used in this section, the term "Net Death Taxes" shall mean "the aggregate death taxes (including, without limitation, federal, state, local and other estate taxes and inheritance taxes but exclusive of interest and penalties), after taking into account all applicable credits, pavable with respect to the estate of such beneficiary."

(b) If under the will of any individual or individuals and/or any other trust instrument or instruments, such beneficiary has one or more other general powers of appointment exercisable and measured substantially as provided in subsection (a) above, the amount such beneficiary may appoint under subsection (a) shall be reduced proportionally, based on the net fair market values of the principal of the trusts with respect to which such powers are exercisable as of the date of death of such beneficiary, so that the aggregate of the amount so appointable under this Trust Agreement and the amount or amounts so appointable pursuant to such other power or powers together shall be no greater than the amount otherwise appointable under subsection (a) above. (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the trust administered for Jim under Section 3.1.

3.6 <u>Postponement of Distribution</u>. Upon termination of any trust established hereunder, if any property is distributable to a beneficiary who is then under age twenty-five (25), or who, because of age, physical or mental weakness, or for any other reason is, in the sole discretion of the Trustee, unable to manage the property, the Trustee shall retain such property in a separate trust for the benefit of that beneficiary, until he or she attains age twenty-five (25) and in the sole discretion of the Trustee becomes able to manage the property. At that time, the remaining trust property shall be distributed to the beneficiary and the separate trust shall terminate. During the term of the trust, the Trustee shall distribute to the beneficiary so much of the net income and principal as the Trustee deems necessary to provide for the beneficiary's health, support, maintenance and education. If the beneficiary dies before the termination of the trust, the then remaining trust estate shall be distributed to the beneficiary's estate.

ARTICLE IV

PROVISIONS AFFECTING DISTRIBUTION

4.1 <u>Withdrawal Right</u>. Jim shall have the right, following a contribution to Jim's trust, to make a withdrawal in accordance with the provisions of this section unless the transferor indicates otherwise when making the transfer. A separate withdrawal right shall attach to each separate contribution of properties to Jim's trust. If a transferor is married at the time of contribution to the Trustee, then solely for purposes of the withdrawal rights granted in this Section 4.1, unless the transferor notifies the Trustee in writing to the contrary, such contribution shall be treated as two separate contributions having been made one-half (1/2) by the transferor's spouse, regardless of whether the property contributed is community property and regardless of whether they elect to treat such contribution as having been made one-half by each of them for Federal gift tax purposes. Any person making a contribution to Jim's trust may give the Trustee written instructions that no withdrawal right is to be granted, or that alternative withdrawal rights are to be granted with respect to the contribution being made.

(a) <u>Amount That May Be Withdrawn</u>. When a contribution is made, Jim may withdraw the lesser of the following amounts:

(i) the maximum present interest exclusion amount permitted, under Section 2503(b) of the Code, or any similar succeeding statute (such amount being \$12,000 at the date of execution of this Trust Agreement), less the cumulative value of all previous known gifts to or for the benefit of Jim by the same transferor during the same calendar year which would qualify for the present interest exclusion; or

(ii) the remainder determined by subtracting Jim's cumulative rights of withdrawal with respect to any other gifts from any transferor that are either

currently outstanding or that have previously lapsed (but not including the present right of withdrawal) during the same calendar year from the greater of (1) Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000), or (2) Five Percent (5%) of the total value of Jim's trust determined as of the date the current withdrawal power is to lapse (such value may be estimated by the Trustee), or (3) any greater withdrawal power, the lapse of which would not constitute a release of such power under Sections 2041(b)(2) and 2514(e) of the Code or any similar subsequent statute; or

(iii) the value of the contribution that is subject to the withdrawal right.

(b) <u>Withdrawal Period and Notice</u>. Unless directed to the contrary by the transferor, the Trustee shall promptly provide Jim with written notice of the date of the contribution, the name of the transferor, the value of the properties contributed, and the value of Jim's withdrawal right. Withdrawals may be made at any time for a period of thirty (30) days following Jim's receipt of the notice of the existence of the withdrawal right. During any period that Jim lacks legal capacity, Jim's guardian or other legal representative, other than Settlor, may exercise Jim's withdrawal right on Jim's behalf. If Jim does not exercise the withdrawal right before the expiration of that period, the unexercised right shall lapse. For purposes of this section, the term "contribution" means any cash or other property which is transferred to the Trustee as part of the trust estate. The value of any contribution to the trust estate shall be its value for federal gift tax purposes.

(c) <u>Payment of Withdrawal Amount</u>. If Jim exercises his withdrawal right, payment of the amount due shall be made in cash immediately upon receipt by the Trustee of a demand in writing from Jim or his guardian or other legal representative, other than Settlor. Upon the exercise of a withdrawal right, payment shall be made, first, from any gifts made to Jim's trust prior to the exercise of such withdrawal right, but during the same calendar year in which the withdrawal right is exercised, and shall be charged against the trust. Should such gift or gifts not consist of sufficient cash to satisfy the exercised withdrawal right, the Trustee shall use other liquid assets of Jim's trust for such purpose. Should Jim's trust not contain sufficient liquid assets to satisfy an exercised withdrawal right when made, the Trustee shall borrow funds in order to satisfy the demand and shall, if necessary, pledge trust property to secure the loan.

(d) <u>Distributions During Withdrawal Period</u>. If any contribution is made subject to a withdrawal right, the Trustee shall not make any distributions under any other provision of the Trust Agreement which would prevent the Trustee from being able to satisfy fully any unexpired right of withdrawal.

(e) <u>Lapse of Withdrawal Right</u>. In the event Jim allows a withdrawal right granted under this Section 4.1 to lapse with respect to a contribution, or any portion thereof, the Trustee is authorized to characterize such lapse as a "release" for purposes of Section 678(a) of the Code.

4.2 <u>Restriction Upon Alienation</u>. No beneficiary may anticipate, by assignment or otherwise, his beneficial interest in the principal or income of the trust estate; nor may any beneficiary sell, transfer, encumber, or in any way charge his interest in trust income or principal prior to actually receiving it. Neither the income nor the principal of any trust established hereunder shall be subject to any execution, garnishment, attachment, bankruptcy, claims for alimony or support, other legal proceeding of any character, legal sequestration, levy or sale, or in any other event or manner be applicable or subject, voluntarily or involuntarily, to the payment of a beneficiary's debts. The Trustee shall make distributions to or for each beneficiary according to the terms hereof, notwithstanding any purported sale, assignment, hypothecation, transfer, attachment, or judicial process. The provisions of this section shall not limit or detract from any power of appointment or withdrawal right granted to any beneficiary herein.

4.3 <u>Distributions Constitute Separate Property</u>. Settlor intends to make a gift to each beneficiary hereunder of only that portion of the income and principal of each trust that is in fact distributed to such beneficiary. Inasmuch as the amounts actually distributed to a beneficiary hereunder constitute the gift Settlor contemplated making, such distributions, whether they be income or principal, shall constitute the separate property of such beneficiary and not the community property of such beneficiary. Furthermore, it is Settlor's intention that no beneficiary shall have any interest in any undistributed income or principal until the distribution of such income or principal and, accordingly, such undistributed income and principal shall not be deemed the community property of any such beneficiary and that beneficiary's spouse.

4.4 <u>Method of Payment</u>. The Trustee, in its discretion, may make distributions to any beneficiary, including a beneficiary who is under a physical, mental, or legal disability (minority or other), in any one or more of the following ways: directly to the beneficiary without the intervention of any legal guardian or other legal representative; as expenditures in the beneficiary's behalf; to the guardian, committee, conservator, or other similar official acting for the beneficiary; to a custodian for the beneficiary under a Uniform Transfers to Minors Act or Uniform Gifts to Minors Act; to a relative of the beneficiary or to any suitable person with whom the beneficiary resides or who has care or custody of the beneficiary; and in all ways provided by law for gifts or other transfers to or for minors or other persons under disability. In each case, receipt by the beneficiary or other person to whom payment is made or a distribution entrusted shall be a complete discharge of the Trustee with respect thereto. The Trustee may act upon such evidence as it deems appropriate and reliable in determining a beneficiary's ability to manage property and identifying a proper recipient of trust funds hereunder.

4.5 <u>Evidence of Need</u>. In exercising its discretion under this Trust Agreement, the Trustee shall be entitled to rely upon the written certification of a beneficiary or of another as to the nature and extent of a beneficiary's needs, and the adequacy of the beneficiary's resources apart from the trust to meet those needs. The Trustee may, but shall not be required to, make inquiry into the accuracy of the information it receives

4.6 <u>Termination of Small Trust</u>. Notwithstanding any provision of this Trust Agreement to the contrary, the Trustee may at any time terminate any trust when in its judgment the trust is so small that it would be inadvisable or uneconomical to continue the trust administration. In the event of termination, the Trustee shall distribute the trust to the income beneficiaries of the trust determined at the time of distribution in the proportions to which they are entitled to receive income. If at that time rights to income are not fixed by the terms of the trust, distribution shall be made to the persons to whom the Trustee may then distribute income, in proportions determined in the Trustee's discretion, exercised consistently with the trust's purposes. Distribution of trust funds in the manner herein provided shall relieve the Trustee of any further responsibility with respect to such funds. This section shall not apply to a Trustee with respect to any trust of which such Trustee is a beneficiary, or if Trustee has duty to support the beneficiary or to any Trustee who may be removed and replaced by a beneficiary of the trust unless the successor trustee must be a corporate fiduciary or someone who is not related or subordinate to the beneficiary within the meaning of Section 672(c) of the Code. The provisions of this section shall not limit or detract from any withdrawal right granted to any beneficiary herein.

4.7 Generation-Skipping Transfer Taxes and Payment. It is Settlor's intent that the trusts created hereunder be exempt from Generation-Skipping Transfer Taxes. If, however, the Trustee considers any distribution or termination of an interest or power in a trust to be a taxable distribution (a "Distribution") or a taxable termination (a "Termination"), or a direct skip (a "Direct Skip") for generation-skipping transfer tax purposes, the Trustee may exercise the following authorities with respect to any such Distribution, Termination or Direct Skip. In the case of a Distribution, the Trustee may increase the amount to be distributed by an amount estimated to be sufficient to permit the beneficiary receiving such Distribution to pay the estimated generation-skipping tax attributable to such Distribution. Generally, the Trustee would not be expected to augment any partial terminating distribution in order to pay generation-skipping transfer taxes attributable to such partial terminating distribution from a trust. In the case of a Termination or Direct Skip, the Trustee shall pay the generation-skipping transfer tax attributable to such Termination or Direct Skip, and may postpone final termination of any trust or the complete funding of any Direct Skip, and may withhold all or any portion of the trust property, until the Trustee is satisfied it no longer has any liability to pay any generation-skipping transfer tax with reference to the Termination or Direct Skip. If a generation-skipping transfer tax is imposed in part by reason of property held in trust under a Settlor's will or codicil, and in part by reason of other property, the Trustee shall pay only the portion of such tax that is fairly attributable to the Distribution, Termination, or Direct Skip hereunder, taking into consideration deductions, exemptions, credits and other factors which the Trustee deems appropriate. The Trustee may, but need not make any equitable adjustments among beneficiaries of a trust as a consequence of additional distributions or generation-skipping transfer tax payments made with respect to Distributions or Terminations or Direct Skips.

ARTICLE V

THE TRUSTEE

5.1 <u>Resignation of Trustee</u>. The Trustee may resign as to any one or more of the trusts created hereunder by giving written notice to Settlor, if living; otherwise to the current income beneficiary of the trust.

5.2 Appointment and Succession of Trustees.

(a) <u>Generally</u>.

(i) <u>Family Trustee</u>. Jim is the initial Family Trustee of all trusts created hereunder. If Jim ceases to act as Family Trustee, or if any successor Family Trustee fails or ceases to act, Jim may appoint a successor Family Trustee within thirty (30) days of a vacancy arising. If Jim is deceased or if Jim otherwise fails to appoint a successor, GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III is appointed as successor Family Trustee. If GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III fails or ceases to act as Family Trustee, or if any other Family Trustee fails or ceases to act, and a successor is not appointed by Jim as provided above, JOHN WILLIAM HONIS is appointed as successor Family Trustee. If JOHN WILLIAM HONIS fails or ceases to act as Family Trustee, and a successor is not appointed by Jim as provided above, the Family Trustee last serving shall appoint a successor Family Trustee. If a successor Family Trustee is not appointed within sixty (60) days of a vacancy arising, the successor Family Trustee shall be appointed pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) hereof.

(ii) Independent Trustee. GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III is appointed as the initial Independent Trustee and shall begin serving as such upon delivery of a written acknowledged instrument to the Family Trustee wherein GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III accepts the trust and the position of Independent Trustee. If GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III, fails or ceases to act, or if any other Independent Trustee fails or ceases to act, Jim may appoint a successor within thirty days (30) of the vacancy arising; provided that Jim shall not serve as Independent Trustee and a successor Independent Trustee appointed by Jim may not be related or subordinate to Jim within the meaning of Section 672(c) of the Code. If a successor is not so appointed, JOHN WILLIAM HONIS is appointed Independent Trustee. If JOHN WILLIAM HONIS fails or ceases to act as Independent Trustee, and a successor is not appointed by Jim as provided above, the Independent Trustee last serving may appoint the successor Independent Trustee. If a successor Independent Trustee is not so appointed within sixty (60) days of a vacancy arising, a successor Independent Trustee shall be appointed pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) hereof.

Administrative Trustee. COMMONWEALTH TRUST (iii) COMPANY is the initial Administrative Trustee. If COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY fails or ceases to serve, Jim may appoint a successor Administrative Trustee within thirty days (30) of the vacancy arising. If a successor is not so appointed, the Family Trustee may appoint a successor Administrative Trustee within sixty (60) days of the vacancy arising. If a successor is not so appointed, a successor shall be appointed in the same manner as provided for the Family Trustee under subsection (a) above. The selection of the Administrative Trustee can have a substantial impact on the situs of the trust, which should be considered in appointing a successor Administrative Trustee.

Notwithstanding any other provision in the Trust Agreement to the contrary, no Administrative Trustee may be appointed under this paragraph if the appointment of such Administrative Trustee would change the situs of the trust to a jurisdiction that has a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which limits the period during which property can be held in trust

The Administrative Trustee shall act in a fiduciary capacity but shall not be a Trustee or co-Trustee except to the extent and for the limited purposes described in Section 6.2. Accordingly, no reference in this Trust Agreement to the "Trustee" or "co-Trustee" shall include, or be deemed to refer to, the Administrative Trustee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the same individual or bank or trust company may serve simultaneously as both a Trustee or co-Trustee and as Administrative Trustee for any trust created hereunder. The initial Administrative Trustee and each successor may resign at any time and may be removed at any time by the Family Trustee.

For services rendered as Administrative Trustee under this Agreement, any Administrative Trustee shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for his, her or its services, as well as be entitled to reimbursement for all expenses reasonably incurred in performing his, her or its duties hereunder. Any Administrative Trustee may receive (or retain) payment in accordance with its schedule or rates as published from time to time and as in effect at the time such compensation becomes payable, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Family Trustee.

No termination fee shall be charged upon removal or resignation of an Administrative Trustee. However, such Administrative Trustee shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for time and materials for additional services over and above Administrative Trustee's normal duties in transferring trust assets and administration of the trust to the new Administrative Trustee.

(b) <u>Successor Trustee</u>. If a named or appointed successor Trustee fails or ceases to serve and no other successor is named or appointed pursuant to subsection (a) hereof, a majority in number of the beneficiaries to whom the Trustee is to or may distribute income at that time may appoint the successor Trustee, and each shall have a reasonable time in which to act. If a successor Trustee is not so appointed, any beneficiary of a trust may secure the appointment of a successor Trustee by a court of competent jurisdiction at the expense of the trust estate.

(c) <u>Manner of Appointment; Permissible Trustees</u>. Appointment, other than by a court, shall be by a signed, acknowledged instrument delivered to the appointed Trustee. An appointment may be made before a vacancy arises, to become effective in the event of the vacancy with the last such instrument to control. The successor Trustee appointed by Jim or a Trustee may be one or more persons and/or entities; provided that neither Settlor nor Jim shall serve as Independent Trustee and a successor Independent Trustee appointed by Jim may not be related or subordinate to Jim within the meaning of Section 672(c) of the Code. Any other successor Trustee shall be a trust company or a bank in the United States having trust powers with not less than Fifty Million Dollars unimpaired capital and surplus. A successor Trustee shall have a reasonable time after a vacancy occurs in which to accept the office by signed, acknowledged instrument delivered to those making the appointment, if living, or to the then current beneficiaries to whom the Trustees are to or may make distributions.

5.3 <u>Removal of Trustee</u>. Jim shall have the power to remove the Trustee of any trust created hereunder, without cause. If Jim is deceased or if Jim is incapacitated within the meaning of Section 5.11 hereof, the primary beneficiary (or, if more than one, a majority of the primary beneficiaries) of a trust may remove any Trustee without cause. Removal shall be effected by delivering to the Trustee a signed acknowledged instrument which is effective thirty (30) days from its receipt (unless a shorter period is agreed to by the Trustee).

5.4 <u>Succession of Corporate Trustee</u>. If any corporate Trustee before or after qualification changes its name, becomes consolidated or merged with another corporation, or otherwise reorganizes, any resulting corporation which succeeds to the fiduciary business of such corporate Trustee shall become a Trustee hereunder in lieu of such corporate Trustee.

5.5 <u>Trustee's Fees</u>. Jim and Jim's Descendants shall not receive a fee for serving as Trustee. Any other Trustee shall be entitled to reasonable fees commensurate with its duties and responsibilities, taking into account the value and nature of the trust estate and the time and work involved. The Trustee shall be reimbursed for reasonable costs and expenses incurred in connection with its fiduciary duties hereunder.

5.6 <u>Bond</u>. The Trustee shall not be required to furnish bond or other security.

5.7 <u>Liability of Trustee</u>.

(a) <u>Generally</u>. A Trustee other than a corporate trustee shall only be liable for willful misconduct or gross negligence, and shall not be liable for breach of fiduciary duty by virtue of mistake or error in judgment.

(b) <u>Administrative Trustee</u>. Every act done, power exercised or obligation assumed by the Administrative Trustee pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement shall be held to be done, exercised or assumed, as the case may be, by the Administrative Trustee acting in a fiduciary capacity and not otherwise, and every person, firm, corporation or other entity contracting or otherwise dealing with the Administrative Trustee shall look only to the funds and property of the trust fund for payment under such contract or payment of any money that may become due or payable under any obligation arising under this Agreement, in whole or in part, and the Administrative Trustee shall not be individually liable therefor even though the Administrative Trustee did not exempt himself, herself or itself from individual liability when entering into any contract, obligation or transaction in connection with or growing out of the trust fund.

The decision of the Administrative Trustee hereunder with respect to the exercise or nonexercise by such Administrative Trustee of any power hereunder, or the time or manner of the exercise thereof, made in good faith, shall fully protect such Administrative Trustee and shall be final, conclusive and binding upon all persons interested in the Trust or the income therefrom. To the extent permitted under applicable law, the Administrative Trustee acting hereunder shall not be responsible for any error of judgment or mistake of fact or law, absent bad faith or willful misconduct.

The Administrative Trustee shall be liable hereunder only for the Administrative Trustee's bad faith or willful misconduct proved by clear and convincing evidence in the court then having primary jurisdiction over the trust. The Administrative Trustee shall not be personally liable for making any delegation that is authorized under this Agreement, nor for any action taken without the Administrative Trustee's express agreement, nor for any failure to act absent willful misconduct. The Administrative Trustee shall not be liable for relying absolutely on (i) any apparently valid documents and certifications including, but not limited to, tax reports and other tax information provided to the Administrative Trustee by any entity in which the trust fund holds an ownership interest; and (ii) the opinions of counsel or any accountant to any trust.

Prior to the death of Settlor, the Administrative Trustee shall be under no duty to inform any person having a beneficial interest in any trust created hereunder of the existence of any such trust or the nature and extent of that person's beneficial interest in, or rights with respect to, any such trust. Following the death of Settlor, the Administrative Trustee shall be under no duty to inform any person, other than the primary beneficiary of each trust hereunder, having a beneficial interest in any trust created hereunder of the existence of such trust or the nature and extent of that person's beneficial interest in, or rights with respect to, any such trust.

While not required, the same procedure used to settle the Administrative Trustee's accounts may also be employed to obtain the conclusive consent by the beneficiaries to the Administrative Trustee's specific conduct of any other particular matter. The Administrative Trustee and each former Administrative Trustee shall be indemnified and held harmless by each trust created hereunder against any threatened, pending or completed action, claim, demand, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, falling within the exculpatory provisions of this Section or to which the Administrative Trustee is made a party, or threatened to be made a party, by reason of serving as Administrative Trustee if the Administrative Trustee acted in good faith, subject to the limitations set forth above. Such indemnification shall include expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually incurred by the Administrative Trustee in connection with such action, claim, demand, suit or proceeding. The cost of indemnification shall be apportioned against the various trusts created hereunder as the Administrative Trustee reasonably considers appropriate, taking into account the nature of the claims involved.

The Administrative Trustee shall not have any fiduciary responsibility to observe, monitor or evaluate the actions of any Trustee or other fiduciary and shall not be liable to any party for the failure to seek to attempt to prevent a breach of trust, or failure to remedy a breach of trust, or in a recurring situation to request instructions from a court having jurisdiction over the trust. In no event shall any Administrative Trustee hereunder be liable for any matter with respect to which he, she or it is not authorized to participate hereunder (including the duty to review or monitor trust investments).

Any Successor Administrative Trustee shall be deemed vested with all the duties, rights, titles and powers, whether discretionary or otherwise, as if originally named as Administrative Trustee. No Successor Administrative Trustee shall be personally liable for any act or failure to act of any predecessor Administrative Trustee or any other Trustee. The Successor Administrative Trustee may accept the account rendered and the property delivered by the predecessor Administrative Trustee as a full and complete discharge to the predecessor Administrative Trustee, without incurring any liability for so doing.

5.8 <u>Predecessor Fiduciary</u>. No successor Trustee shall be obligated or required to inquire into the acts, omissions, or accounts of any prior trustee or to bring any action against any prior trustee to compel redress of any breach of trust or for any other reason. In no event shall a successor Trustee be liable for any act or omission of any prior Trustee. A successor Trustee may accept the account rendered and the property received from a prior Trustee as a full and complete discharge to the prior Trustee without incurring any liability for doing so. A successor Trustee shall have all of the powers and discretions conferred in the governing instrument upon the original trustee.

5.9 <u>Periodic Accounting</u>. The Trustee may from time to time render an informal account, statement or report of its administration of each separate trust hereunder to each beneficiary who during the period covered by the account was entitled absolutely to a current payment of income or principal from the trust, or, if there is no such beneficiary, to such beneficiaries who are entitled absolutely or in the discretion of the Trustee to a payment of income or principal from the trust. If any beneficiary or legal representative or parent of a beneficiary who is not of full age or legal capacity to whom any such account is rendered shall not, within ninety (90) days after the mailing of such statement, have notified the Trustee in writing of its disapproval of the same, such statement shall be deemed to be approved

No Administrative Trustee shall be required to file or render periodic accounts in or to any court other than for good cause shown. No Administrative Trustee shall be required to give any bond.

Within 90 days following the close of each calendar year, if information is available, and if not within 30 days after it is delivered to the Administrative Trustee, and within 90 days after the removal or resignation of the Administrative Trustee, the Administrative Trustee may deliver an accounting to each primary beneficiary. The accounting shall be a written accounting of the trusts hereunder during such year or during the period from the close of the last preceding year to the date of such removal or resignation and shall set forth all investments, receipts, distributions, expenses and other transactions of each such trust and show all cash, securities, and other property held as a part of each such trust at the end of such year or as of the date of such removal or resignation, as the case may be. The accountings referred to in this Section shall be deemed to be an account stated, accepted and approved by all of the beneficiaries of each trust for which an

accounting is rendered, and the Administrative Trustee shall be relieved and discharged, as if such accounting had been settled and allowed by a final judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, unless protested by written notice to the Administrative Trustee, within 60 days of mailing thereof, by the person designated to receive such accounting. The Administrative Trustee shall have the right, at the expense of the trust, to apply at any time to a court of competent jurisdiction for judicial settlement of any account of the Administrative Trustee whether or not previously settled as herein provided or for the determination of any question of construction or for instructions. In any such action or proceeding it shall be necessary to join as parties solely the Administrative Trustee and the Settlor (although the Administrative Trustee may also join such other parties as it may deem appropriate), and any judgment or decree entered therein shall be conclusive and binding on all persons at any time interested in the trust.

5.10 <u>Beneficiary under Disability</u>. A parent, custodian, or guardian of any beneficiary who is under the disability of minority or, in the Trustee's opinion, any other legal, physical, or mental disability, may, in carrying out the provisions of this Trust Agreement, act and receive notice in the beneficiary's stead, and sign any instrument for the beneficiary.

5.11 <u>Incapacity of Individual Trustee</u>. In the event a Trustee other than a corporate Trustee becomes unable to discharge his duties as Trustee hereunder by reason of accident, physical or mental illness or deterioration, or other cause, and does not resign, then upon certification by two medical doctors affirming that each has examined the Trustee and that each has concluded, based on such examination, that he is unable to discharge his duties hereunder, the Trustee shall cease to serve, as if he had resigned, effective the date of the certification.

ARTICLE VI

TRUST ADMINISTRATION

6.1 <u>General Powers</u>. Subject to any limitation stated elsewhere in this Trust Agreement, and the division of powers contained in Section 6.2, the Trustee shall have, in addition to all powers granted to trustees by the common law and by Delaware statutes, as amended from time to time, the following powers with respect to each trust established hereunder:

(a) <u>Retain Property</u>. To retain any property received from any source, including any corporate Trustee's securities, regardless of lack of diversification, risk, or nonproductivity.

(b) <u>Invest</u>. To invest the trust estate in any kind of property, including common trust funds administered by a corporate Trustee or by others, without being limited by any statute or any rule of law dealing with the character, risk, productivity, diversification of, or otherwise concerning, investments by trustees.

(c) <u>Sell</u>. By public offering or private negotiation, to sell, exchange, assign, transfer, or otherwise dispose of all or any real or personal trust property and give options

for these purposes, for such price and on such terms, with such covenants of warranty and such security for deferred payment as the Trustee deems proper. To partition between the trust and any other owner, as the Trustee deems proper, any property in which the trust owns an undivided interest.

(d) <u>Lease</u>. To lease trust property for terms within or extending beyond the term of the trust, for any purpose.

(e) <u>Real Estate</u>. To operate, maintain, repair, rehabilitate, alter, erect, improve, or remove any improvements on real estate; to subdivide real estate; to grant easements, give consents, and enter into contracts relating to real estate or its use; and to release or dedicate any interest in real estate.

(f) <u>Borrow</u>. To borrow money for any purpose either from the banking department of any corporate Trustee or from others; to encumber or hypothecate trust property by mortgage, deed of trust, or otherwise; and to maintain, renew, or extend any indebtedness upon such terms as the Trustee deems appropriate.

(g) <u>Loans</u>. To lend money to any person or entity, including, but not limited to, a beneficiary hereunder, but not including a Settlor or a Trustee (other than a beneficiary serving as Trustee) hereunder, or a spouse of theirs, upon such terms and with such security as the Trustee deems advisable.

(h) <u>Conserve Estate</u>. To take any action to conserve the trust estate.

(i) <u>Litigation</u>. To commence or defend at the expense of the trust such litigation with respect to the trust estate as the Trustee deems advisable.

(j) <u>Claims</u>. To collect, pay, contest, compromise, settle, renew, or abandon any claims or demands of or against the trust estate without court authority on whatever terms the Trustee deems advisable.

(k) <u>Abandon Property</u>. To abandon any property or interest in property belonging to the trust when, in the Trustee's discretion, such abandonment is in the best interest of the trust and its beneficiaries.

(1) <u>Documents</u>. To execute contracts, notes, conveyances, and other instruments containing covenants, representations, or warranties binding upon and creating a charge against the trust estate or containing provisions excluding personal liability, or any other written instrument of any character appropriate to any of the powers or duties conferred upon the Trustee.

(m) <u>Agents</u>. To employ attorneys, auditors, investment advisors, depositaries, and agents with or without discretionary powers, to employ a bank with trust powers as agent for the purpose of performing any ministerial duties incident to the administration, and to pay all expenses and fees so incurred.

(n) <u>Securities</u>. To engage in all actions necessary to the effective administration of securities including, but not limited to, the authority to: vote securities in person or by proxy; engage in a voting trust or voting agreement; and consent to or participate in mergers, consolidations, sales of assets, recapitalizations, reorganizations, dissolutions, or other alterations of corporate structure affecting securities held in the trust.

(o) <u>Nominee</u>. To hold securities and other property in bearer form or in the name of a trustee or nominee with or without disclosure of any fiduciary relationship.

(p) <u>Additional Property</u>. To receive additional property from any source and add it to the trust estate.

(q) <u>Insurance</u>. To carry insurance of such kinds and in such amounts as the Trustee deems advisable, except for insurance on the life of a Settlor, the Trustee, or a spouse of theirs. The Trustee shall not apply trust property to the payment of premiums on an insurance policy on the life of Settlor, the Trustee, or a spouse of theirs.

(r) <u>Business Powers</u>.

(i) <u>In General</u>. To engage in any lawful business including, but not limited to, the power to continue at the risk of the trust estate the operation of any business which may become a part of the trust estate, and to sell, liquidate, or otherwise terminate any business interest, including, but not limited to, the fulfillment of any agreement for the disposition of any such business interest.

(ii) <u>Closely Held Businesses</u>. This trust may be funded with, or subsequently purchase or otherwise acquire, securities or other financial interests in one or more closely held businesses (each of which is hereinafter referred to as the "business").

(1) <u>Exoneration from Liability</u>. It is realized that the business may not be the type of investment in which fiduciaries would normally invest estate or trust funds. Nonetheless, the Trustees shall incur no liability for any loss which may be sustained by reason of the retention, operation or sale of the business or the exercise of any power conferred upon the Trustees with respect to the business.

(2) <u>Management Powers</u>. The Family Trustee shall have the exclusive duty to deal with and manage the business. In addition to any power granted by law or elsewhere in this document, the Family Trustee shall have the following powers:

(A) To retain and continue the business or any interest therein for such time as the Family Trustee considers advisable;

(B) To operate or participate in the operation of the business in the form of a corporation, limited liability company, partnership or proprietorship;

(C) To direct, control, supervise, manage, operate or participate in the operation of the business; to serve as an officer and director of the business; and to receive from the business compensation for his services in addition to his compensation as a Family Trustee;

(D) To delegate all or any part of his power to supervise, manage or operate the business to such persons as he may select, including any director, officer or employee of the business;

(E) To engage, compensate and discharge such managers, employees, agents, attorneys, accountants, consultants or other representatives as he considers advisable, including anyone who may be a beneficiary or fiduciary of this Trust;

(F) To invest or employ in the business, or to use as collateral for loans to the business, such other estate or trust funds as he considers advisable;

(G) To sell, liquidate or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the business at such time or times, for such prices and upon such terms and conditions as he considers advisable, and to sell the business to anyone who is a beneficiary or a fiduciary of this Trust; and

(3) <u>Exclusion from Powers</u>. Neither Commonwealth Trust Company nor any successor Administrative Trustee shall have any power, duty and/or responsibility in connection with the operation, control, supervision, management and participation of the business.

(s) <u>Income and Principal</u>. To determine, in accordance with the provisions of Delaware law, what constitutes income and principal of the trust estate, the manner in which expenses and other charges shall be allocated between these accounts, and whether or not to establish reserves for depreciation or depletion, and to add undistributed income to principal.

(t) <u>Tax Elections</u>. To exercise any tax option or election permitted by law as the Trustee determines, in its sole discretion, even though the effect is to treat beneficiaries hereunder differently, or to favor some at the expense of others. The Trustee may, but need not, make such compensating adjustments among beneficiaries with respect thereof as it deems appropriate considering the nature of the tax election and the amounts involved. (u) <u>Reliance</u>. To rely upon any notice, certificate, affidavit, or other document or evidence believed by the Trustee to be genuine and accurate, in making any payment or distribution. The Trustee shall incur no liability for a disbursement or distribution made in good faith and without actual notice or knowledge of a changed condition or status affecting any person's interest in the trust or any other matter.

(v) <u>Commingling</u>. To commingle and invest as one fund, or make joint investments with, the principal of two or more separate trusts established hereunder, with each trust having an undivided interest therein.

(w) <u>Division and Distribution</u>. To make all allocations, distributions, or divisions contemplated by this Trust Agreement; to allocate, distribute and divide different kinds or disproportionate shares of property or undivided interests in property among the beneficiaries or trusts, in cash or in kind, or both, without regard to the income tax basis of specific property allocated to any beneficiary or trust, even though shares may as a result be composed differently, and to determine the value of any property so allocated, divided or distributed.

(x) <u>Withholding of Distribution</u>. To withhold from distribution all or any part of the trust property as long as the Trustee, in its discretion, determines that such property may be subject to conflicting claims, to tax deficiencies, or to liabilities, contingent or otherwise, properly incurred in the administration of the trust.

(y) <u>Mineral Powers</u>. To retain or acquire interests in oil, gas, or other mineral resources; to execute as to those interests any agreements, assignments, contracts, deeds, grants or leases for any term (even though the term may extend beyond the termination of the trust); to manage, control, operate, explore, mine, develop, or take any action for the production, recovery, sale, treatment, storage, or transportation of any such interest; to drill, rework, or recomplete wells of any type; to conduct or participate in secondary recovery operations; to enter into agreements for pooling or unitization; and to install, operate, or participate in the operation of any plant, mine, or other facility.

(z) Environmental Hazards. To use and expend the trust income and principal to (i) take all appropriate action to prevent, identify, or respond to actual or threatened violations of any environmental law or regulation for which the Trustee may have responsibility, including the authority to conduct environmental assessments, audits, and site monitoring to determine compliance with any environmental law or regulation; (ii) take all appropriate remedial action to contain, cleanup, or remove any environmental hazard including a spill, release, discharge, or contamination, either on its own accord or in response to an actual or threatened violation of any environmental law or regulation; (iii) institute legal proceedings concerning environmental hazards or contest or settle legal proceedings brought by any local, state, or federal agency concerned with environmental compliance, or by a private litigant; and (iv) comply with any local, state, or federal agency order or court order directing an assessment, abatement, or cleanup of any environmental hazards.

(aa) <u>Miscellaneous Powers</u>. Generally to do and perform any and all acts, things, or deeds which, in the discretion of the Trustee, may be necessary or proper for the protection, preservation, and promotion of the trust properties and estate.

6.2 <u>Division of Powers</u>. The powers and duties granted under this Trust Agreement shall be divided among the Trustees as follows:

(a) <u>Administrative Trustee</u>. The Administrative Trustee shall have the following exclusive duties, which shall all be carried out in the State of Delaware or such other jurisdiction as the Trustee shall, from time to time, select as the situs of the trust:

(i) To maintain bank accounts, brokerage accounts and other custody accounts which receive trust income and contributions and from which trust expenditures and distributions are disbursed.

(ii) To maintain storage of tangible personalty and evidence of intangible trust property.

(iii) To maintain trust records.

(iv) To maintain an office for Trustee meetings and other trust business.

(v) To originate, facilitate and review trust accountings, reports and other communications with the Settlor, any co-Trustees, beneficiaries and unrelated third parties.

(vi) To respond to inquiries concerning the trust from the Settlor, any co-Trustees, beneficiaries and unrelated third parties.

(vii) To execute documents with respect to trust account transactions.

(viii) To retain accountants, attorneys, investment counsel, agents and other advisers in connection with the performance of its duties under this Section 6.2.

(b) <u>Independent Trustee</u>. The Independent Trustee shall have all of the powers and duties specifically assigned to the Independent Trustee under this Trust Agreement. These powers may only be exercised by the Independent Trustee.

(c) <u>Family Trustee</u>. The Family Trustee shall possess and exercise all of the powers and duties of the Trustee not specifically granted to the Administrative Trustee or the Independent Trustee under this Trust Agreement, including those specifically assigned to the Family Trustee. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Family Trustee shall exercise all Trustee authority and have all Trustee responsibility with respect to the investment of the trust estate. If there is no Family Trustee serving,

however, all of the powers and duties of the Trustee, including those assigned to the Family Trustee, shall be exercised and discharged by the Independent Trustee.

6.3 Merger of Trusts. If at any time a Trustee of any trust created pursuant to this Trust Agreement shall also be acting as Trustee of any other trust created by trust instrument or by will for the benefit of the same beneficiary or beneficiaries and upon substantially the same terms and conditions, the Trustee is authorized and empowered, if in the Trustee's discretion such action is in the best interest of the beneficiary or beneficiaries of the trust created hereunder, to transfer and merge all of the assets then held under such trust created pursuant to this Trust Agreement to and with such other trust and thereupon and thereby to terminate the trust created pursuant to this Trust Agreement. The Trustee is further authorized to accept the assets of the other trust which may be transferred to the Trustee of the trust created hereunder and to administer and distribute such assets and properties so transferred in accordance with the provisions of this Trust Agreement. If the component trusts differ as to contingent beneficiaries and the contingency occurs, the funds may be distributed in such shares as the Trustee, in the Trustee's sole discretion, shall deem necessary to create a fair ratio between the various sets of remaindermen. If any trust created in this Trust Agreement is merged with any trust created under any other instrument, such merged trust shall not continue beyond the date on which the earliest maximum term of the trusts so merged would, without regard to such merger, have been required to expire. Settlor further directs that, as to any property at any time a part of any trust estate (including a merged trust) as to which under the laws of any state applicable to said property that trust is required to be terminated at any time prior to its normal termination date, the trust as to that particular property shall terminate at the time required by the laws of said state.

6.4 <u>Certain Powers and Rights Limited</u>. Settlor intends that the trust created under Section 3.1 hereof shall not be included in Jim's gross estate for estate tax purposes unless the Independent Trustee grants Jim a general power of appointment pursuant to paragraph 3.1(d). All issues applicable to the trust shall be resolved accordingly.

6.5 <u>GST Inclusion Ratio</u>. If property not having an inclusion ratio for purposes of the generation-skipping transfer tax equal to zero is directed to be added to a trust which has an inclusion ratio equal to zero, the Trustee may decline to make the addition and may, instead, administer the property as a separate trust with provisions identical to the trust having an inclusion ratio equal to zero. If property having an inclusion ratio for purposes of the generation-skipping transfer tax equal to zero is directed to be added to a trust which has an inclusion ratio not equal to zero, the Trustee may decline to make the addition and may, instead, administer the property as a separate trust with provisions identical to the trust which has an inclusion ratio not equal to zero, the Trustee may decline to make the addition and may, instead, administer the property as a separate trust with provisions identical to the trust having an inclusion ratio not equal to zero.

6.6 <u>Out-of-State Properties</u>. If any trust property is situated in a jurisdiction in which the Trustee is unable or unwilling to act, the Trustee may appoint an ancillary trustee for such jurisdiction and may confer upon the ancillary trustee such powers and discretions, exercisable without court order, to act with respect to such property as the Trustee deems proper. The ancillary trustee shall be responsible to the Trustee for all property it administers. The Trustee may pay the ancillary trustee reasonable compensation for its services and may absolve it from any requirement to furnish bond or other security.

6.7 <u>Management of Real Property</u>. The Family Trustee (or the Independent Trustee pursuant to Section 6.2(c) hereof), acting alone, shall make any and all decisions regarding: (i) the acquisition, retention and disposal of real estate; (ii) the operation, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, alteration, construction, erection, improvement, or removal of any improvements on real estate; (iii) the subdivision of real estate; (iv) the granting of easements, giving of consents, and entering into contracts relating to real estate or its use; (v) the release or dedication of any interest in real estate; and (vi) the payment of taxes, utilities, and maintenance expenses attributable to real estate owned by any trust created hereunder. The Family Trustee (or the Independent Trustee pursuant to Section 6.2(c) hereof) may, in its discretion, either exercise such powers or appoint an ancillary trustee to exercise such powers. The Trustee may pay the ancillary trustee reasonable compensation for its services and may absolve it from any requirement to furnish bond or other security.

6.8 <u>No Court Supervision</u>. The Trustee shall not be required to qualify before or be appointed by any court; nor shall the Trustee be required to obtain the order or approval of any court in the exercise of any power or discretion.

6.9 <u>Division of Trusts</u>. The Trustee may divide any trust established by this Trust Agreement into two or more separate trusts as provided in this section. Settlor exonerates the Trustee from any liability arising from the exercise or failure to exercise any powers granted herein, provided the Trustee acts in good faith.

(a) <u>Division and Funding of Separate Trusts</u>. The Trustee may divide any trust established by this Trust Agreement, at any time, into two or more separate trusts so that the generation-skipping transfer tax inclusion ratio as defined in Section 2642(a) of the Code for each trust shall be either zero or one. Any such division shall be accomplished in accordance with applicable regulations under Chapter 13 of the Code.

(b) <u>Administration of Separate Trusts</u>. Such separate trusts shall have the identical provisions as the original trust. However, with respect to each separate trust, the Trustee may: (1) make different tax elections, (2) expend principal and exercise any other discretionary powers with respect to such separate trusts differently, (3) invest such separate trusts differently, and (4) take all other actions consistent with such trusts being separate trusts.

(c) <u>Powers of Appointment</u>. The donee of any power of appointment with respect to a trust so divided may exercise such power of appointment differently with respect to the separate trusts created by the division.

6.10 <u>Limitation of Powers</u>. The following limitations, affecting the administration of the trusts created hereunder, apply notwithstanding any other provision of this Trust Agreement. For purposes of this Section 6.10, the term "Settlor" shall include any individual who contributes property to the Trustee to be added to the trust estate.

(a) <u>Support Duty</u>. Distributions from the trust estate shall not be made which discharge, in whole or in part, the personal legal obligations of a Settlor or a Trustee from time to time existing, to support or educate any of the trust beneficiaries. When determining these legal obligations, the existence of this trust and funds made available by it shall not be taken into consideration.

(b) <u>Adequacy of Consideration</u>. No party may, through purchase, exchange, or otherwise, deal with or dispose of the corpus or the income of the trust estate for less than adequate consideration in money or money's worth.

(c) <u>Insurance</u>. The Trustee shall not apply trust property to the payment of premiums on an insurance policy on the life of a Settlor, the Trustee or a spouse of either of them.

(d) <u>Borrow</u>. The Trustee shall not allow a Settlor to borrow trust principal or income, directly or indirectly, without adequate interest or security.

(e) <u>Substitute Property</u>. The Trustee shall not allow a Settlor to reacquire or exchange any property of the trust estate by substituting other property with an equivalent value.

(f) <u>Vote</u>. A Settlor, acting as a Trustee, shall not be entitled to vote, directly or indirectly, shares of stock of a controlled corporation, as defined under Section 2036 of the Code, which is held as part of the trust estate.

6.11 <u>Dealing with Fiduciaries</u>. The Trustee may enter into any transaction with the Trustee or beneficiaries of the trusts created hereunder, acting in their individual or in another fiduciary capacity, or with any person or entity related to the Trustee or a beneficiary in any manner, if such transaction is otherwise authorized under this Trust Agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing authorization, the Trustee may enter into any transaction otherwise authorized hereunder on behalf of any trust created hereunder even though the other party to the transaction is: a trust of which a beneficiary or Trustee under this Trust Agreement is a beneficiary or trustee, including, but not limited to, any trust established by this Trust Agreement; an estate of which a beneficiary or Trustee under this Trust Agreement is a representative or beneficiary; or a business or charitable corporation of which a beneficiary or Trustee under this Trust Agreement is a director, officer, employee, or owner.

ARTICLE VII

IRREVOCABILITY

This Trust Agreement and each of its provisions may not be revoked, amended, or modified.

ARTICLE VIII

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

8.1 <u>Applicable Law</u>. The trust created under this Trust Agreement shall be deemed a Delaware trust and all matters pertaining to the validity, construction, and application of this Trust Agreement or to the administration of the trust created hereunder shall, in all respects, be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware. However, if the Trustee, in its sole discretion, determines that a change of situs would be beneficial to the purposes of the trust established by this Trust Agreement, the Trustee shall have the discretion and authority to change the situs of any such trust to another state. No change of situs shall be authorized herein, however, which would result in a termination of the trust for federal tax purposes. Furthermore, the Trustee shall not be entitled to change the situs of the trust to a jurisdiction that has a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which limits the period during which property can be held in trust. Any proceeding involving the Trust must be brought in the State of Delaware for so long as the situs of the Trust shall be the State of Delaware.

Perpetuities Provision. The trust created hereunder shall be perpetual to the 8.2 fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. If the trust created hereunder is deemed to be subject to the law of a jurisdiction that has a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which limits the period during which property can be held in trust, then such trust shall terminate in all events upon the expiration of the longest period the property may be held in trust under this Agreement under the law of such jurisdiction (including any application periods in gross, such as 110 years, 360 years, or 1,000 years); provided, however, that if the jurisdiction has a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which applies only to certain types of property, such as real property, the provisions of this Section shall apply only to such property. If under the law of such jurisdiction the longest period that property may be held in trust is determined with reference to the death of the last survivor of a group of individuals in being upon the date of this Trust Agreement, those individuals shall consist of Jim and Jim's Descendants who are in being on the date of this Trust Agreement. Upon termination of a trust pursuant to the provisions of this Section 8.2, the Trustee shall distribute such trust to its income beneficiaries determined at the time of distribution. If at that time rights to income are not fixed by the terms of the trust, distribution shall be made to the persons to whom the Trustee may then distribute income, in proportions determined in the Trustee's discretion, exercised consistently with the trust's purposes.

In the event any trust created hereunder owns real property, and if such real property is subject to a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which limits the period during which property can be held in trust, then the Trustee shall take such action as is necessary to avoid termination of the trust with respect to that real property interest including, without limitation, selling the real property or contributing the real property to a business entity in exchange for ownership interests in such entity to be owned by the trust.

8.3 <u>Gestation</u>. A child in gestation who is born alive shall be considered a child in being throughout the period of gestation.

8.4 <u>Survivorship</u>. Any person must survive by thirty (30) days for a gift made in this Trust Agreement which directly or indirectly requires such person's survival of another to be effective.

8.5 <u>Release of Powers and Interests</u>. Any person, including a beneficiary and a Trustee, shall have the power to disclaim, release, or restrict, irrevocably, in whole or in part, any interest, right, power, or discretion granted to such person with respect to any trust by signed instrument delivered to the Trustee, or in any other manner permitted by law. Any person designated or appointed as a Trustee may, prior to accepting the trust, by written instrument decline to accept any right, power, or discretion with respect to the trust and may accept the trust without such right, power, or discretion.

8.6 <u>Powers of Appointment</u>.

(a) <u>Capacity in Which Exercisable</u>. Every power of appointment granted to a beneficiary under this Trust Agreement is exercisable by that beneficiary in the beneficiary's individual capacity, notwithstanding the fact that the beneficiary may also be serving as a Trustee of the trust.

(b) <u>Manner of Appointment</u>. Every power of appointment granted herein: (i) shall be personal to the donee of such power and may not be exercised on behalf of the donee by any other person, including an attorney-in-fact, a guardian, or any other court appointed representative, and (ii) may be exercised in whole or in part and in favor of one or more potential beneficiaries to the exclusion of others. Appointment may be outright or in further trust, with all provisions determined by the donee of the power, and may confer a power of appointment upon the beneficiary or others, if within the constraints imposed by any applicable rule against perpetuities and any other law which is applicable to the appointment.

(c) <u>Exercise of Inter Vivos Power</u>. An inter vivos power of appointment granted in this Trust Agreement may be exercised only by a written instrument, executed and acknowledged by the donee and delivered to the Trustee during the donee's lifetime, which specifically refers to the power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it. If no such instrument is delivered to the Trustee during the donee's lifetime, upon the donee's death the Trustee may distribute the property subject to the power in the manner provided in this Trust Agreement for distribution in default of exercise.

(d) <u>Determination of the Exercise of a Testamentary Power</u>. The Trustee may rely upon any instrument admitted to probate as a will or codicil in determining whether a testamentary power of appointment granted herein has been exercised. If no will or codicil is brought to the Trustee's attention within ninety (90) days of a death to indicate the exercise of a testamentary power, the Trustee may distribute the property subject to the power according to the terms herein provided for distribution in default of exercise. The Trustee will be protected from liability for its actions as authorized in this subsection (d), but this subsection does not affect a beneficiary's rights in the property subject to the power of appointment. (e) <u>Tax Consequences</u>. The exercise of a power of appointment may have important tax consequences. The donee of any power of appointment should consult with counsel before exercising such power of appointment.

8.7 <u>Liability of Third Party</u>. No person paying money or delivering property to the Trustee need see to the application of such money or property. No person dealing with the Trustee need inquire into the propriety of any transaction or the Trustee's authority to enter into and consummate the same.

8.8 <u>Use of Words</u>. As used in this Trust Agreement, the masculine, feminine, and neuter gender, and the singular or plural of any word each includes the others unless the context indicates otherwise.

8.9 <u>Unenforceable Provision</u>. If any provision of this Trust Agreement is unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be given effect, unless to do so would produce an unreasonable result.

8.10 <u>Titles, Headings, and Captions</u>. All titles, headings, and captions used in this Trust Agreement have been included for administrative convenience only and should not be construed in interpreting this Trust Agreement.

8.11 <u>Counterpart Signatures</u>. This document may be executed in counterparts, and all counterparts so executed shall constitute a single document, notwithstanding that the interested parties are not or may not be signatories to the original or to the same counterpart.

8.12 <u>Trust Name</u>. The trusts established under Article II of this Trust Agreement, collectively, shall be known as the "The Dugaboy Investment Trust".

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Settlor, the Family Trustee and the Administrative Trustee have hereunto set their hands on the day and year first above written in multiple originals. The Trustees agree to administer the trust estate in accordance with the terms of this Trust Agreement. The Independent Trustee shall begin serving as such upon delivery of a written acknowledged instrument to the Family Trustee in accordance with Section 5.2 hereof.

It 23 Oct 18 Settlor ĎANA SCOTT BREAULT.

STATE OF TEXAS § S COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared DANA SCOTT BREAULT, as Settlor, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Trust Agreement and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this <u>23</u> day of October, 2010.

Notary Public

RAVI IYER Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires June 12, 2013

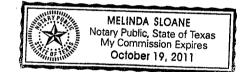
JAMES D. DONDERO, Family Trustee

STATE OF TEXAS § SCOUNTY OF DALLAS §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared JAMES D. DONDERO, as Family Trustee, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Trust Agreement and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this 28 y of October, 2010. 11

Notary Public



COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY, Administrative Trustee

By: Cint	hin DM BLOW	
Name:	Cynthia D. M. Brown	
Title	President	

STATE OF DELAWARE

COUNTY OF NEW CASTLE

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority on this day personally appeared <u>Cynthia D. M. Brown</u>, <u>President</u>, known to me to be the person and officer whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed as the act of COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY and in the capacity therein expressed.

\$ \$ \$ \$

November LMD

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this 15th day of Ø87068, 2010.

1 Ocen 2

5480300v.6 47609/1

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST James D. Dondero, Family Trustee

August 26, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, James D. Dondero, am writing to inform you that on August 26, 2015, I will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "Trust") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust.

Pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee, I appoint Grant James Scott as the successor Family Trustee of the Trust.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.1 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with written notice of my resignation.

Very truly yours,

James D. Dondero

App. 69

DEFENDANT 000042

RESIGNATION OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, JAMES D. DONDERO, do hereby acknowledge that I voluntarily tender my resignation as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust pursuant to that Trust Agreement, dated November 15, 2010 by, between and among Dana Scott Breault, as Settlor, and Common Wealth Trust Company, as Administrative Trustee.

I appoint GRANT JAMES SCOTT as the successor Family Trustee. This resignation shall take effect immediately upon the execution hereof and delivery of a written acknowledged instrument wherein Grant James Scott accepts the trust and the position of Family Trustee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby sign my Resignation as Family Trustee of the above trust.

8.26.15 Date

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

Family Trustee

STATE OF TEXAS § COUNTY OF DALLAS 8

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared JAMES D. DONDERO known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 26^{44} day of August, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN

Notary Public's Signature

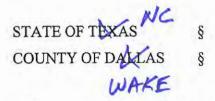
Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires January 15, 2019 Expiration: 1-15-2019

ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, GRANT JAMES SCOTT, appointed as Family Trustee under Article V, Section 5.2(a)(i) of The Dugaboy Investment Trust, dated November 15, 2010 (the "Trust"), hereby acknowledge and accept the position of Family Trustee of the Trust and hereby agree to faithfully perform all the duties and adopt all of the obligations imposed.

Signed this <u>26</u> day of August, 2015.

GRANT JAMES SCOTT **Family Trustee**



Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared **GRANT JAMES SCOTT** known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this _26 day of August, 2015.

anna Dees

Notary Public's Signature MY COMMISSION EXPIRES MAY 17, 2018 Expiration:

[SEAL]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DELIVERY

I, JAMES D. DONDERO, acknowledge that this Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee was delivered to and received by me on August <u>26</u> 2015.

James D. Dondero

Exhibit D

BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP

D. MICHAEL LYNN | D: 817.405.6915 | MICHAEL LYNN@BONDSELLIS.COM

February 1, 2021

Via Email and First Class Mail:

Jeffrey Pomerantz Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067 Email: jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com

Re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.: notes receivable from Dondero et al.

Dear Jeff:

The Debtor recently commenced suit to collect on certain notes payable to it executed by Mr. Dondero and certain of his affiliates. As you are aware, in addition to other defenses, Mr. Dondero views the notes in question as having been given in exchange for loans by Highland made in lieu of compensation to Mr. Dondero.

Please ensure that any transferee of any of the notes is made aware of Mr. Dondero's position and that the Independent Board receives copies of this letter. I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely, D. Michael Lynn

Cc: Jim Dondero John Bonds Douglas Draper Davor Rukavina Lee Hogewood John Kane Jason Rudd Lauren Drawhorn

> O: 817 405 6900 | WWW.BONDSELLIS.COM 420 THROCKMORTON ST, SUITE 1000, FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102

App. 74

DEFENDANTS-0000435

Exhibit E

November 30, 2020

NexPoint Advisors, L.P. 200 Crescent Court, Suite 700 Dallas, Texas 75201

RE: Termination of Amended and Restated Shared Services Agreement, dated January 1, 2018, and among Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("<u>HCMLP</u>"), and NexPoint Advisors, L.P. (the "<u>Agreement</u>").

To Whom It May Concern:

As set forth in Section 7.01 of the Agreement, the Agreement is terminable at will upon at least 30 days advance written notice.

By this letter, HCMLP is notifying you that it is terminating the Agreement. Such termination will be effective January 31, 2021. HCMLP reserves the right to rescind this notice of termination.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.

/s/ James P. Seery, Jr.

James P. Seery, Jr. Chief Executive Officer Chief Restructuring Officer

Exhibit 2

Clay M. Taylor Bryan C. Assink BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP 420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1000 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 (817) 405-6900 telephone (817) 405-6902 facsimile Email: clay.taylor@bondsellis.com Email: bryan.assink@bondsellis.com

Attorneys for James Dondero

Deborah Deitsch-Perez Michael P. Aigen STINSON LLP 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777 Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 560-2201 telephone (214) 560-2203 facsimile Email: deborah.deitschperez@stinson.com Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com

Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC

Davor Rukavina Julian P. Vasek MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C. 500 N. Akard Street, Suite 3800 Dallas, Texas 75202-2790 (214) 855-7500 telephone (214) 978-4375 facsimile Email: drukavina@munsch.com

Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P.

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

In re:	ş	Case No. 19-34054
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	ş Ş	Chapter 11
Debtor.	ş Ş	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	ş ş	
Plaintiff,	\$ 8	Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj
vs.	\$ \$	
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§ §	
Defendants.	\$ \$	

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., §	
Plaintiff, §	Adv. Proc. No. 21-03004-sgj
vs. \$	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P., §	
Sefendant.	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., §	
Plaintiff, §	
vs. \$	Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005-sgj
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, \$	
Defendants. §	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., §	
Plaintiff, §	
vs. \$	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, §	
Sefendants.	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., §	Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007-sgj
Plaintiff, § vs. 8	
VS. HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, Spafar datata	
Defendants.	

DECLARATION OF NANCY M. DONDERO

I, Nancy Marie Dondero, declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the following is true and correct:

1. I reside in Vero Beach, Florida and am over the age of 21. The following facts are based on my personal knowledge and are all true and correct. I am willing and able to testify about these matters if and when called upon to do so.

2. I have successfully owned and operated my own private investigation services business for over 30 years. I also have an undergraduate college degree from Pennsylvania State University, which included the study of basic business operations and management.

3. I am also the Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("Dugaboy"), and I have held that position since October 2015. A true and correct copy of the document appointing me as Family Trustee is attached to this Declaration as Exhibit A. At the times that the notes discussed below were entered into, Dugaboy owned and represented a majority of the Class A shareholders in Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("Highland Capital"). Jim Dondero is my brother and was, at that time, the President and CEO of Highland Capital. I understood that he was one of the founders of Highland Capital and, through The Dugaboy Investment Trust, a majority interest holder.

4. Jim Dondero told me about his current and previous annual salaries at Highland Capital and explained that he was substantially underpaid as compared to other senior executives in the financial services industry. He told me that his annual salary from Highland Capital had been around \$500,000 to \$700,000 during the preceding several years. I had no reason to doubt the accuracy of what he told me about his compensation from Highland Capital or how that compared unfavorably to the compensation of others in similar positions with other companies in

ACTIVE 48197723v1

the industry.

5. Jim Dondero also advised me that he and certain of his affiliated companies had, on several occasions between 2013 and 2019, borrowed money from Highland Capital and had issued demand and term promissory notes in favor of Highland Capital regarding those loans. He proposed that Highland Capital enter into an agreement with him and the other borrowers to forgive the Notes upon the occurrence of certain conditions subsequent, as a form of additional contingent compensation to him.

6. In either December of 2017 or January of 2018, I caused Dugaboy (solely in my capacity as Dugaboy's Family Trustee) to cause Highland Capital to enter into the first of a series of verbal agreements with Jim Dondero that provided that the repayment obligation on the notes made in 2017 involved in this litigation would be forgiven if Highland Capital sold any of Trussway, Cornerstone, or MGM for a price greater than its cost, or if any of those portfolio companies were sold in a circumstance that was outside of Jim Dondero's control. I fully understood the implications and terms of this Agreement.

7. At either the end of 2018 or the beginning of 2019, Jim Dondero and I later entered into the same Agreement to apply to subsequent notes that were issued by him or one of his affiliated companies to Highland Capital in 2018. I also fully understood the implications and terms of this Agreement.

8. At either the end of 2019 or the beginning of 2020, Jim Dondero and I again entered into the same agreement to cover and apply to the notes at issue in this litigation that were issued in 2019. All the Notes referenced herein are collectively referred to as the "Notes," and the agreements between Highland Capital and Jim regarding all of the Notes are collectively referred to herein as the "Agreements." I also fully understood the implications and terms of these

ACTIVE 48197723v1

Agreements. The Notes are as follows:

- A demand note executed on February 2, 2018, between Highland Capital and Jim Dondero in the amount of \$3,825,000.¹
- ii. A demand note executed on August 1, 2018, between Highland Capital and Jim Dondero in the amount of \$2,500,000.²
- iii. A demand note executed on August 13, 2018, between Highland Capital and Jim Dondero in the amount of \$2,500,000.³
- iv. A demand note executed on March 28, 2018, between Highland Capital and Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("HCMS") in the amount of \$150,000.⁴
- v. A demand note executed on June 25, 2018, between Highland Capital and HCMS in the amount of \$200,000.⁵
- vi. A demand note executed on May 29, 2019, between Highland Capital and HCMS in the amount of \$400,000.⁶
- vii. A demand note executed on June 26, 2019, between Highland Capital and HCMS in the amount of \$150,000.⁷
- viii. A demand note executed on October 12, 2017, between Highland Capital and HCRE Partners, LLC ("HCRE") in the amount of \$2,500,000.⁸
- ix. A demand note executed on October 15, 2018, between Highland Capital and

¹ Pl. Appx. 00678-679.

² Pl. Appx. 00681-682.

³ Pl. Appx. 00684-685.

⁴ Pl. Appx. 00118-119.

⁵ Pl. Appx. 00121-122.

⁶ Pl. Appx. 00124-125.

⁷ Pl. Appx. 00127-128.

⁸ Pl. Appx. 00205-206.

ACTIVE 48197723v1

HCRE in the amount of \$750,000.⁹

- x. A demand note executed on September 25, 2019, between Highland Capital and HCRE in the amount of \$900,000.¹⁰
- xi. A term note executed on May 31, 2017, between Highland Capital and NexPoint Advisors, L.P. ("NexPoint"), in the amount of \$30,746,812.33.¹¹
- Xii. A term note executed on May 31, 2017, between Highland Capital and HCMS in the amount of \$20,247,628.02.¹²
- xiii. A term note executed on May 31, 2017, between Highland Capital and HCRE in the amount of \$6,059,831.51.¹³

9. At the time I caused Highland Capital to enter into each of the Agreements, I knew that Highland Capital was a hedge fund and that its general partner was Strand Advisors, Inc. I also knew that Highland Capital owned an interest in each of Cornerstone, MGM, and Trussway, the portfolio companies that were involved in the Agreements. I also knew that Highland Capital's business included buying and selling portfolio companies at a profit. I also knew and believed that Jim would be the person most involved in, and responsible for, the marketing and eventual sale of Cornerstone, MGM, and Trussway by Highland Capital. I also knew and believed that executives in the financial services industry tend to be paid more when the companies they work for perform better.

10. The Agreements had two primary purposes, both of which would benefit Highland Capital's performance and reputation. First, the Agreements would provide additional incentive

⁹ Pl. Appx. 00208-209.

¹⁰ Pl. Appx. 00211-212.

¹¹ Pl. Appx. 00042-43.

¹² Pl. Appx. 00134-135.

¹³ Pl. Appx. 00218-219.

ACTIVE 48197723v1

and motivation to Jim Dondero to attempt to maximize the value and return to Highland Capital on Trussway, Cornerstone, and MGM, and to remain in Plaintiff's employment. Second, the Agreements would allow Highland Capital to contingently increase Jim Dondero's compensation without requiring additional cash or salary to be paid to him and the consequential effect of such an increase on Highland Capital's financial position.

11. At the time I caused Highland Capital to enter into each of the Agreements, I did not know every detail about every aspect of Highland Capital's business or the Notes. However, I did have all of the facts and information I considered necessary, appropriate, and reasonable for my decision (solely in my capacity as Dugaboy's Family Trustee) to cause Highland Capital to enter into each of the Agreements. I do not believe that Highland Capital, Dugaboy, or I were deceived or mislead in any manner by Jim Dondero or anyone else regarding the Notes or any of the Agreements.

12. At the time I caused Highland to enter into each of the Agreements, I appreciated the effect of what I was doing and I understood the nature and consequences of those acts. I was not mentally incompetent, under a legal guardianship, intoxicated, or under any other mental impairment.

13. At the time I caused Highland Capital to enter into each of the Agreements, I believed I had the authority, as the Dugaboy Family Trustee, to cause Dugaboy to cause Highland Capital to enter into the Agreements. I also intended, believed, and expected that each of the Agreements would be a binding and enforceable agreement between Highland Capital and Jim Dondero.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on January 20, 2022.

Sondero Nancy M. Dondero

ACTIVE 48197723v1

CORE/3522697.0002/172086958.3

Exhibit A

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST James D. Dondero, Primary Beneficiary

October 12, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, James D. Dondero, am writing to inform you that on October 12, 2015, I received notice from Grant James Scott that he will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "**Trust**") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust.

Pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee from Grant James Scott, I appoint Nancy Marie Dondero as the successor Family Trustee of the Trust.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.2 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with notice of my appointment of a successor Family Trustee.

Very truly yours

James D. Dondero

App. 87 DEFENDANT 000037

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST Grant James Scott, Family Trustee

October 12, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, Grant James Scott, am writing to inform you that as of October 12, 2015, I will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "**Trust**") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.1 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with written notice of my resignation.

Very truly yours, Grant James Scott

RESIGNATION OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, GRANT JAMES SCOTT, do hereby acknowledge that I voluntarily tender my resignation as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust pursuant to that Trust Agreement, dated November 15, 2010 by, between and among Dana Scott Breault, as Settlor, and Common Wealth Trust Company, as Administrative Trustee.

This resignation shall take effect immediately upon the execution hereof and delivery of a written acknowledged instrument wherein NANCY MARIE DONDERO accepts the trust and the position of Family Trustee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby sign my Resignation as Family Trustee of the above trust.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

Family rustee

10/12/2015 Date

STATE OF TEXAS § COUNTY OF DALLAS 8

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared GRANT JAMES SCOTT known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this $14^{\mu\nu}$ day of October, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires January 15, 2019

[SEAL]

Expiration: Januar

Notary Public's Signature

App. 89 DEFENDANT 000039

ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, NANCY MARIE DONDERO, appointed as Family Trustee under Article V, Section 5.2(a)(i) of The Dugaboy Investment Trust, dated November 15, 2010 (the "Trust"), hereby acknowledge and accept the position of Family Trustee of the Trust and hereby agree to faithfully perform all the duties and adopt all of the obligations imposed.

Signed this 13^{th} day of October, 2015.

Family Trustee

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF DALLAS §

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared **NANCY MARIE DONDERO** known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 14 day of October, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires January 15, 2019 [SEAL]

Notary Public's Signature

Expiration: Anuary 15, 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DELIVERY

I, JAMES D. DONDERO, acknowledge that this Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee by NANCY MARIE DONDERO was delivered to and received by me on October __, 2015.

James D. Dondero

Exhibit 3

Clay M. Taylor Bryan C. Assink BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP 420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1000 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 (817) 405-6900 telephone (817) 405-6902 facsimile Email: clay.taylor@bondsellis.com Email: bryan.assink@bondsellis.com

Attorneys for James Dondero

Deborah Deitsch-Perez Michael P. Aigen STINSON LLP 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777 Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 560-2201 telephone (214) 560-2203 facsimile Email: deborah.deitschperez@stinson.com Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com

Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and HCRE Partners, LLC

Davor Rukavina Julian P. Vasek MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C. 500 N. Akard Street, Suite 3800 Dallas, Texas 75202-2790 (214) 855-7500 telephone (214) 978-4375 facsimile Email: drukavina@munsch.com

Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P.

FOR THE NORTHERN	DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS	DIVISION
In re:	§ Case No. 19-34054
	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ Chapter 11
	Ş
Debtor.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	Ş
IIIOIILAND CAI ITAL MANAGEMENT, L.I.,	Ş
Dlaintiff	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj
Plaintiff,	§
	§
VS.	Ş
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND	\$
THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§
THE DUGADOT INVESTMENT IKUSI,	§
Defendants.	§

IN THE UNITED STATES DANZDUDTCV COUDT

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$ \$
Plaintiff,	\$ \$
vs.	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005-sgj §
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$ \$
Plaintiff,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006-sgj
vs.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	\$ \$
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007-sgj
Plaintiff, vs.	\$ \$
	§
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	\$ 8

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL P. AIGEN IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Michael P. Aigen, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(a), under penalty of perjury, declares as follows:

1. I am a member of the law firm of Stinson LLP, counsel to Defendant James

Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and HCRE Partners, LLC n/k/a NexPoint

Real Estate Partners, LLC, and I submit this Declaration in support of the Defendants' Opposition

to Plaintiff Highland Capital Management, L.P.'s Motion for Partial Summary Judgment, which

is being filed concurrently with this Declaration. I submit this Declaration based on my personal knowledge and the documents listed below.

2. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of the Transcript of the Video Deposition of James P. Seery, Jr. taken on October 21, 2021 in Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005.

3. Attached as **Exhibit** B is a true and correct copy of the Transcript of the Remote Deposition of Bruce McGovern taken on November 9, 2021 in Adv. Proc. No 21-03003.

4. Attached as **Exhibit C** is a true and correct copy of a List of Promissory Notes, bates labeled DEFENDANTS-0000434, that was used by Mr. Dondero at his deposition and produced to Plaintiff.

5. Attached as **Exhibit D** is a true and correct copy of an email from F. Waterhouse to K. Hendrix, dated November 25, 2020.

6. Attached as **Exhibit E** is a true and correct copy of an email from F. Waterhouse to K. Hendrix, dated December 31, 2020.

Attached as Exhibit F is a true and correct copy of the Expert Report of Steven J.
 Pully, dated December 10, 2021.

8. Attached as **Exhibit G** is a true and correct copy of the Expert Report of Alan M. Johnson, dated May 28, 2021.

Attached as Exhibit H is a true and correct copy of Highland Capital Management,
 L.P.'s Responses and Objections to Defendants' Joint Discovery Requests, dated September 27,
 2021.

Dated: January 20, 2022

/s/Michael P. Aigen Michael P. Aigen

Exhibit A

Page 1 1 2 IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS 3 DALLAS DIVISION 4 In re:)) Chapter 11 HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.) Case No. 5) 19-34054-sqj11 6 Debtor.) -----7 HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.) 8 Plaintiff, 9) Adversary -vs-10) Proceeding No. NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES) 21-03005-sgj DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE) 11 DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,) 12) Defendants.) 13 _____ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ 14 15 VIDEO DEPOSITION OF JAMES P. SEERY, JR. 16 17 New York, New York Thursday, October 21, 2021 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 Reported by: MARIANNE WITKOWSKI-SMITH 25 JOB NO. 201192

Case 21-03005-sgj Doc 157 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:18:05 Page 103 of 305

		Page 2		Page 3
1		1		
2		2	APPEARANCES:	
3		4		
4	October 21, 2021	5	PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES	
		6	Attorneys for Highland Capital Management LP	
5	2:02 p.m.	7	and the Witness	
6			780 Third Avenue	
7		8		
8	Video Deposition of JAMES P. SEERY, JR.,		New York, New York 10017	
9	individually and on behalf of HIGHLAND CAPITAL	9		
		10	BY: JOHN MORRIS, ESQ.	
10	MANAGEMENT LP, held at the offices of Pachulski	10	GREGORY DEMO, ESQ.	
11	Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 780 Third Avenue, New	11		
12	York, New York, before Marianne Witkowski-Smith,	1.0	HAYLEY WINOGRAD, ESQ.	
13	a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public of the	12		
14	State of New York.	14		
15			MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR	
		15		
16		16	Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors LP	
17		10	500 North Akard Street	
18		17		
19			Dallas, Texas 75201	
20		18	BY: DAVOR RUKAVINA, ESQ.	
		19	BI. BAVOR RORAVINA, ESQ.	
21			THOMAS BERGHMAN, ESQ.	
22		20		
23		21		
24		23		
25		24		
		25	(Continued on Next Page)	
		Page 4		Page 5
1		1	J. Seery	
2	APPEARANCES (Cont'd):	-	-	
2 3	APPEARANCES (Cont'd):	1	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the	
2	APPEARANCES (Cont'd): STINSON	1 2 3	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the	
2 3 4		1 2 3 4	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P.	
2 3 4 5 6	STINSON	1 2 3	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland	
2 3 4 5	STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS	1 2 3 4	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P.	
2 3 4 5 6 7	STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero,	1 2 3 4 5	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint	
2 3 4 5 6	STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS	1 2 3 4 5 6	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the	
2 3 4 5 6 7	STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m.	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue Dallas, Texas 75219 BY: DEBORAH DEITSCH-PEREZ, ESQ.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue Dallas, Texas 75219	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG Reporting Inc. The court reporter is	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue Dallas, Texas 75219 BY: DEBORAH DEITSCH-PEREZ, ESQ.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG Reporting Inc. The court reporter is	
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	<pre>STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS</pre>	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG Reporting Inc. The court reporter is Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP.	
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	<pre>STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS</pre>	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG Reporting Inc. The court reporter is Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP. MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl &	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	<pre>STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS</pre>	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG Reporting Inc. The court reporter is Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP. MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, on behalf of Capital Highland	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	<pre>STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS</pre>	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG Reporting Inc. The court reporter is Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP. MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, on behalf of Capital Highland Capital Management LP, and I'm	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	<pre>STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue Dallas, Texas 75219 BY: DEBORAH DEITSCH-PEREZ, ESQ. MICHAEL AIGEN, ESQ. HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust 650 Poydras Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70130 BY: WARREN HORN, ESQ.</pre>	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG Reporting Inc. The court reporter is Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP. MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, on behalf of Capital Highland Capital Management LP, and I'm	
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	<pre>STINSON Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE, HCMS 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue Dallas, Texas 75219 BY: DEBORAH DEITSCH-PEREZ, ESQ. MICHAEL AIGEN, ESQ. HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust 650 Poydras Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70130 BY: WARREN HORN, ESQ.</pre>	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This is the start of Media Label No. 1 in the video-recorded deposition of James P. Seery Jr., in the matter of Highland Capital Management LP vs. NexPoint Advisors LP, et al., on October the 21st, 2021, at approximately 2:02 p.m. My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the certified legal videographer from TSG Reporting Inc. The court reporter is Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP. MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, on behalf of Capital Highland Capital Management LP, and I'm representing the witness, James P. Seery, Jr., today.	

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	Page 6		Page 7
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Deborah Deitsch-Perez from Stinson LLP.	2	laptop in front of you because this is being
3	I'm on with my partner, Michael Aigen,	3	done remotely as well, but you're not
4	also from Stinson. We're representing	4	reviewing any material or taking any
5	James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE and	5	information or texts or emails like that, are
6	HCMS.	6	you?
7	MR. HORN: Warren Horn	7	A. No.
8	[inaudible].	8	Q. Okay. It's fair to say you've
9	(Reporter clarification.)	9	been
10	MR. HORN: Warren Horn, H-O-R-N,	10	A. I I have a phone in front of me,
11	with Heller, Draper & Horn,	11	but I don't intend to use it.
12	representing The Dugaboy Investment	12	Q. Okay. Fair to say that you've been
13	Trust.	13	deposed before?
14	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Will the court	14	A. I have.
15	reporter please swear in the witness.	15	Q. Approximately how many times?
16	JAMES P. SEERY, JR.,	16	A. More more than twenty-five.
17	the witness herein, was thereupon duly	17	Q. Okay. And quite a number in this
18	sworn by the Notary Public and was	18	case as well, correct?
19	examined and testified as follows:	19	A. More than probably more than
20	EXAMINATION	20	fifteen.
21	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	21	Q. Okay. The only thing I'd ask -
22	Q. Sir, good afternoon.	22	you're you're a veteran - is I have an
23	State your name, please.	23	accent and sometimes I talk fast, so don't
24	A. James P. Seery, Jr.	24	don't hesitate to tell me that you didn't
25	Q. And just so we're clear, you have a	25	understand or ask me to rephrase, please.
23	2. And Just so we it creat, you have a	23	understand of ask me to replicate, prease.
1	Page 8 J. Seery	1	Page 9 J. Seery
2	Please don't hesitate to do that.	2	A. I believe I have, yes.
3	A. Thank you.	3	Q. Okay. And are you familiar with
4	Q. Sir, just for the record, where do	4	the topics I've designated in here?
5	you live?	5	MR. MORRIS: I think this is
6	A. I live in New York City, Upper West	6	missing a page.
7	Side.	7	THE WITNESS: Going to 1 to 2
8	Q. Do you have any real estate or	8	to
9	property that where you live periodically	9	MR. MORRIS: The topics aren't in
10	in the State of Texas?	10	this version.
11	A. No.	11	MR. RUKAVINA: Oh, I gave you the
12 13	Q. Okay. Other than your work for Highland here, do you have any business	12 13	wrong one; I apologize (Simultaneous speaking.)
		14	
14 15	calling that takes you to the State of Texas on a regular basis?	14	MR. RUKAVINA: I apologize, I apologize. Sir, that that's the one
15	-	15	that, that that Notices you
17	MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. We'll mark	17	personally here today. Let me try
18	as Exhibit 1 the Notice of 30(b)(6).	18	again, and and Exhibit 2 will be the
19	(Brief off-record discussion.)	19 20	30(b)(6).
	(Exhibit 1 Matica of		(Exhibit 2, Notice of
20	(Exhibit 1, Notice of		
20 21	Deposition/Seery, marked for	21	Deposition/30(b)(6), marked for
20 21 22	Deposition/Seery, marked for identification, as of this date.)	21 22	Deposition/30(b)(6), marked for identification, as of this date.)
20 21 22 23	Deposition/Seery, marked for identification, as of this date.) Q. Mr. Seery, you've been handed	21 22 23	Deposition/30(b)(6), marked for identification, as of this date.) Q. Sir, have you seen Exhibit 2
20 21 22 23 24	Deposition/Seery, marked for identification, as of this date.) Q. Mr. Seery, you've been handed Exhibit 1.	21 22 23 24	Deposition/30(b)(6), marked for identification, as of this date.) Q. Sir, have you seen Exhibit 2 before?
20 21 22 23	Deposition/Seery, marked for identification, as of this date.) Q. Mr. Seery, you've been handed	21 22 23	Deposition/30(b)(6), marked for identification, as of this date.) Q. Sir, have you seen Exhibit 2

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Page 10J. Seery1J. Seery2Q. Okay. And subject to your2A. 1990.3counsel's objections, which he sent to me by3Q. Okay. And what states have yo4email, are you prepared to testify on the4been licensed in as a lawyer?5topics that are designated in here today?5A. New York and Connecticut.6A. Yes.6Q. Are you currently licensed as7Q. Okay. And have you reasonably7lawyer?8informed yourself on those topics prior to8A. I believe I am.9sitting here today?9Q. Okay. Have you ever faced any10A. Yes.10disciplinary proceedings as a lawyer?11Q. Okay. Now, some background, and we11A. No.12Q. Mat is your educational13can you give us a brief recitation of14background?14your relevant experience in administerin15A. I have a BA in history. I have a16A. Administering, I I've been17of courses.17involved or been an active player - eith18Q. And what university or college is18a lawyer, senior lawyer, investor, and i19your history BA from?19this case an independent director and CR20A. Colgate University.20in really my entire career, so I would st21Q. Okay. And what university is your21hundreds.22Q. Okay. Do you consider yoursel23expert on bankruptcy law?	es, of
3counsel's objections, which he sent to me by 4 email, are you prepared to testify on the 53Q. Okay. And what states have you 	es, of
4email, are you prepared to testify on the topics that are designated in here today?4been licensed in as a lawyer?5topics that are designated in here today?5A. New York and Connecticut.6A. Yes.6Q. Are you currently licensed as7Q. Okay. And have you reasonably7lawyer?8informed yourself on those topics prior to8A. I believe I am.9sitting here today?9Q. Okay. Have you ever faced any10A. Yes.10disciplinary proceedings as a lawyer?11Q. Okay. Now, some background, and we11A. No.12don't need to go into excruciating detail.12Q. With respect to bankruptcy cas13What is your educational13can you give us a brief recitation of14background?14your relevant experience in administerin15A. I have a BA in history. I have a16A. Administering, I I've been17of courses.17involved or been an active player - eith18Q. And what university or college is18a lawyer, senior lawyer, investor, and i19your history BA from?19this case an independent director and CR20A. Colgate University.20in really my entire career, so I would st21Q. Okay. And what university is your22Q. Okay. Do you consider yoursel	es, of
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6A. Yes.6Q. Are you currently licensed as7Q. Okay. And have you reasonably7lawyer?8informed yourself on those topics prior to8A. I believe I am.9sitting here today?9Q. Okay. Have you ever faced any10A. Yes.10disciplinary proceedings as a lawyer?11Q. Okay. Now, some background, and we11A. No.12don't need to go into excruciating detail.12Q. With respect to bankruptcy cas13What is your educational13can you give us a brief recitation of14background?14your relevant experience in administerin15A. I have a BA in history. I have a16A. Administering, I I've been17of courses.17involved or been an active player - eith18Q. And what university or college is18a lawyer, senior lawyer, investor, and i19your history BA from?19this case an independent director and CR20A. Colgate University.20in really my entire career, so I would se21Q. Okay. And what university is your21hundreds.22JD from?22Q. Okay. Do you consider yoursel	es, of
7Q.Okay. And have you reasonably7lawyer?8informed yourself on those topics prior to8A.I believe I am.9sitting here today?9Q.Okay. Have you ever faced any10A.Yes.10disciplinary proceedings as a lawyer?11Q.Okay. Now, some background, and we11A.No.12don't need to go into excruciating detail.12Q.With respect to bankruptcy cas13What is your educational13can you give us a brief recitation of14background?14your relevant experience in administerin15A.I have a BA in history. I have a15Chapter 11 or other bankruptcy estates?16law degree, JD. And I've taken lots and lots16A.Administering, I I've been17of courses.17involved or been an active player - eith18Q.And what university or college is18a lawyer, senior lawyer, investor, and in19your history BA from?19this case an independent director and CR20A.Colgate University.20in really my entire career, so I would st21Q.Okay. And what university is your21hundreds.22JD from?22Q.Okay. Do you consider yoursel	es, of
 8 informed yourself on those topics prior to 9 sitting here today? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. Okay. Now, some background, and we 12 don't need to go into excruciating detail. 13 What is your educational 14 background? 15 A. I have a BA in history. I have a 16 law degree, JD. And I've taken lots and lots 17 of courses. 18 Q. And what university or college is 19 your history BA from? 20 Okay. And what university is your 21 Q. Okay. And what university is your 22 JD from? 8 A. I believe I am. 9 Q. Okay. Have you ever faced any 9 Q. Okay. Have you ever faced any 10 disciplinary proceedings as a lawyer? 11 A. No. 12 Q. With respect to bankruptcy cas 13 can you give us a brief recitation of 14 background? 14 your relevant experience in administering 15 A. I have a BA in history. I have a 16 A. Administering, I I've been 17 of courses. 18 Q. And what university or college is 19 this case an independent director and CR 20 A. Colgate University. 21 Q. Okay. And what university is your 22 Q. Okay. Do you consider yoursel 	es, of
9sitting here today?9Q. Okay. Have you ever faced any10A. Yes.10disciplinary proceedings as a lawyer?11Q. Okay. Now, some background, and we11A. No.12don't need to go into excruciating detail.12Q. With respect to bankruptcy cas13What is your educational13can you give us a brief recitation of14background?14your relevant experience in administering15A. I have a BA in history. I have a16A. Administering, I I've been17of courses.17involved or been an active player - eith18Q. And what university or college is18a lawyer, senior lawyer, investor, and i19your history BA from?19this case an independent director and CR20A. Colgate University.20in really my entire career, so I would st21Q. Okay. And what university is your22Q. Okay. Do you consider yoursel	es, of
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20A.Colgate University.20in really my entire career, so I would s21Q.Okay. And what university is your21hundreds.22JD from?22Q.Okay. Do you consider yoursel	n
21Q.Okay. And what university is your21hundreds.22JD from?22Q.Okay. Do you consider yoursel	- C
22 JD from? 22 Q. Okay. Do you consider yoursel	ау
23 A. New York Law School. 23 expert on bankruptcy law?	E an
24 Q. And when did you graduate New York 24 A. I'm pretty good.	
25 Law School and get your JD? 25 Q. Okay. And with respect to the	
Page 12	Page 13
1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery	5
2 Highland Capital Management LP bankruptcy 2 were the three of you independent direct	ors
3 case, obviously the plan has been confirmed 3 since January 9, 2020, until the plan be	came
4 and it's gone effective. 4 effective?	
5 Before the plan went effective, 5 A. That's correct.	
6 what was your role with the debtor? 6 Q. Were there any other people wh	Σ,
7 A. I was an independent director, and 7 during that time frame, were ever indepe	ndent
8 subsequently I was appointed as the CRO and 8 directors?	
9 CEO of Highland. 9 A. No.	
9CEO of Highland.9A.No.10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay.And, sir, when did you	
10 Q. And approximately when did you 10 Q. Okay. And, sir, when did you	
10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay.And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?	was
10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay.And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?12A.January 9, 2020.12A.In July of 2020.	
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10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay. And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?12A.January 9, 2020.12A.In July of 2020.13Q.And just to be clear, what entity13Q.Okay. Prior to July of 2020,14were you an independent director of?14your role with Highland and Strand solel15A.I was an independent director of15that of an independent director?	7
10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay. And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?12A.January 9, 2020.12A.In July of 2020.13Q.And just to be clear, what entity13Q.Okay. Prior to July of 2020.14were you an independent director of?14your role with Highland and Strand solel15A.I was an independent director of15that of an independent director?16Strand Advisors, which was the GP of Highland16A.It it was. I effectively weight	7
10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay. And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?12A.January 9, 2020.12A.In July of 2020.13Q.And just to be clear, what entity13Q.Okay. Prior to July of 2020.14were you an independent director of?14your role with Highland and Strand solel15A.I was an independent director of15that of an independent director?16Strand Advisors, which was the GP of Highland16A.It it was. I effectively w17Capital Management LP and had control of17guess, probably the lead independent	7
10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay. And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?12A.January 9, 2020.12A.In July of 2020.13Q.And just to be clear, what entity13Q.Okay. Prior to July of 2020,14were you an independent director of?14your role with Highland and Strand solel15A.I was an independent director of15that of an independent director?16Strand Advisors, which was the GP of Highland16A.It it was. I effectively w17Capital Management LP and had control of17guess, probably the lead independent18Highland Capital Management LP, which became18director, just spent the most time I	Y as, I
10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay. And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?12A.January 9, 2020.12A.In July of 2020.13Q.And just to be clear, what entity13Q.Okay. Prior to July of 2020,14were you an independent director of?14your role with Highland and Strand solel15A.I was an independent director of15that of an independent director?16Strand Advisors, which was the GP of Highland16A.It it was. I effectively w17Capital Management LP, which became18director, just spent the most time I19the debtor - or was the debtor.19shouldn't say the most time.	Y as, I E
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10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay. And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?12A.January 9, 2020.12A.In July of 2020.13Q.And just to be clear, what entity13Q.Okay. Prior to July of 2020,14were you an independent director of?14your role with Highland and Strand solel15A.I was an independent director of15that of an independent director?16Strand Advisors, which was the GP of Highland16A.It it was. I effectively w17Capital Management LP and had control of17guess, probably the lead independent18Highland Capital Management LP, which became18director, just spent the most time I19the debtor - or was the debtor.19shouldn't say the most time.20Q.And there were two other20I spent a significant amount o21independent directors, correct?21time on it, as did my fellow directors,	Y as, I E
10Q.And approximately when did you10Q.Okay. And, sir, when did you11become an independent director?11become the CEO and/or CRO?12A.January 9, 2020.12A.In July of 2020.13Q.And just to be clear, what entity13Q.Okay. Prior to July of 2020,14were you an independent director of?14your role with Highland and Strand solel15A.I was an independent director of15that of an independent director?16Strand Advisors, which was the GP of Highland16A.It it was. I effectively w17Capital Management LP and had control of17guess, probably the lead independent18Highland Capital Management LP, which became18director, just spent the most time I19the debtor - or was the debtor.19shouldn't say the most time.20Q.And there were two other20I spent a significant amount of21independent directors, correct?21time on it, as did my fellow directors,22A.There were, yes.22spent a significant amount of time.	Y as, I E

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	Page 14		Page 15
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. Okay. And Mr. Duval [ph], what	2	Q. Okay. And you're also a
3	was, just briefly, his background to your	3	post-confirmation trustee, are you not?
4	understanding?	4	A. I am, yes.
5	A. Dubel	5	Q. And what are you the trustee of?
6	Q. I'm sorry, Dubel.	6	A. The Claimant trustee.
7	A and he was a he's a very	7	Q. Okay. And what role does the
8	experienced practitioner in distressed	8	Claimant trustee, if any, have with the
9	corporate management and bankruptcy corporate	9	reorganized debtor?
10	management.	10	A. The Claimant trustee is the
11	Q. Okay. After the bankruptcy plan	11	claimant is the trustee for the Claimant
12	became effective, what happened to the	12	Trust, which holds the limited partnership
13	debtor?	13	units for the reorganized debtor.
14	In other words, as a corporate	14	Q. Okay. And does it also hold any
15	entity, what happened to the debtor?	15	general partnership units for the reorganized
16	A. The debtor was reconstituted with a	16	debtor?
17	new GP and new limited partnership units.	17	A. It holds the ownership interest in
18	Q. Okay. And do you have any role	18	the GP.
19	with respect to authority at the debtor	19	Q. Okay. Is it fair to say that
20	today?	20	that all economic value in the reorganized
21	A. I do.	21	debtor one way or the other inures to the
22	Q. What is your role, sir?	22	benefit of the Claimant Trust under the plan?
23	A. I'm the CEO.	23	A. It does effectively run up to the
24	Q. The I'm sorry, the CEO?	24	Claimant Trust, yes.
25	A. Yes.	25	Q. And is it fair to say that you are
	Page 16		Page 17
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	in charge of the reorganized debtor?	2	Q. Okay. And both Mr. Surgeon I'm
3	A. I'm in charge of the reorganized	3	sorry, Surgent and Mr. Klos were previously
4	debtor and I'm in charge of the Claimant	4	employed with the debtor prior to the
5	Trust, but not all of the value runs through	5	effective date?
6	me directly.	6	A. They were.
7	Q. Because there's also a Litigation	7	Q. Okay. So in July 2020, you
8	Sub-Trust?	8	mentioned you became the CEO and CRO of the
9	A. That's correct, and that doesn't	9	debtor, correct?
10	report to me.	10	A. That's correct.
11	Q. As far, sir let's just limit it	11	Q. Okay. And prior to that well,
12	now to the debtor's post effective date	12	obviously, you know who Mr. James Dondero is,
13	operations.	13	correct?
14	Are you the person in charge of	14	A. I do.
15	those operations?	15	Q. Okay. And part of what happened on
16	A. Yes.	16	January 9, 2020, in summary, was that
17	Q. Okay. Are you and you said that	17	Mr. Dondero, pursuant to his agreement and
18	you're the CEO of the debtor.	18	Court order, was removed from controlling the
19	Are there any other officers,	19	debtor.
20	either at the debtor or its new GP, in	20	Is that a fair summary?
21	either at the debtor of its new GP, in	20	1
	addition to you?	21	A. Certain
22			
	addition to you?	21	A. Certain
22	addition to you? A. Yes.	21 22	A. Certain MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
22 23	addition to you? A. Yes. Q. Who who, sir?	21 22 23	A. Certain MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

	Page 18		Page 19
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	authority, yes.	2	subsequently and later in the year on asset
3	Q. Okay. He stayed on as an employee,	3	sales that were being conducted out of
4	but whatever he did - is it fair to say -	4	certain of the CLOs
5	after January 9, 2020 would be subject to the	5	(Reporter clarification.)
6	new independent board?	6	THE WITNESS: Asset sales I'm
7	A. I don't think that would be fair to	7	sorry, asset sales out of certain of
8	say. I think from a corporate rule	8	the CLOs.
9	perspective it would be. I think he he,	9	So there, there if we take time,
10	subsequently, we learned, did quite a few	10	we can go through dozens.
11	things without	11	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
12	(Reporter clarification.)	12	Q. Well, I get the general gist. And
13	THE WITNESS: Subsequently we	13	is it fair to say that those things that he
14	learned he did quite a few things	14	was doing, amongst others, is why the
15	without oversight by the independent	15	independent board made you the CEO and CRO?
16	board.	16	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
17	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	17	form of the question.
18	Q. Okay. Can you give me an example	18	Q. Let me rephrase the question.
19	of what he did without oversight by the	19	Why, in July first of all, who
20	independent board?	20	made you CEO and CRO in July of 2020?
21	A. He traded traded assets; he	21	A. The independent board approved it
22	managed the Select account on his own; he	22	and then the Court approved it.
23	didn't meet margins calls at direction that	23	Q. And you were on that independent
24	the that the board, independent board, had	24	board, so you were one of the people that
25	said to to meet; he tried to overrule me	25	approved it?
			GFF10700 101
1	Page 20 J. Seery	1	Page 21 J. Seery
	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2	A. He was
3	form of the question.	3	MR. MORRIS: and I just I
4	A. No, I would have abstained.	4	just want to note that I, I I don't
5	0. I apologize.	5	see how this is connected in any way to
6	So the other two board members	6	the issues in the lawsuits.
7	approved it?	7	I'll allow you to ask a few more
8	A. Correct.	8	questions for background purposes, but
9	Q. Okay. Do you have an understanding	9	I I just want to note my concern that
10	as to why they approved you becoming CEO and	10	we're running a little far afield.
11	CRO?	11	But you can answer the question.
12	A. We felt like the organization	12	A. Can you read back the question
13	needed a specific leader and a specific	13	(Simultaneous speaking and
14	direction. Mr. Dondero's activities were	14	reporter interjection.)
15	pulling many of the people in the business	15	Q. Between January 9, 2020 and July
16	multiple ways, and we felt that it was both	16	2020, whenever you became the CEO and CRO,
17	dangerous for the organization and dangerous	17	pursuant to the court approved settlement,
18	for the individuals.	18	what should Mr. Dondero's role at the debtor
19	Q. Okay. Between January 9, 2020 and	19	have been?
20	July 2020, when you became CEO and CRO, what	20	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
20	should have, pursuant to the settlement and	20	form of the question.
	Court agreement, Mr. Dondero's role at the	21	A. I think you have to understand
22			
22		22	the the settlement Mr Donders initially
23	debtor have been?	23 24	the the settlement. Mr. Dondero initially agreed to be removed from all roles at the
23 24	debtor have been? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	24	agreed to be removed from all roles at the
23	debtor have been?		

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1	Page 22 J. Seery	1	Page 23 J. Seery
2	that and wanted to be put back in. I think	2	the independent board expected them to be
3	it probably had to do with with press	3	doing?
4	reports that he didn't like reading. So he	4	A. I think we had we certainly had
5	maintained an unpaid role as the portfolio	5	concerns about that, yes.
6	manager. The portfolio that he really	6	Q. And we'll round this off pretty
7	managed was the Select account.	7	quickly.
8	What he should have done is he	8	Did there come a time when you
9	should have taken direction. He should have	9	asked Mr. Dondero for his resignation?
10	honored the margin calls that that	10	A. There did, yes.
11	Jefferies had made, he should have sold	11	Q. And and did he give it?
12	assets, he should have reported to the board.	12	A. He did, yes.
13	He did none of those things.	13	Q. And do you recall the date?
14	He independently, then, ran	14	A. It was in October of 2020.
15	roughshod over certain parts of the	15	MR. RUKAVINA: I have it in here
16	organization. He should not have done that.	16	somewhere. I'm not sure that it's
17	And it was very difficult, with the existing	17	well, let's just put it in the record,
18	employees, to manage them with Mr. Dondero	18	see if this will refresh your memory.
19	there because they'd worked for him for a	19	This is going to be 3, right?
20	number of years.	20	(Exhibit 3, Email Chain Re:
21	Q. That was going to be my next	21	HCMLP Roles, marked for identification,
22	question.	22	as of this date.)
23	Did you feel, prior to July 2020,	23	(Brief off-record discussion.)
24	that some employees, some key employees, were	24	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
25	basically doing his bidding instead of what	25	Q. Do you recall this email chain,
	Dama 04		Dama OF
1	Page 24 J. Seery	1	Page 25 J. Seery
2	sir?	2	A. That's correct.
3	A. Vague vaguely. I'm I'm	3	Q. Okay. So it it's is it the
4	familiar with it, yes.	4	debtor's contention that NexPoint failed to
5	Q. And does this refresh your memory	5	make a payment due, let's say on or before
6	that Mr. Dondero resigned on October the 9th,	6	December 31, 2020, on this \$30.7 million
7	2020?	7	promissory note?
8	A. I I would say it confirms my	8	A. That's correct.
9	memory since I said it was in October.	9	Q. Okay. And we'll go further in
10	Q. Okay. But can you now confirm that	10	detail, but ultimately, on or about January
11	it was October 9, 2020?	11	7, the debtor sent notice that the note was
12	A. Yes.	12	immediately due and payable, correct?
13	Q. Okay. Thank you. Now, just to put	13	A. That's correct.
14	it in the record here because of Mr. Morris'	14	Q. And did you make that decision to
15	objection, it is and I apologize, we're	15	say that the note is immediately due and
16	going to talk about the debtor's contentions	16	payable?
17	today in this lawsuit against NexPoint.	17	A. I did, yes.
18	Is it okay if I say debtor or you	18	Q. Okay. Thank you. Now and you
19	want me to say reorganized debtor or	19	were aware, when you made that decision,
20	A. Whatever you're more comfortable,	20	that that NexPoint was affiliated to some
21	I'm okay.	21	degree with Mr. Dondero?
22	Q. It is well, the the debtor	22	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
23	the reorganized debtor under the plan,	23	form of the question.
0.4			
24	retained interest in this lawsuit; is that	24	A. Yes, I was.

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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	what is your understanding now - you answer	2	that time as to Mr. Dondero's honesty?
3	it how ever you can - as to what	3	A. I think he's dishonest.
4	Mr. Dondero's role with NexPoint Advisors LP	4	Q. Okay. What opinion did you form as
5	was in December 2020?	5	to his business acumen?
6	A. I believe it was and continues to	6	A. I think it's challenged.
7	be complete ownership control and domination	7	Q. Can you elaborate?
8	of NexPoint Advisors.	8	A. I the Select account we've
9	Q. Between January 9, 2020, when you	9	talked about is a is a great example.
10	became an independent director, and October	10	Shorting Zoom in the pandemic and
11	9, 2020, when Mr. Dondero resigned, did you	11	holding it, shorting Netflix for long periods
12	form an opinion as to Mr. Dondero's honesty?	12	of time, moving money all around without any
13	A. Between which dates?	13	thought of the corporate form, moving money
14	Q. January 9 and October 9, 2020.	14	in and out of different entities.
15	A. January 9 and October yes.	15	The litigations that he was
16	Q. Yes.	16	involved in; Acis alone he could have settled
17	And did you form an opinion as to	17	for \$2 million and probably burned nearly
18	his business acumen?	18	\$200 million of value.
19	A. To some degree, yes.	19	So those are just beginning
20	Q. Okay. Did you form an opinion as	20	examples.
20	to his management skills?	20	Q. Given the opinions that you formed
22	A. Yes.	22	as to Mr. Dondero, did you believe that
23		23	that's also how he was running NexPoint at
23	Q. Okay. What was your opinion with pardon me, strike that.	23	that ime in late 2020?
25	What opinion did you form during	25	A. I didn't make any judgments about
1	Page 28 J. Seery	1	Page 29
	-		J. Seery
2	NexPoint.	2	(Simultaneous speaking.)
2 3	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with	2 3	(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context.
2 3 4	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or	2 3 4	(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.)
2 3 4 5	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency?	2 3 4 5	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry.</pre>
2 3 4 5 6	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes.	2 3 4 5 6	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or	2 3 4 5 6 7	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context,</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets?</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay. A. Yes.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets? A. That is one definition of</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay. A. Yes. Q. Can you tell me how you understand	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets? A. That is one definition of insolvency.</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	<pre>NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay. A. Yes. Q. Can you tell me how you understand solvency to be.</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets? A. That is one definition of insolvency. Q. And you agree with me that another</pre>
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	<pre>NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay. A. Yes. Q. Can you tell me how you understand solvency to be. A. In which context? Q. Well, under the Bankruptcy Code.</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets? A. That is one definition of insolvency. Q. And you agree with me that another definition is when you're basically unable to pay your debts as they become due?</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	<pre>NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay. A. Yes. Q. Can you tell me how you understand solvency to be. A. In which context? Q. Well, under the Bankruptcy Code. A. There's no</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets? A. That is one definition of insolvency. Q. And you agree with me that another definition is when you're basically unable to pay your debts as they become due? A. That's another definition.</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	<pre>NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay. A. Yes. Q. Can you tell me how you understand solvency to be. A. In which context? Q. Well, under the Bankruptcy Code. A. There's no MR. MORRIS: Objection to the</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets? A. That is one definition of insolvency. Q. And you agree with me that another definition is when you're basically unable to pay your debts as they become due? A. That's another definition. Q. Okay. And I'm going to ask you,</pre>
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay. A. Yes. Q. Can you tell me how you understand solvency to be. A. In which context? Q. Well, under the Bankruptcy Code. A. There's no MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. There's no definition of solvency in the bankruptcy code. Q. Sir, there is. MR. MORRIS: Well	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets? A. That is one definition of insolvency. Q. And you agree with me that another definition is when you're basically unable to pay your debts as they become due? A. That's another definition. Q. Okay. And I'm going to ask you, when you became or after you became an independent director on January 9, 2020, did you form an opinion as to the debtor's solvency? A. On January 9?</pre>
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	NexPoint. Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or insolvency? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or more metrics or definitions A. Yes. Q for solvency okay. A. Yes. Q. Can you tell me how you understand solvency to be. A. In which context? Q. Well, under the Bankruptcy Code. A. There's no MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. There's no definition of solvency in the bankruptcy code. Q. Sir, there is. MR. MORRIS: Well A. Failure to pay debts as they come 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<pre>(Simultaneous speaking.) A depends on the context. (Reporter interjection.) Q. I'm sorry. So you agree with me you agree with me, again, depending on the context, that one definition of insolvency is balance sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed your assets? A. That is one definition of insolvency. Q. And you agree with me that another definition is when you're basically unable to pay your debts as they become due? A. That's another definition. Q. Okay. And I'm going to ask you, when you became or after you became an independent director on January 9, 2020, did you form an opinion as to the debtor's solvency? A. On January 9? Q. Well, or after that after,</pre>

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	Page 30		Page 31
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q January 9, 2020.	2	Q. Okay.
3	A. It's a it's a long period. So	3	A. I think early in the case, as I
4	if you want to break it down	4	said, I didn't form any opinion as to
5	Q. Yeah.	5	solvency.
6	A in the early part of the case I	6	Q. But at some point did you form an
7	did not form an opinion as to solvency.	7	opinion as to solvency?
8	I had to determine what the asset	8	A. Yeah, I don't know exactly when it
9	values were and what the what the claims	9	was, but at at some point it became clear
10	were.	10	to me that the claims exceeded the asset
11	Q. Did you ever form an opinion and	11	value.
12	the reason why I'm I want to separate the	12	Q. So is it fair to say that at some
13	debtor from the reorganized debtor. That's	13	point you concluded that the debtor was
14	why I'm trying to be sensitive on the dates.	14	insolvent based on the balance sheet test?
15	So I'm going to say debtor. Did	15	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
16	you ever form an opinion as to the debtor's	16	form of the question.
17	solvency?	17	A. Certainly on on the balance
18	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	18	sheet test, yeah.
19	form of the question.	19	Q. What about on the inability to pay
20	A. That's that's what I answered.	20	debts as they become due; did you ever form
21	Q. So you did?	21	an opinion on that test?
22	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	22	A. Well, it was in bankruptcy, so that
23	form of the question.	23	had already been met.
24	A. The the debtor's solvency	24	Q. Okay. Did you ever form an opinion
25	depends on when.	25	or have one provided by non-lawyers to you as
	Page 32		Page 33
1	Page 32 J. Seery	1	Page 33 J. Seery
1 2	-	1 2	
	J. Seery to whether the debtor was insolvent prior to		J. Seery MR. RUKAVINA: With due respect,
2	J. Seery to whether the debtor was insolvent prior to the petition date?	2	J. Seery MR. RUKAVINA: With due respect, John, you've sued my client for
2 3	J. Seery to whether the debtor was insolvent prior to the petition date? A. Did I, I I do now.	2 3	J. Seery MR. RUKAVINA: With due respect, John, you've sued my client for fraudulent transfer. That requires
2 3 4	J. Seery to whether the debtor was insolvent prior to the petition date? A. Did I, I I do now. Q. Okay. What is your opinion?	2 3 4	J. Seery MR. RUKAVINA: With due respect, John, you've sued my client for fraudulent transfer. That requires insolvency as an element. I'm entitled
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	fraudulent transfer.	2	A. I I think both. I think you'd
3	MR. RUKAVINA: Yes.	3	have to go through each, but when you
4	MR. MORRIS: Solvency is not an	4	properly look at the balance sheet and you
5	issue. Solvency is not an issue. We	5	add the contingent liabilities, it was pretty
6	have no burden of proving solvency.	6	clear that the debtor didn't have the the
7	It's only that's exactly why we	7	wherewithal from the balance sheet
8	didn't put constructive fraudulent	8	perspective to satisfy those ultimate
9	transfer in the complaint, so we	9	liabilities.
10	wouldn't do this.	10	In addition, the debtor continually
11	MR. RUKAVINA: We can we can	11	borrowed money when it needed it. The debtor
12	debate the law on that, but I think	12	was was always on a very tight leash with
13	I think you have answered it.	13	respect to liquidity, as money kept getting
14	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	14	sucked out at different times.
15	Q. To your view, the debtor was	15	Q. Okay. After October 9, 2020, when
16	insolvent certainly as of 2016?	16	Mr. Dondero resigned, should Mr. Dondero have
17	A. Yeah.	17	had any ability to instruct the debtor's
18	Q. Okay. And I asked you, and before	18	employees as to what to do, if that question
19	counsel objected, what definition or, or	19	makes sense?
20	or both definitions were you using when you	20	MR. MORRIS: Yeah, objection to
21	told me that the debtor was insolvent in	21	the form of the question.
22	2019, 2018, 2017 and 2016?	22	A. The the answer is with
23	A. I think	23	respect he was permitted, I believe, after
24	MR. MORRIS: Object to the form	24	the the dates will get a little bit
25	of the question.	25	confusing, but with respect to the shared
1	Page 36 J. Seery	1	Page 37 J. Seery
-	0. 50017		
2	services, he could make certain direction to		-
2	services, he could make certain direction to the employees and even after the contempt	2	but yes, right around there.
3	the employees and even after the contempt	2 3	but yes, right around there. Q. Okay. Was he the chief financial
3 4	the employees and even after the contempt finding could make certain directions with	2 3 4	but yes, right around there. Q. Okay. Was he the chief financial officer of the debtor on January 12, 2021?
3 4 5	the employees and even after the contempt finding could make certain directions with respect to shared services.	2 3 4 5	but yes, right around there. Q. Okay. Was he the chief financial officer of the debtor on January 12, 2021? A. I I believe he was. I don't
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3 4 5 6 7	the employees and even after the contempt finding could make certain directions with respect to shared services. With respect to operations of HCMLP, no.	2 3 4 5 6 7	<pre>but yes, right around there. Q. Okay. Was he the chief financial officer of the debtor on January 12, 2021? A. I I believe he was. I don't recall the exact dates that we did the the cutover.</pre>
3 4 5 6 7 8	<pre>the employees and even after the contempt finding could make certain directions with respect to shared services. With respect to operations of HCMLP, no. Q. Okay. And that was my question.</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	<pre>but yes, right around there. Q. Okay. Was he the chief financial officer of the debtor on January 12, 2021? A. I I believe he was. I don't recall the exact dates that we did the the cutover. Q. Okay. Well, let's let's try to</pre>
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	Page 38		Page 39
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	THE WITNESS: Sixty-day for NPA,	2	the shared services agreement?
3	I'm sorry, NPA.	3	A. There there were extensions; I
4	And there was some sixty days	4	don't recall the specific dates.
5	and some thirty days, so I don't recall	5	Q. Okay. Was to your recollection,
6	the exact date that there that it was	6	was was Mr. Waterhouse the chief financial
7	effectively terminated.	7	officer until the termination of that shared
8	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	8	services agreement or did he cease being the
9	Q. Well, by NPA, you mean NexPoint	9	chief financial officer at some period prior
10	Advisors?	10	to that?
11	A. Correct.	11	A. I I believe it was to the end,
12	Q. Okay.	12	but I'm not I'm not absolutely certain
13	A. Isn't that who you asked me about?	13	about that.
14	Q. I know. I'm just for the	14	0. So in December of 2021 I'm
15	record, the jury might not know who NPA is.	15	sorry, strike that.
16	A. Okay.	16	In December of 2020, you were the
17	Q. Do you recall that we you and I	17	chief restructuring officer, you were the
18	had a trial in sometime in mid February	18	chief executive officer of the debtor,
19	2021 about the shared services agreements?	19	correct?
20	A. I know we had a hearing. I don't	20	A. Yes.
21	recall if you'd call it a trial. It was a	21	Q. Mr. Waterhouse was the chief
22	hearing on termination.	22	financial officer, correct?
23	Q. Okay. And and do you recall	23	A. Yes.
24	that the debtor had agreed to extend	24	0. Who else would have been an officer
25	termination until February the 28th, 2021 of	25	of the debtor in December of 2020?
		20	of the depeter in pedember of hold.
1	Page 40	1	Page 41
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery A. In December of 2020?	2	J. Seery mediation.
2 3	J. Seery A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the	2 3	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan"
2 3 4	J. Seery A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the general counsel.	2 3 4	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before,
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the general counsel. Q. Okay. A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers. Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to your recollection? A. He was the CCO Q. Okay. A so I don't believe that's actually a corporate officer. Q. Was there a COO, do you know? A. I don't believe so at the time. Q. Okay. Now, in the latter half of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to float some what we've all called pot plan. Do you recall that? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. The latter half, I I guess 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct? A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting in August of 2020, to be? A. Yeah, it's not a novel term. Certainly he didn't invent it or or probably didn't get it in this case. He probably got it from his lawyer. But the idea of a pot plan is to put a bunch of money into the middle and create a pot that then the creditors can determine how to divide, and the reorganized debtor moves on with its existence away from the creditor claims. Q. There was a creditors' committee in the Highland bankruptcy case, correct? A. Yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 J. Seery A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the general counsel. Q. Okay. A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers. Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to your recollection? A. He was the CCO Q. Okay. A so I don't believe that's actually a corporate officer. Q. Was there a COO, do you know? A. I don't believe so at the time. Q. Okay. Now, in the latter half of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to float some what we've all called pot plan. Do you recall that? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. The latter half, I I guess starting in probably around August 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct? A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting in August of 2020, to be? A. Yeah, it's not a novel term. Certainly he didn't invent it or or probably didn't get it in this case. He probably got it from his lawyer. But the idea of a pot plan is to put a bunch of money into the middle and create a pot that then the creditors can determine how to divide, and the reorganized debtor moves on with its existence away from the creditor claims. Q. There was a creditors' committee in the Highland bankruptcy case, correct? A. Yes. Q. And how many committee members were

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—	Page 42		Page 43
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. Okay. And is it fair to say that	2	to sound like I was going to bridge it with
3	as part of this pot plan, Mr. Dondero was	3	any sort of finances.
4	trying to propose something that might be	4	Q. Yeah, that's true, the word
5	palatable to that creditor's committee?	5	"bridge" could be construed to mean that.
6	A. I think it's fair to say it would	6	You're correct.
7	have to be palatable to that creditor's	7	MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 4?
8	committee.	8	THE WITNESS: Yes.
9	Q. And is it fair to say that that	9	(Exhibit 4, Seery Declaration in
10	starting in August of 2020, you were trying	10	Support of Motion for TRO, marked for
11	to see if you might facilitate or bridge that	11	identification, as of this date.)
12	qap?	12	(Brief off-record discussion.)
13	A. I wouldn't say bridge but certainly	13	Q. Do you recall this declaration,
14	facilitate	14	sir?
15	Q. Okay. What	15	A. Not not specifically.
16	A or if you want to say I did as a	16	
17	bridge between Mr. Dondero and his counsel	17	~ 1 1 1
18	and and the committee and their counsel,	18	that I pulled this from the docket as your
19	that that would be fair.		counsel filed it, and assuming that I'm telling the truth, would it would this
		19 20	
20 21	~ 1 /	20	have been a declaration that you caused to be filed?
21	at your prior we're saying the same thing,	21	
	we're just having		A. Yeah, I have no no reason to
23	(Simultaneous speaking.)	23	challenge it, yes.
24	A. I don't think we're having a	24	Q. Okay. And we might come back to
25	definitional problem. I just don't want it	25	this a little bit later. I don't want to
1	Page 44		Page 45
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery waste your time right now. But I've lost my	1 2	J. Seery A. That's correct.
2 3	J. Seery waste your time right now. But I've lost my place, so we'll come back to it later, after	1 2 3	J. Seery A. That's correct. Q. Okay. And did you continue doing
2 3 4	J. Seery waste your time right now. But I've lost my place, so we'll come back to it later, after a break.	1 2 3 4	J. Seery A. That's correct. Q. Okay. And did you continue doing so for a period of months after that?
2 3 4 5	J. Seery waste your time right now. But I've lost my place, so we'll come back to it later, after a break. Going back	1 2 3 4 5	J. Seery A. That's correct. Q. Okay. And did you continue doing so for a period of months after that? A. Certainly into early November.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery waste your time right now. But I've lost my place, so we'll come back to it later, after a break. Going back (Simultaneous speaking.)	1 2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery A. That's correct. Q. Okay. And did you continue doing so for a period of months after that? A. Certainly into early November. Q. Okay. Would you say that there was
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery waste your time right now. But I've lost my place, so we'll come back to it later, after a break. Going back (Simultaneous speaking.) A see if there was a bridge quote	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery A. That's correct. Q. Okay. And did you continue doing so for a period of months after that? A. Certainly into early November. Q. Okay. Would you say that there was a point in time at which you stopped
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery waste your time right now. But I've lost my place, so we'll come back to it later, after a break. Going back (Simultaneous speaking.) A see if there was a bridge quote in here? Q. No, no, you were you were describing that you had been trying to facilitate a settlement, and I was just going to try to use your words so that I wouldn't misstate it. But, but going back, so so in August starting in August of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to propose some pot plan, and it had to have been acceptable to the committee for there to be any settlement. So far I'm correct, right? A. Yes. Q. And you as the COO was trying to do	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery A. That's correct. Q. Okay. And did you continue doing so for a period of months after that? A. Certainly into early November. Q. Okay. Would you say that there was a point in time at which you stopped personally - you, Mr. Seery - personally stopped trying to facilitate some settlement between Mr. Dondero and the committee vis-a-vis a pot plan? A. I think at some point it became very clear to me that it was futile, that that Mr. Dondero was never going to come up with any real value that would be anywhere close to what the committee would accept. And his structure of his his pot plan was always more notes, and the basic assumption was, well, if you're not paying on these notes how how do we trust new notes? Q. And when when did that view
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery waste your time right now. But I've lost my place, so we'll come back to it later, after a break. Going back (Simultaneous speaking.) A see if there was a bridge quote in here? Q. No, no, you were you were describing that you had been trying to facilitate a settlement, and I was just going to try to use your words so that I wouldn't misstate it. But, but going back, so so in August starting in August of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to propose some pot plan, and it had to have been acceptable to the committee for there to be any settlement. So far I'm correct, right? A. Yes. Q. And you as the COO was trying to do what you could to see if you could facilitate the two of them coming to an under	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery A. That's correct. Q. Okay. And did you continue doing so for a period of months after that? A. Certainly into early November. Q. Okay. Would you say that there was a point in time at which you stopped personally - you, Mr. Seery - personally stopped trying to facilitate some settlement between Mr. Dondero and the committee vis-a-vis a pot plan? A. I think at some point it became very clear to me that it was futile, that that Mr. Dondero was never going to come up with any real value that would be anywhere close to what the committee would accept. And his structure of his his pot plan was always more notes, and the basic assumption was, well, if you're not paying on these notes how how do we trust new notes? Q. And when when did that view crystalize in your mind? A. Probably some it probably
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	Page 46		Page 47
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	mediation, through the negotiations in	2	Mr. Waterhouse at any point in time,
3	September and October or the the multiple	3	basically that you believed that
4	re-trades on on very specific prior	4	Mr. Dondero's pot plan was was not going
5	agreements, by November it was clear to me	5	to happen?
6	that that there was little hope.	6	A. I I don't recall if I did or
7	Q. Okay. So we can say by December 1,	7	not.
8	certainly by December 1, there was very	8	Q. Did you strike that.
9	little hope?	9	In in the course of these
10	A. Yeah, I think that that's	10	discussions between the committee and
11	probably at least in my mind. I don't	11	Mr. Dondero and and maybe your trying to
12	know if others felt the same, and there was	12	facilitate something, was Mr. Waterhouse even
13	certainly opportunities for settlement beyond	13	involved directly, to your knowledge?
14	that, but it seemed pretty clear to me that	14	A. He was certainly involved,
15	we were moving towards a monetization plan	15	assisting Mr. Dondero
16	and we started negotiating the separation,	16	Q. Okay.
17	not with Mr. Dondero but with the team, of	17	A and he certainly provided or his
18	of the various business and the termination	18	team provided data to me, which ultimately
19	of the	19	went to the committee.
20	(Reporter clarification.)	20	So I would I would think he's
21	THE WITNESS: Businesses and the	21	involved to some degree. I don't recall that
22	termination of the shared services,	22	he would ever have been involved in in
23	sorry.	23	specific discussions
24	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	24	Q. Okay.
25	Q. Did you convey that to	25	A at least not with me.
	~		
1	Page 48 J Seerv	1	Page 49
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was	2	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think
2 3	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero.	2 3	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers
2 3 4	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me.	2 3 4	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between
2 3 4 5	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial	2 3 4 5	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial advisor, correct?	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the committee. The committee had their own
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial advisor, correct? A. That's correct.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the committee. The committee had their own financial advisors.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial advisor, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And what was that entity's name?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the committee. The committee had their own financial advisors. I drew on Mr. Waterhouse and his
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial advisor, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And what was that entity's name? A. DSI.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the committee. The committee had their own financial advisors. I drew on Mr. Waterhouse and his team for financial information regarding the
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial advisor, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And what was that entity's name? A. DSI. Q. Is it fair to say that you relied on DSI to some degree in the course of these discussions and negotiations? A. To some degree, but I don't think it's a fair characterization that they were sort of a hands-on financial advisor around the these negotiations. Q. I just want to I just want to understand that, that it sounds like, to me, at least on the debtor's side, Mr. Waterhouse was not one of the key individuals trying to facilitate an agreement	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the committee. The committee had their own financial advisors. I drew on Mr. Waterhouse and his team for financial information regarding the debtor's assets throughout the case, certainly since I took the position as CEO. Q. Okay. A. Mr. Dondero also drew on that information quite a bit. Q. At that point in time, let's say in December of 2020, did you understand that Mr. Waterhouse had a role with my client, NexPoint Advisors? A. Did you say December of 2020? Q. Yes, sir. A. Did he have a
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial advisor, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And what was that entity's name? A. DSI. Q. Is it fair to say that you relied on DSI to some degree in the course of these discussions and negotiations? A. To some degree, but I don't think it's a fair characterization that they were sort of a hands-on financial advisor around the these negotiations. Q. I just want to I just want to understand that, that it sounds like, to me, at least on the debtor's side, Mr. Waterhouse was not one of the key individuals trying to facilitate an agreement between the debtor and the committee? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the committee. The committee had their own financial advisors. I drew on Mr. Waterhouse and his team for financial information regarding the debtor's assets throughout the case, certainly since I took the position as CEO. Q. Okay. A. Mr. Dondero also drew on that information quite a bit. Q. At that point in time, let's say in December of 2020, did you understand that Mr. Waterhouse had a role with my client, NexPoint Advisors? A. Did you say December of 2020? Q. Yes, sir. A. Did he have a (Simultaneous speaking.)
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial advisor, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And what was that entity's name? A. DSI. Q. Is it fair to say that you relied on DSI to some degree in the course of these discussions and negotiations? A. To some degree, but I don't think it's a fair characterization that they were sort of a hands-on financial advisor around the these negotiations. Q. I just want to I just want to muderstand that, that it sounds like, to me, at least on the debtor's side. M. Waterhouse was not one of the key individuals trying to facilitate an agreement between the debtor and the committee? A. I, I 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the committee. The committee had their own financial advisors. I drew on Mr. Waterhouse and his team for financial information regarding the debtor's assets throughout the case, certainly since I took the position as CEO. Q. Okay. A. Mr. Dondero also drew on that information quite a bit. Q. At that point in time, let's say in December of 2020, did you understand that Mr. Waterhouse had a role with my client, NexPoint Advisors? A. Did you say December of 2020? Q. Yes, sir. A. Did he have a (Simultaneous speaking.) A he was I think he was
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery I think it was pretty clear he was involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero. Q. You not you, pardon me. The debtor had an outside financial advisor, correct? A. That's correct. Q. And what was that entity's name? A. DSI. Q. Is it fair to say that you relied on DSI to some degree in the course of these discussions and negotiations? A. To some degree, but I don't think it's a fair characterization that they were sort of a hands-on financial advisor around the these negotiations. Q. I just want to I just want to understand that, that it sounds like, to me, at least on the debtor's side, Mr. Waterhouse was not one of the key individuals trying to facilitate an agreement between the debtor and the committee? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery A. I don't think that's fair. I think that I I and my professionals, lawyers and and DSI, were in the middle between Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the committee. The committee had their own financial advisors. I drew on Mr. Waterhouse and his team for financial information regarding the debtor's assets throughout the case, certainly since I took the position as CEO. Q. Okay. A. Mr. Dondero also drew on that information quite a bit. Q. At that point in time, let's say in December of 2020, did you understand that Mr. Waterhouse had a role with my client, NexPoint Advisors? A. Did you say December of 2020? Q. Yes, sir. A. Did he have a (Simultaneous speaking.)

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1	Page 50		Page 51
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. Now, you mentioned the debtor's	2	Q. And some of those promissory notes
3	monetization plan that the debtor filed.	3	were term notes, at least as of that time; is
4	I think that's the word you used,	4	that correct?
5	right, monetization plan?	5	A. That's correct.
6	A. Correct.	6	Q. Okay. And I think, actually, it's
7	Q. Okay. And in, in in a nutshell	7	in this declaration which we marked 4, did
8	amongst other things, that plan well, you,	8	we?
9	you tell the the Court.	9	A. Yes.
10	What was the monetization plan	10	Q. Yes. So you filed or, I'm
11	intended to do?	11	sorry, sir, you this was filed on December
12	A. It was aptly named. It was	12	7, 2020.
13	intended to monetize the assets of the debtor	13	And I think if you go to paragraph
14	over a period of time that we thought was	14	26 and 27, you'll see that you're discussing
15	legitimate to run the businesses in a way	15	demand notes.
16	that would maximize value for the estate.	16	A. That's correct.
17	Q. And some of the assets of the	17	Q. And in paragraph 29 it says that on
18	debtor, at least in the latter half of 2020,	18	December 30 I'm sorry, strike that.
19	included promissory notes from Mr. Dondero	19	In paragraph 29 it says (as read):
20	and other entities affiliated with	20	On December 3, 2020, at my
21	Mr. Dondero; is that correct?	21	instruction, the debtor's counsel
22	A. That's correct.	22	sent letters to representatives of
23	Q. And some of those promissory notes	23	Mr. Dondero and each of the
24	were demand notes; is that correct?	24	corporate obligors, demanding
25	A. That's correct.	25	payment of all unpaid principal
	Page 52		Page 53
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	and accrued interest due under the	2	A. Yes.
3	demand notes by December 11, 2020.	3	Q. Okay. And did you understand that
4	Was that a true statement?	4	at that point in time that was a term note?
5	A. Yes.		
-		5	A. Yes.
6	Q. Why did you decide to make demand	5 6	
-		-	A. Yes.
6	Q. Why did you decide to make demand	6	A. Yes. Q. Okay. And, and did you have a a
6 7	Q. Why did you decide to make demand of the demand notes at that time?	6 7	 A. Yes. Q. Okay. And, and did you have a a plan at that point in time as to and did
6 7 8	Q. Why did you decide to make demand of the demand notes at that time?A. Well, it was pretty this will be a long answer, but it's pretty clear that I made a mistake, that I should have demanded	6 7 8	 A. Yes. Q. Okay. And, and did you have a a plan at that point in time as to and did you pardon me. Strike all that.
6 7 8 9	 Q. Why did you decide to make demand of the demand notes at that time? A. Well, it was pretty this will be a long answer, but it's pretty clear that I made a mistake, that I should have demanded payment from Mr. Dondero earlier in the case. 	6 7 8 9 10 11	A. Yes. Q. Okay. And, and did you have a a plan at that point in time as to and did you pardon me. Strike all that. Did you understand that that that had a thirty-year term originally when it was executed?
6 7 8 9 10	 Q. Why did you decide to make demand of the demand notes at that time? A. Well, it was pretty this will be a long answer, but it's pretty clear that I made a mistake, that I should have demanded payment from Mr. Dondero earlier in the case. The demand notes were due and 	6 7 8 9 10	 A. Yes. Q. Okay. And, and did you have a a plan at that point in time as to and did you pardon me. Strike all that. Did you understand that that that had a thirty-year term originally when it was executed? A. Yeah, you should understand that
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6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Why did you decide to make demand of the demand notes at that time? A. Well, it was pretty this will be a long answer, but it's pretty clear that I made a mistake, that I should have demanded payment from Mr. Dondero earlier in the case. The demand notes were due and owing, they could be called at any time, and I thought that leaving them outstanding would provide a way to facilitate a grand bargain, or a pot plan. And by the time the beginning of December, when we knew we were moving forward with the monetization plan, it was time to start to collect the assets of the debtor, so I made a decision that we should demand payment on each of the notes. Q. At that time, on December the 3rd,	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 A. Yes. Q. Okay. And, and did you have a a plan at that point in time as to and did you pardon me. Strike all that. Did you understand that that that had a thirty-year term originally when it was executed? A. Yeah, you should understand that and maybe you do, and that's so we'll make sure the record is clear. Each of the the term notes were not term notes. They were they became term notes because they were roll-up of demand notes, and they were roll-up of demand notes in 27 2017, when things at the debtor and for Mr. Dondero became very precarious. Certain lawsuits had been filed, the asset stripping in the Cayman Islands had

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	Page 54		Page 55
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	both sides, extended the terms rolled up	2	either the maker or the lender in 2017, when
3	those notes and extended the terms of those	3	these notes when this note was executed,
4	notes for thirty years and generally -	4	were you?
5	although not all - very low interest rate and	5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
6	very easy terms, no no security, no	6	form of the question.
7	covenants.	7	A. I haven't been the maker or the, or
8	So those became the term notes, but	8	the or the lender on any of these notes.
9	they were always potentially subject to other	9	MR. RUKAVINA: Well, this is
10	litigation demands.	10	going to be Exhibit 5. This is the
11	0. You weren't around with the debtor	11	note that we're here on today.
12	or NexPoint in 2017, were you?	12	(Exhibit 5, Promissory Note
13	A. No.	13	Dated May 31, 2017, marked for
14	Q. Okay. So you have no personal	14	identification, as of this date.)
15		15	(Brief off-record discussion.)
1	knowledge about the execution of any notes at that time?	16	
16			BY MR. RUKAVINA:
17	A. I, I would differ and say I do I	17	Q. So if we go to the last page of
18	wasn't in the room, but I have the evidence	18	this exhibit, this references prior notes,
19	by the virtue of the fact that I've seen the	19	and the body of this basically says that each
20	backup to the notes, and they actually	20	of the prior notes are superseded by the new
21	contain the schedule with the roll the	21	note, correct?
22	notes that are being rolled up.	22	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
23	Q. So you're you're making an	23	form of the question. Can you just
24	educated deduction, based on your	24	point that to Mr. Seery so
25	professional experience, but you aren't	25	Q. Sure. So, Mr. Seery, if you see
	Page 56		
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):	2	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby	2	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical
2 3	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the	2 3	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five
2 3 4	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby shall be marked void. A. Yes, so	2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest
2 3 4 5	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby shall be marked void.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current?
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby shall be marked void. A. Yes, so	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby shall be marked void. A. Yes, so Q. And then you see the prior notes in	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
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	Page 58		Page 59
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	whether there were times where it didn't pay	2	prior to the time that you became CEO/CRO,
3	down, but certainly in the in the	3	the debtor was lax in its enforcement of its
4	aggregate, they didn't pay down. And so I	4	rights as the payee under promissory notes
5	just don't know if it was if there was	5	from the advisors?
6	some payments or not; I don't recall.	6	A. That's
7	Q. Okay. And and we're not here on	7	MR. MORRIS: Objection to form of
8	the HCMFA note, but are you general	8	the question.
9	generally familiar that in April of 2019,	9	A. That's completely unfair.
10	Mr. Dondero executed a document that took two	10	(Simultaneous speaking.)
11	promissory notes that HCMFA had issued that	11	A virtually no basis for you to
12	were demand notes and extended them until May	12	say something like that.
13	31, 2021?	13	It's a demand note that hadn't been
14	A. That's not what it did, no.	14	demanded, and then then it was to a third
15	Q. What do you understand happened?	15	party, so they could rely on the fact that
16	A. It, it they were they were	16	HCMFA would have wouldn't have to have
17	demand notes without maturity, and the the	17	outflows to payoff demands that could happen
18		18	
	obligor was given the statement from the	19	at any time; that gave an agreement to extend
19	holder, HCMLP, that it wouldn't collect on		the term, which is not really a term, it's
20	those notes until May 31, 2021.	20	just we won't demand it.
21	And that was done because HCMFA did	21	So how how you call that lax,
22	not have the money to pay, and because it was	22	I that doesn't have has nothing to do
23	an advisor, it had to make representations	23	with being lax.
24	that it could support itself.	24	Q. Well, I thought you testified a few
25	Q. So is it fair to say that, at least	25	minutes ago that, at least in 2017, the
	Page 60		Page 61
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery debtor was facing serious problems and that	1 2	
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery debtor was facing serious problems and that	2	J. Seery Q. Okay. Okay. So is it your
2 3	J. Seery debtor was facing serious problems and that Mr. Dondero was rolling up these notes for	2 3	J. Seery Q. Okay. Okay. So is it your testimony, sir, that prior to you becoming
2 3 4	J. Seery debtor was facing serious problems and that Mr. Dondero was rolling up these notes for for some ulterior purpose?	2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Okay. Okay. So is it your testimony, sir, that prior to you becoming CEO/CRO, the debtor did or did not enforce
2 3 4 5	J. Seery debtor was facing serious problems and that Mr. Dondero was rolling up these notes for for some ulterior purpose? A. Not ulterior purpose. The purpose	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Okay. Okay. So is it your testimony, sir, that prior to you becoming CEO/CRO, the debtor did or did not enforce its rights as the payee under various
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery debtor was facing serious problems and that Mr. Dondero was rolling up these notes for for some ulterior purpose? A. Not ulterior purpose. The purpose is really, really obvious. He wanted to	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Q. Okay. Okay. So is it your testimony, sir, that prior to you becoming CEO/CRO, the debtor did or did not enforce its rights as the payee under various promissory notes according to industry
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery debtor was facing serious problems and that Mr. Dondero was rolling up these notes for for some ulterior purpose? A. Not ulterior purpose. The purpose is really, really obvious. He wanted to extend out the term so that they wouldn't	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Q. Okay. Okay. So is it your testimony, sir, that prior to you becoming CEO/CRO, the debtor did or did not enforce its rights as the payee under various promissory notes according to industry standards, as you would understand them to
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery debtor was facing serious problems and that Mr. Dondero was rolling up these notes for for some ulterior purpose? A. Not ulterior purpose. The purpose is really, really obvious. He wanted to extend out the term so that they wouldn't become due, couldn't be demanded at any time. Q. Okay. So that that goes back to my question, which you said was not a fair question A. No, I said your characterization was unfair. You can't call that being lax. It's a demand note. You can either demand it or not demand it, but if you don't demand it, it doesn't mean you're being lax. Q. Okay. Fair enough. But if, if so we're still on Exhibit 5. If the debtor had allowed for these five notes' accrued interest to go unpaid for a period of one or more years, wouldn't that suggest to you that the debtor was, as as	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery Q. Okay. Okay. So is it your testimony, sir, that prior to you becoming CEO/CRO, the debtor did or did not enforce its rights as the payee under various promissory notes according to industry standards, as you would understand them to be? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I think industry standards are are a bit nebulous, particularly when you're talking about the payee and the payor being controlled by the same person. But I think there's nothing uncommon about letting a note accrue when it's permitted to accrue. Q. Do you believe that there strike that. Do you believe that the debtor, prior to you becoming CEO/CRO, had acted inappropriately with permitting the roll-up of these five notes into Exhibit 5 or or

	Page 62		Page 63
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	form of the question.	2	note, number Exhibit 5
3	A. Yeah, with with respect to the	3	A. Yes.
4	HCMFA, I don't know I don't think that's	4	Q on December 3, 2020?
5	inappropriate, based on the shared services	5	A. Yes.
6	and a tangential relationship between the	6	Q. Okay. What was the plan back then?
7	affiliates, although clearly it was	7	A. It depended on what happened to the
8	aggrandizing to Mr. Dondero and his	8	note, but ultimately we would seek to sell
9	interests, which it syphoned off tons of	9	the note because of its long tenor, but
10	value from the debtor as opposed to HCMLP.	10	likely we would end up suing Mr or NPA,
11	With respect to the roll-up of	11	the the maker of the note, for fraudulent
12	these notes for thirty years, without	12	conveyance in 2017.
13	without real consideration, I think that that	13	-
		14	Q. On account of the roll-up? A. Correct.
14	was (December - Decifienties)		
15	(Reporter clarification.)	15	Q. Okay. Did the debtor ever actually
16	THE WITNESS: Inappropriate, yes.	16	solicit any offers of whereby someone
17	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	17	might buy this note, No. 5, Exhibit 5?
18	Q. So if we go back now to December of	18	A. No.
19	2020, early December of 2020, you've made	19	Q. Okay. Did you form an opinion or
20	demand - as we've just read in your	20	were were you given an opinion from a
21	declaration - on demand notes, and you've	21	non-lawyer as to what the monetization value
22	testified that you were aware of the	22	of this note, Exhibit 5, might have been in
23	existence of this note.	23	early December of 2020?
24	Did you, at that point in time,	24	A. I we did form an opinion, and
25	have any plans as to how to monetize this	25	and we discounted it substantially.
	Page 64		Page 65
1	Page 64 J. Seery	1	Page 65 J. Seery
1 2	-	1 2	
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court	2	J. Seery A. I I think hoping is is not
2 3	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount?	2 3	J. Seery A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that
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2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount? A. Off the top of my head, I don't recall. Q. Okay. But but substantially?	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that they wouldn't, because you'd have to not understand, you know, what happens when you default on a term note and it gets
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount? A. Off the top of my head, I don't recall. Q. Okay. But but substantially? A. Substantially. The reason is	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that they wouldn't, because you'd have to not understand, you know, what happens when you default on a term note and it gets accelerated.
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	Page 66		Page 67
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	paragraph 3 says you can prepay.	2	to unpaid principal hereof -
3	Q. Well, so you see how how this	3	correct?
4	Section 2.1 uses the word "borrower," right?	4	A. Correct.
5	A. Yes.	5	Q. Okay. So that, that goes that
6	Q. And borrower isn't defined here,	6	ties back to your prior answer, that even
7	but logically it's maker, right?	7	though Section 2.1 says on the 31st day of
8	A. Correct.	8	December, it's logical to read it on or
9	Q. Okay. So that's just probably	9	before the 31st day of December?
10	sloppiness, right?	10	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	11	form of the question.
12	form of the question.	12	A. It, it it would be. Your
13	A. Appears to be.	13	your interest amounts would be different but
14	Q. Okay. And then you, you	14	yes.
15	actually you saw Section 3, that talks	15	Q. Okay. Well, can so going back
16	about the the prepayment (as read):	16	to Section 3, it says prepay accrued
17	Maker may prepay in whole or	17	interest.
18	in part the unpaid principal or	18	How does one prepay accrued
19	accrued interest of this note.	19	interest?
20	Do you see that, sir?	20	A. Interest accrues on this note. How
21	A. Yes.	21	you prepay it is you send the money before
22	Q. Okay. (As read):	22	the accrual date.
23	Any payments on this note	23	Q. Okay. Fair enough. And going back
24	shall be applied first to unpaid	24	to Section 3, the the style of that
25	accrued interest hereon and then	25	section - whatever the word is - it says
1	Page 68 J. Seery	1	Page 69 J. Seery
2	prepayment allowed, renegotiation	2	the payee, could negotiate/renegotiate or
3	discretionary.	3	not.
4	You see where it says renegotiation	4	In fact, it says that. Because it
5	discretionary?	5	says it as a waiver, that the maker hereby
6	A. Yes.	6	waives any grace, demand, presentment it's
7	Q. Can you can you see anything	7	got a very clear, broad waiver of any kind of
8	actually in that paragraph that talks about a	8	implication that there might be some courtesy
9	renegotiation?	9	that the payee would have to give to the
10	A. Nope.	10	maker.
11	Q. Okay. And just to to be clear,	11	MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 6?
1	£		
12	do you see anything in here that talks about	12	Okay, Sir. I'm going to hand you
12 13	do you see anything in here that talks about that headings are for stylistic purposes only	12 13	Okay. Sir, I'm going to hand you what's what's going to be marked as
13	that headings are for stylistic purposes only	13	what's what's going to be marked as
13 14	that headings are for stylistic purposes only and have no meaning?	13 14	what's what's going to be marked as Exhibit 6, which is your January 7, 2021
13 14 15	<pre>that headings are for stylistic purposes only and have no meaning? A. I I don't see anything</pre>	13 14 15	what's what's going to be marked as Exhibit 6, which is your January 7, 2021 letter.
13 14 15 16	<pre>that headings are for stylistic purposes only and have no meaning? A. I I don't see anything Q. Okay.</pre>	13 14 15 16	what's what's going to be marked as Exhibit 6, which is your January 7, 2021 letter. (Exhibit 6, Correspondence
13 14 15 16 17	<pre>that headings are for stylistic purposes only and have no meaning? A. I I don't see anything Q. Okay. A that says that.</pre>	13 14 15 16 17	what's what's going to be marked as Exhibit 6, which is your January 7, 2021 letter. (Exhibit 6, Correspondence Dated January 7, 2021, marked for
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	Page 70		Page 71
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	MR. MORRIS: Or an assistant,	2	Q. And you authorized this document to
3	maybe an associate.	3	be issued to NexPoint Advisors?
4	I apologize if you're an attorney.	4	A. I did, yes.
5	I apologize. In any event, but but,	5	Q. Okay. Did you discuss this
6	Mr. Lawrence you're with Quinn, right?	6	document, prior to you sending it, with the
7	MR. LAWRENCE: Yes, I am.	7	independent board?
8	MR. MORRIS: Yeah, thank you.	8	A. Yes.
9	MR. LAWRENCE: I I've I've	9	Q. Okay. And what do you recall about
10	taken the bar.	10	that discussion? Who was there; how did it
11	MR. MORRIS: Yeah. Oh, okay.	11	happen?
12	Thank you.	12	A. I don't recall it specifically.
13	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Does that	13	That would be at regular meetings and we
14	imply you've just taken the bar?	14	talked about the case. This came shortly
15	MR. LAWRENCE: Yes.	15	after as we were moving towards I don't
16	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank	16	remember the exact confirmation date, but it
17	you.	17	was, you know, in and around that time. And
18	(Simultaneous speaking.)	18	this was a material asset of the estate, so
19	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	19	talking to them about that would have been
20	Q. Mr. Seery, you have Exhibit 6.	20	normal course of action.
21	Do you recognize this document?	21	Q. Part of what you discussed with
22	A. I do, yes.	22	them, was it how the debtor should respond to
23	Q. Okay. And and that's your	23	the missed December 31 payment?
24	electronic signature there?	24	A. I don't I don't think that's a
25	A. That is.	25	fair characterization. I would have said
	Page 72		
1	-		Page 73
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to	1 2	J. Seery incorrect?
2 3	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection.	1 2 3	J. Seery incorrect? A. I don't I don't think that's
2 3 4	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been	1 2 3 4	J. Seery incorrect? A. I don't I don't think that's fair.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of	1 2 3 4 5	J. Seery incorrect? A. I don't I don't think that's fair. Q. Okay.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note.	1 2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery incorrect? A. I don't I don't think that's fair. Q. Okay. A. I take I take notes but not
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note. Q. So there was no discussion with the board about maybe giving NexPoint a chance to	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery incorrect? A. I don't I don't think that's fair. Q. Okay. A. I take I take notes but not always. Q. Do you have any memory, not that
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	Page 74		Page 75
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	they're they're pretty honest folks.	2	any of those meetings?
3	Q. Okay. Did did either you or	3	A. No, never.
4	anyone video-record or audio-record any of	4	Q. Did you keep any calendar or
5	the discussions that you had with the other	5	logbook where you might be able to find the
6	board members ever?	6	dates on which you had any call or meeting
7	A. No.	7	with the other board members?
8	Q. Okay. Were any of those meetings	8	A. If it was an official board
9	with the other board members by Zoom or	9	meeting, certainly it would have been in
10	Webex?	10	Outlook.
11	A. Very few, I mean, typically not.	11	0. Okay. And if it was an official
12	Q. Okay. The very few that might have	12	board meeting, would there have been an
13	taken place, do you recall if if anyone	13	agenda circulated prior to the meeting?
14	pressed a record button on Zoom or Webex?	14	A. Not always, because these were
15	A. Nobody would have.	15	always done - particularly at this time,
16	Q. Okay.	16	where we were in litigation - with counsel.
17	A. I can't imagine anyone would have	17	Q. And I take it that they would have
18	recorded it without requesting permission	18	been done more or less sometimes on an ad-hoc
19	from the other participants.	19	basis because of developments that might
20	We didn't do much in that group by	20	happen?
		20	
21	Zoom or Webex, we just it wasn't standard	21	
22	operating procedure for the group.		Q. Okay. Did you in responding to
23	Q. Do you recall any of the other	23	my discovery requests in this NexPoint
24	board members, or anyone else on any board,	24	lawsuit, did you consult any of your
25	discussing seeking permission to record	25	handwritten notes, as to whether there was
1	Page 76	1	
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery anything in there responsive?	2	J. Seery to the debtor's or the reorganized debtor's
2 3	J. Seery anything in there responsive? A. I believe I looked I want to	2 3	J. Seery to the debtor's or the reorganized debtor's counsel any handwritten notes for potential
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	Page 78		Page 79
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	A. Yes.	2	emails that we produced
3	Q. Okay. Did you, on your own,	3	(Simultaneous speaking.)
4	withhold anything believing well, strike	4	MR. RUKAVINA: I'm totally fine
5	that.	5	with that.
6	Is it fair to say that anything you	6	Q. I just want to make sure that you,
7	thought might be responsive you provided to	7	Mr. Seery, did not
8	counsel?	8	A. No, I didn't
9	A. I did, and I provided them complete	9	Q intentionally intentionally
10	access to my email.	10	withhold anything just because you didn't
11	Q. And you didn't intentionally	11	want it produced?
12	withhold anything that might be strike	12	A. No, certainly not, nor neither
13	that.	13	intentionally nor accidentally, because I
14	Other than privileged material, did	14	turned everything over.
15	you intentionally withhold anything that you	15	Q. Understood. Going back to
16	believed was responsive to my discovery	16	Exhibit 6, I've asked you about the board,
17	requests?	17	I've asked you about the committee.
18	A. I I didn't withhold anything.	18	And you you said, I believe,
19	If there was determined to be privileged,	19	that you don't remember having a discussion
20	then it would have been determined by	20	about the substance of Exhibit 6 with the
21	counsel.	21	committee, right?
22	Q. Understood.	22	A. I don't think I certainly not in
23	MR. MORRIS: And if it was	23	advance of it, I would not it wouldn't
24	just to be clear, Davor, if it was	24	have been standard to to do that, unless
25	determined to be duplicative of other	25	there had been a meeting right around then,
	D		De
1	Page 80 J. Seerv	1	Page 81 J. Seerv
1 2	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery and I would have mentioned that I had done	2	J. Seery A. Well, I don't recall a meeting
2 3	J. Seery and I would have mentioned that I had done this.	2 3	J. Seery A. Well, I don't recall a meeting around this, so I I certainly wouldn't
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery and I would have mentioned that I had done this. Q. Did similar to the the prior answer, would you have recorded in Outlook or some other means any meetings that you had with the committee in the January 2021 time frame? A. Yeah, it would have any meetings with the committee would have been official. Q. Okay. You could you could find out what days those would have been had on? A. I believe so, yes. Q. And prior to these meetings, and I'm talking about January 2021 now, were there was there an agenda shared in advance either by the debtor or by the committee? A. I believe oftentimes there was with the committee. Q. Do you recall - and I think I know your answer - whether there was any such agenda related to whether the debtor should	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery A. Well, I don't recall a meeting around this, so I I certainly wouldn't recall an agenda. Q. Now I'm going to ask about Mr. Waterhouse. Before you authorized this letter, Exhibit 6, to go out, did you discuss the substance of this letter with Mr. Waterhouse? A. I don't believe so. Q. How did you find out that the December 31, 2020 payment had not been made by NexPoint? A. I believe I was told during the cash-flow meetings that we had weekly. Q. Okay. What was that like a certain set day of the week or A. Yeah. Q. What day of the week was A was either Tuesday or Wednesday. Q. Okay. Do you recall who told you that this payment had not been made? A. I don't recall specifically, no.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery and I would have mentioned that I had done this. Q. Did similar to the the prior answer, would you have recorded in Outlook or some other means any meetings that you had with the committee in the January 2021 time frame? A. Yeah, it would have any meetings with the committee would have been official. Q. Okay. You could you could find out what days those would have been had on? A. I believe so, yes. Q. And prior to these meetings, and I'm talking about January 2021 now, were there was there an agenda shared in advance either by the debtor or by the committee? A. I believe oftentimes there was with the committee. Q. Do you recall - and I think I know your answer - whether there was any such	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery A. Well, I don't recall a meeting around this, so I I certainly wouldn't recall an agenda. Q. Now I'm going to ask about Mr. Waterhouse. Before you authorized this letter, Exhibit 6, to go out, did you discuss the substance of this letter with Mr. Waterhouse? A. I don't believe so. Q. How did you find out that the December 31, 2020 payment had not been made by NexPoint? A. I believe I was told during the cash-flow meetings that we had weekly. Q. Okay. What was that like a certain set day of the week or A. Yeah. Q. What day of the week was A was either Tuesday or Wednesday. Q. Okay. Do you recall who told you that this payment had not been made? A. I don't recall specifically, no.

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	Page 82		Page 83
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	evident?	2	A. Typically it would be sometimes
3	A. I would get a cash flow,	3	Frank Waterhouse, Kristin Hendrix, Dave
4	thirteen-week	4	Klos - not always but most of the time - and
5	(Reporter clarification.)	5	Jack Donohue from DSI
6	THE WITNESS: Thirteen-week cash	6	Q. Okay.
7	flow. I'm sorry.	7	A. Fred Caruso as well, I believe
8	Q. So so to the best of your	8	Q. So in
9	recollection, do you recall, on the one hand,	9	A DSI.
10	whether someone told you, Mr. Seery, NexPoint	10	Q in early January 2021, do you
11	didn't pay or, on the other hand, whether you	11	have any reason to believe that any of those
12	said where is NexPoint's payment?	12	meetings would have been recorded visually or
13	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	13	audio-recorded?
14	form of the question.	14	A. No, I would think they would not
15	A. I I don't recall. It could	15	have been.
16	have it could have easily been either,	16	Q. Would any meetings I'm sorry,
17	because it certainly would have been	17	strike that any minutes of those
18	something I would have asked about. NexPoint	18	discussions have been kept?
19	and others had already failed to pay their	19	A. No, no minutes would have been
20	shared service payments, so it was a question	20	kept.
21	as to whether any other payments would be	21	Q. So you would get the, the the
22	coming.	22	thirteen-week report you mentioned.
23	Q. Okay. And who would have logically	23	Would you get any other documents
24	been, pursuant to your course of practice, on	24	in the nature of an agenda or an update to
25	these weekly cash flow meetings?	25	you as the chief executive?
1	Page 84 J. Seery	1	Page 85 J. Seery
2	A. I don't	2	anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint
3	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	3	hadn't made the payment and that you were
4	form of the question.	4	going to do something about that payment?
5	A. I I don't believe so with	5	A. I would have only discussed it I
6	respect to the thirteen-week cash flow	6	think I would only have discussed it with
7	discussion.	7	counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the
8	Q. So what what do you remember	8	outstanding full amount up to whatever date
9	saying or doing right then, when you learned	9	we were going to set in the demand notice,
10	that NexPoint did not make a December 31	10	and then send out the demand notice.
1		11	
11	payment?	11 12	I wasn't going to advertise to
11 12	payment? A. I don't recall the specific date,	12	I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because
11 12 13	payment? A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was	12 13	I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do.
11 12 13 14	payment? A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was late, I would have accelerated the note and	12 13 14	I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do. Q. Okay. And I'm going to struggle to
11 12 13 14 15	payment? A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was late, I would have accelerated the note and told counsel to draft the acceleration and	12 13 14 15	I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do. Q. Okay. And I'm going to struggle to ask the next question, so it's going to take
11 12 13 14 15 16	payment? A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was late, I would have accelerated the note and told counsel to draft the acceleration and demand.	12 13 14 15 16	I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do. Q. Okay. And I'm going to struggle to ask the next question, so it's going to take me several questions and counsel will object.
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	<pre>payment? A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was late, I would have accelerated the note and told counsel to draft the acceleration and demand. Q. And you don't recall discussing</pre>	12 13 14 15 16 17	I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do. Q. Okay. And I'm going to struggle to ask the next question, so it's going to take me several questions and counsel will object. Prior to the December 31 missed
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11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	 payment? A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was late, I would have accelerated the note and told counsel to draft the acceleration and demand. Q. And you don't recall discussing that with Mr. Waterhouse? A. I don't recall it. Q. What about with Mr. Klos? A. I don't recall it. Q. And obviously I don't want to hear about your discussion with counsel. Other than counsel and DS or 	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do. Q. Okay. And I'm going to struggle to ask the next question, so it's going to take me several questions and counsel will object. Prior to the December 31 missed payment, did you issue any instructions to employees of the debtor to do anything differently with respect to facilitating NexPoint making that payment than they had done in the past? MR. MORRIS: Objection to (Simultaneous speaking.)
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 payment? A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was late, I would have accelerated the note and told counsel to draft the acceleration and demand. Q. And you don't recall discussing that with Mr. Waterhouse? A. I don't recall it. Q. What about with Mr. Klos? A. I don't recall it. Q. And obviously I don't want to hear about your discussion with counsel. 	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do. Q. Okay. And I'm going to struggle to ask the next question, so it's going to take me several questions and counsel will object. Prior to the December 31 missed payment, did you issue any instructions to employees of the debtor to do anything differently with respect to facilitating NexPoint making that payment than they had done in the past? MR. MORRIS: Objection to

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	Page 86		Page 87
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. This payment.	2	best interest to have this happen.
3	A. No.	3	Overall, I think we will collect
4	(Reporter clarification.)	4	it, and it will be in our interest rather
5	MR. MORRIS: I'm sorry, objection	5	than having a thirty-year note to owed by
6	to form.	6	NPA, to have a collected amount, which I
7	THE WITNESS: And I said I	7	expect to collect in full.
8	think my answer was no.	8	Q. As opposed to selling the note at a
9	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	9	substantial discount, correct?
10	Q. So we've we've learned that in	10	A. That would have been one of the
11	early December of 2020, the debtor was going	11	options, yes, or suing on a fraudulent
12	to be able to strike that.	12	conveyance.
13	You agree with me that in December	13	(Reporter clarification.)
14	of 2020, it would have been to the debtor's	14	THE WITNESS: On a fraudulent
15	economic advantage for NexPoint to miss the	15	conveyance.
16	annual payment?	16	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
17	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	17	Q. So again, without ascribing any
18	form of the question.	18	mal-intent here, it turned out for the debtor
19	A. I I don't know if that's fair,	19	to be better, in December of 2020, that
20	because right now we're having to deal with	20	NexPoint missed its payment, correct?
21	what I would say are completely nonsensical	21	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
22	defenses and spend millions of dollars to	22	form of the question.
23	collect what are obviously true and owing	23	A. Again, we'll we'll find out
24	amounts that are due to the debtor. So I	24	after we collect.
25	don't know that it was necessarily in our	25	Q. Okay. So I just want to again
1	Page 88 J. Seerv	1	Page 89 J. Seerv
1 2	Page 88 J. Seery round off	1	J. Seery
	J. Seery round off		
2 3	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though,	2 3	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount?
2	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity,	2	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI.
2 3 4	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of	2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or
2 3 4 5	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this topic, you did not instruct anyone at the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note? A. I knew the answer.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this topic, you did not instruct anyone at the debtor to do anything or fail to do anything	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note? A. I knew the answer. Q. What's the answer?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this topic, you did not instruct anyone at the debtor to do anything or fail to do anything to try to ensure that NexPoint misses that	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note? A. I knew the answer. Q. What's the answer?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this topic, you did not instruct anyone at the debtor to do anything or fail to do anything	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note? A. I knew the answer. Q. What's the answer? A. That there were payments made on the note.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this topic, you did not instruct anyone at the debtor to do anything or fail to do anything to try to ensure that NexPoint misses that payment, did you? A. No.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note? A. I knew the answer. Q. What's the answer? A. That there were payments made on the note. MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. In fact
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this topic, you did not instruct anyone at the debtor to do anything or fail to do anything to try to ensure that NexPoint misses that payment, did you? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you, to the best of your	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note? A. I knew the answer. Q. What's the answer? A. That there were payments made on the note.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this topic, you did not instruct anyone at the debtor to do anything or fail to do anything to try to ensure that NexPoint misses that payment, did you? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you, to the best of your recollection, issue any instructions to	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note? A. I knew the answer. Q. What's the answer? A. That there were payments made on the note. MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. In fact Mr. Nguyen, pull up the exhibit that I don't have here.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though, just so so it's there's no ambiguity, it's far better to collect the full amount of the note than wait to be paid on an unsecured basis over the next twenty-plus years. Q. And again, just to round off this topic, you did not instruct anyone at the debtor to do anything or fail to do anything to try to ensure that NexPoint misses that payment, did you? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you, to the best of your recollection, issue any instructions to employees of the debtor having anything to do	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount? A. I believe I got that from DSI. Q. Okay. Did you ever ask yourself or ask anyone why the amount was more than \$6 million less than the principal amount of the note? A. I knew the answer. Q. What's the answer? A. That there were payments made on the note. MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. In fact Mr. Nguyen, pull up the exhibit that I don't have here. You're going to have to bear with
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	Page 90		Page 91
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	when or why? Because I'll represent to you	2	right?
3	that it was just produced to us like this,	3	A. There
4	without any kind of context.	4	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
5	A. I I don't know specifically, no.	5	form of the question.
6	Q. You don't know specifically, but	6	A there were but there's a very
7	could it be DSI?	7	odd entry above that, on $12/30/19$ with a
8	Is this the kind of does it look	8	instead of having parentheses, having a
9	like the kind of report that DSI would have	9	negative sign.
10	made?	10	I'm not sure if that's a payment or
11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	11	what that is.
12	form of the question.	12	Q. Well, let's scroll back to the
13	A. I don't think so. I would think	13	first page and see what these headings are.
14	this would have been produced by NPA or or	14	So if we look in the far right
15	HCMLP's accounting group.	15	column, total paid, do you see that, sir?
16	Q. Well, scroll down to the next page	16	A. Yes, I do.
17	Mr. Nguyen.	17	Q. And principal paid.
18	So you see, sir, on 5/31/2020, a	18	So scroll back to the next page,
19	(Reporter clarification.)	19	Mr. Nguyen.
20	MR. RUKAVINA: I'm sorry.	20	Do you see those now, the payments?
21	Q. A \$575,550.56 payment made?	21	A. I do. I just I'm just pointing
22	A. Yes.	22	out that that's
23	Q. Okay. And prior to that, there had	23	Q. Okay.
24	been advanced payments, or or payments on	24	A not a correct way to do it, but
25	more than just the principal and interest,	25	it could have just maybe they did it as a
	Page 92		Page 93
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery negative number as opposed to having it	2	J. Seery at some point in the previous to that?
2 3	J. Seery negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file	2 3	J. Seery at some point in the previous to that? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
2 3 4	J. Seery negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file Q. Well, sir	2 3 4	J. Seery at some point in the previous to that? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file Q. Well, sir A automatically. Q how do you know that the note hadn't be been prepaid, that the December 31, 2020 payment hadn't been prepaid? A. Well, I know there was a payment due. Q. Okay. But you didn't ask Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else whether the note had been prepaid or that payment had been prepaid, did you? A. In the cash-flow discussions, the fact that NPA owed the money on 12/31 was a common discussion. So if it had been prepaid, it wouldn't have been owed. Q. And who prepared those cash-flow discussion reports? A. Waterhouse's team. Q. Okay. When you learned that the December 31, 2020 payment had not been	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery at some point in the previous to that? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I don't believe that I did. Q. Okay. A. We certainly had discussions on other notes, whether there had been prepayments. And it would have come up around this note, but I don't have a specific recollection of, around December 20, asking whether something had been prepaid. There was an amount due - it was listed as due and owing - and I expected to get it paid. Q. And I apologize, the \$24 million figure in Exhibit 6, DSI supplied that? A. I believe so. Q. And do you know whether DSI consulted employees of the debtor to calculate that amount? A. I assume they did. I don't I don't know the answer. Q. Why didn't you strike that.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file Q. Well, sir A automatically. Q how do you know that the note hadn't be been prepaid, that the December 31, 2020 payment hadn't been prepaid? A. Well, I know there was a payment due. Q. Okay. But you didn't ask Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else whether the note had been prepaid or that payment had been prepaid, did you? A. In the cash-flow discussions, the fact that NPA owed the money on 12/31 was a common discussion. So if it had been prepaid, it wouldn't have been owed. Q. And who prepared those cash-flow discussion reports? A. Waterhouse's team. Q. Okay. When you learned that the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery at some point in the previous to that? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I don't believe that I did. Q. Okay. A. We certainly had discussions on other notes, whether there had been prepayments. And it would have come up around this note, but I don't have a specific recollection of, around December 20, asking whether something had been prepaid. There was an amount due - it was listed as due and owing - and I expected to get it paid. Q. And I apologize, the \$24 million figure in Exhibit 6, DSI supplied that? A. I believe so. Q. And do you know whether DSI consulted employees of the debtor to calculate that amount? A. I assume they did. I don't I don't know the answer.

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1	Page 94		Page 95
1 -	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	you understand at that point in time, on or	2	anticipating, as to because they had not
3	before January 7, 2021, why NexPoint didn't	3	made the payment in on the shared
4	make the December 31 payment?	4	services, as with all the other related
5	A. I don't recall if I knew before	5	entities, because Dondero had directed that
6	that	6	those payments not be made. So I was curious
7	Q. Okay.	7	as to whether they were going to make the
8	A or right around that time	8	payments that were due on the term notes.
9	Q. Okay.	9	Q. So let's, let's let's break that
10	A but I I came to know	10	down.
11	(Simultaneous speaking.)	11	I had asked you before, I believe,
12	Q. You came to know it?	12	as to how you learned of the lack of payment.
13	A. Uh-huh.	13	Now I'm asking you, once you learned about
14	Q. Do you recall if you asked anyone,	14	the lack of payment, did you ask why didn't
15	prior to sending this letter, why that	15	the payment get made?
16	payment hadn't been made or did someone	16	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
17	volunteer that information to you?	17	form of the question.
18	(Simultaneous speaking and	18	A. No, I I don't think I would have
19	reporter interjection.)	19	asked why the payment didn't get made.
20	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	20	Either as I said, either right before
21	form of the question.	21	this, at this time or shortly thereafter, I
22	A. I I think you asked me that	22	learned I knew that the other payments
23	already. I'm not sure if I asked about it	23	hadn't been made. I believe that I knew that
24	being made or someone pointed it out to me.	24	Dondero had directed that. I just don't know
25	It was certainly a a topic I was	25	exactly, around these notes, about all of the
	Page 96		Page 97
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	payments; if it was before or right around	2	recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who
3	thereafter.	3	told Hendrix, who told you?
4	Q. And when you say before or right		
		4	A. Correct.
5	around thereafter, are you referring to	4 5	A. Correct. Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that
5 6			
	around thereafter, are you referring to	5	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that
6	around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?	5 6	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter,
6 7	around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct.	5 6 7	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action
6 7 8	around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell	5 6 7 8	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to
6 7 8 9	around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you	5 6 7 8 9	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?
6 7 8 9 10	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
6 7 8 9 10 11	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct. Q. Why did you make that decision as
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct. Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of A. I was told that Mr. Dondero</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct. Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out?
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct. Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out? A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the debtor.</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct. Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out? A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a fiduciary to HCMLP. It's my job to maximize
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the debtor. Q. Who told you that?</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct. Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out? A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a fiduciary to HCMLP. It's my job to maximize the value of the estate and to collect the
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the debtor. Q. Who told you that? A. I believe it was Kristin Hendrix</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct. Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out? A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a fiduciary to HCMLP. It's my job to maximize the value of the estate and to collect the assets of the estate, including this note.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<pre>around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct. Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn? A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made. Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the debtor. Q. Who told you that? A. I believe it was Kristin Hendrix who had heard it from Frank Waterhouse, was</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes. Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable? A. That's correct. Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out? A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a fiduciary to HCMLP. It's my job to maximize the value of the estate and to collect the assets of the estate, including this note. Number two, in furtherance of that

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	Page 98		Page 99
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	waived any notice of presentment, any demand.	2	3:18. We're going off the record.
3	Once the payment is missed, the entire amount	3	(Recess taken.)
4	is due and owing.	4	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is
5	Q. And I believe you've called my	5	3:29. We're back on the record.
6	defenses nonsensical, right?	6	MR. RUKAVINA: So, just for the
7	A. There there's so many different	7	record, the document that my associate
8	ones, but most of them, yeah.	8	showed to Mr. Seery during questioning
9	Q. Okay. And did you take any steps,	9	a few moments ago is going to be
10	prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if	10	emailed to Mr. Morris and the court
11	NexPoint had any defenses as to why that	11	reporter, and it will be marked as
12	payment hadn't been made?	12	Exhibit 7.
13	A. No.	13	(Exhibit 7, Loan Document
14	Q. Okay. And again, you didn't ask	14	D-NNL-029141, marked for
15		15	
	anyone whether that note had been prepaid?		identification, as of this date.)
16	A. We had discussed the note and what	16	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
17	was due and owing, so it had never been	17	Q. Mr. Seery, before the break you
18	volunteered to me that it otherwise had been	18	mentioned that Ms. Hendrix told you that
19	prepaid in a way that would have obviated the	19	Mr. Waterhouse told her that Mr. Dondero said
20	need to make this payment, so it's pretty	20	that there'll be no payments whatever
21	clear that this payment had to be made.	21	words you used; that's not my question.
22	MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. I need a	22	My question is, do you have that in
23	restroom break. Five or ten minutes?	23	any email or any writing or any recording?
24	(Simultaneous speaking.)	24	A. I don't believe so.
25	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	25	One thing that I just wanted to add
1	Page 100	1	Page 101
1	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	is that I was admonished by the court	2	Q. Okay. Did you read all or part of
3	reporter during the break that I was speaking	3	his deposition?
4	a little too quickly, and so I will try to	4	A. Yes.
I -			
5	slow down quite a bit. And I'll try to be a	5	Q. Okay. All of it?
6	little bit more clear. I've been bouncing	6	A. It was rather lengthy so no, not
6 7	little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter.	6 7	A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it.
6 7 8	little bit more clear. I've been bouncing	6 7 8	A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video
6 7 8 9	little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter.	6 7 8 9	A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it.
6 7 8	<pre>little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. Q. I think you should look at this one. A. Okay.</pre>	6 7 8	 A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? A. No.
6 7 8 9 10 11	<pre>little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. Q. I think you should look at this one. A. Okay. Q. So, again, you said you don't think</pre>	6 7 8 9	 A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you read any of my
6 7 8 9 10	<pre>little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. Q. I think you should look at this one. A. Okay. Q. So, again, you said you don't think that there is any email or recording of what</pre>	6 7 8 9 10	 A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? A. No.
6 7 8 9 10 11	<pre>little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. Q. I think you should look at this one. A. Okay. Q. So, again, you said you don't think</pre>	6 7 8 9 10 11	 A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you read any of my
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	<pre>little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. Q. I think you should look at this one. A. Okay. Q. So, again, you said you don't think that there is any email or recording of what</pre>	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	 A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you read any of my examination of him? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Do you recall if you read
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	<pre>little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. Q. I think you should look at this one. A. Okay. Q. So, again, you said you don't think that there is any email or recording of what Mr. Dondero said, correct?</pre>	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	 A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you read any of my examination of him? A. Yes.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	<pre>little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. Q. I think you should look at this one. A. Okay. Q. So, again, you said you don't think that there is any email or recording of what Mr. Dondero said, correct? A. Not to my recollection, no. He</pre>	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	 A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you read any of my examination of him? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Do you recall if you read
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6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	<pre>little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. Q. I think you should look at this one. A. Okay. Q. So, again, you said you don't think that there is any email or recording of what Mr. Dondero said, correct? A. Not to my recollection, no. He didn't he didn't say it to me. Q. Okay. And and during the break,</pre>	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	 A. It was rather lengthy so no, not all of it. Q. Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you read any of my examination of him? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Do you recall if you read the whole of my examination of him? A. I certainly read the last part of
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	Page 102		Page 103
1	J. Seery	1	Page 103 J. Seery
2	Q. Okay. And when you read	2	A. Ms. Hendrix and Mr. Klos.
3	Mr. Waterhouse's parts of his transcript,	3	Q. Why Mr. Klos?
4	did it include Ms. Deborah Deitsch-Perez's	4	A. He's my CFO.
5	questions?	5	Q. To your knowledge, did he overhear
6	A. There was a section at the end that	6	Mr. Waterhouse or Mr. Dondero say something
7	it was unclear to me who was asking the	7	to that same effect?
8	question, because I think there was also a	8	A. I don't believe he did, no.
9	another attorney	9	Q. Is it fair to say that other than
10	Q. Okay.	10	Mr. Waterhouse's deposition from a few days
11	A Debra Dandeneau.	11	ago, the universe of what you heard about
12	(Simultaneous speaking.)	12	what Mr. Dondero instructed came from
13	A so I wasn't sure who was who	13	Ms. Hendrix?
14	was asking I didn't know who represented	14	A. I don't think that's fair. I might
15	whom and who was asking the questions.	15	have heard it from Mr. Klos, who heard it
16	Q. Did you ever discuss with	16	from Mr. Hendrix from Ms. Hendrix, I'm
17	Mr. Waterhouse the substance of what	17	sorry.
18	Mr. Dondero told him vis-a-vis not making any	18	Q. Okay.
19	more payments?	19	A. So around this time it was clear
20	A. I don't believe so, no.	20	that the payment wasn't made, the shared
21	Q. Did you ever other than legal	21	services payments had had not been made,
22	counsel, did you ever discuss that with	22	none of the payments from related entities
23	anyone at Highland, to your recollection?	23	had been made, and it was clear Mr. Dondero
24	A. Yes.	24	had directed that no payments be made. And
25	Q. Okay. With whom?	25	even around the negotiations for any kind of
1	Page 104 J. Seery	1	Page 105 J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery		J. Seery Jage 105
2		1	J. Seery have.
2 3	J. Seery transition, it was very difficult to agree on any payments because Mr. Dondero had this	1 2	J. Seery have. Q. Because, again, you made the
2 3 4	J. Seery transition, it was very difficult to agree on any payments because Mr. Dondero had this edict of no payments.	1 2 3	J. Seery have. Q. Because, again, you made the determination that the payment hadn't been
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	Page 106		Page 107
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. After you sent your letter of	2	to be marked Exhibit 8. This is your
3	January 7, did you issue any instructions to	3	letter of January 15, 2021.
4	Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else at the debtor	4	(Exhibit 8, Correspondence
5	with respect to anything having to do with	5	Dated January 15, 2021, marked for
6	the NexPoint note or missed payment?	6	identification, as of this date.)
7	A. I don't believe so, no.	7	(Brief off-record discussion.).
8	Q. Are you aware that on or about	8	THE WITNESS: Oh, 7 is to come?
9	January 12, 2021, Mr. Waterhouse and	9	MR. RUKAVINA: Yes, sir.
10	Mr. Dondero had a telephone conversation, at	10	Q. Do you recognize Exhibit 8?
11	least one, regarding the missed payment?	11	A. I do, yes.
12	A. I am aware of that from your	12	Q. Okay. Do you recall authorizing
13	Mr. Waterhouse's deposition. I had no	13	this to be sent under your electronic
14	knowledge of that before the	14	signature?
15	0. Mr. Waterhouse never talked to you	15	A. Yes.
16	~ 1	16	Q. Okay. Do you recall what prompted
17	about that prior to you seeing it in his deposition?	17	you to send Exhibit 8?
1	-	18	-
18	A. No.		A. Yes.
19	Q. Okay. You're aware that on or	19	Q. What was it?
20	about January the 14th, 2021, NexPoint did	20	A. I believe the I think it's the
21	make a \$1.4 million and change payment?	21	day before I was on the stand in a court
22	A. Yes, I am.	22	hearing, and I testified that I'd accelerated
23	MR. RUKAVINA: Okay.	23	this note. Mr. Dondero was there.
24	(Brief off-record discussion.)	24	It appears to me that he
25	MR. RUKAVINA: Sir, this is going	25	immediately learned or realized, oh, my gosh,
	Page 108		Page 109
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I	1 2	
	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior		J. Seery
2	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I	2	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment?
2 3	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior	2 3	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or
2 3 4	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note.	2 3 4	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to
2 3 4 5	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the	2 3 4 5	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the
2 3 4 5	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it. Q. Do you recall what was that like
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and reiterated our demand.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it. Q. Do you recall what was that like the Dondero PI do you recall what
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and reiterated our demand. Q. When you were just now putting words in Mr. Dondero's mouth, were you speculating as to his mental process or did he say anything like that to you? A. He wasn't allowed to talk to me and I didn't so I was speculating, but part of it is that I believe the colloquy you had yesterday with Frank had or two days ago, had a reference to Mr. Dondero being in	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it. Q. Do you recall what was that like the Dondero PI do you recall what proceeding that was? A. I don't I don't recall (Simultaneous speaking.) A at least two that week, I believe. Q. Sitting here today, you think it was January 13 or January 14? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Did you ask Mr. Waterhouse
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and reiterated our demand. Q. When you were just now putting words in Mr. Dondero's mouth, were you speculating as to his mental process or did he say anything like that to you? A. He wasn't allowed to talk to me and I didn't so I was speculating, but part of it is that I believe the colloquy you had yesterday with Frank had or two days ago, had a reference to Mr. Dondero being in court. I don't remember if that was on an	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it. Q. Do you recall what was that like the Dondero PI do you recall what proceeding that was? A. I don't I don't recall (Simultaneous speaking.) A at least two that week, I believe. Q. Sitting here today, you think it was January 13 or January 14? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Did you ask Mr. Waterhouse anything about that \$1.4 million payment
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and reiterated our demand. Q. When you were just now putting words in Mr. Dondero's mouth, were you speculating as to his mental process or did he say anything like that to you? A. He wasn't allowed to talk to me and I didn't so I was speculating, but part of it is that I believe the colloquy you had yesterday with Frank had or two days ago, had a reference to Mr. Dondero being in court. I don't remember if that was on an email or if it was in the the colloquy that you had.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it. Q. Do you recall what was that like the Dondero PI do you recall what proceeding that was? A. I don't I don't recall (Simultaneous speaking.) A at least two that week, I believe. Q. Sitting here today, you think it was January 13 or January 14? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Did you ask Mr. Waterhouse anything about that \$1.4 million payment before you sent Exhibit 8? A. No.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and reiterated our demand. Q. When you were just now putting words in Mr. Dondero's mouth, were you speculating as to his mental process or did he say anything like that to you? A. He wasn't allowed to talk to me and I didn't so I was speculating, but part of it is that I believe the colloquy you had yesterday with Frank had or two days ago, had a reference to Mr. Dondero being in court. I don't remember if that was on an email or if it was in the the colloquy that you had. Q. But at least as of January the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it. Q. Do you recall what was that like the Dondero PI do you recall what proceeding that was? A. I don't I don't recall (Simultaneous speaking.) A at least two that week, I believe. Q. Sitting here today, you think it was January 13 or January 14? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Did you ask Mr. Waterhouse anything about that \$1.4 million payment before you sent Exhibit 8? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you ask anyone else at
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and reiterated our demand. Q. When you were just now putting words in Mr. Dondero's mouth, were you speculating as to his mental process or did he say anything like that to you? A. He wasn't allowed to talk to me and I didn't so I was speculating, but part of it is that I believe the colloquy you had yesterday with Frank had or two days ago, had a reference to Mr. Dondero being in court. I don't remember if that was on an email or if it was in the the colloquy that you had. Q. But at least as of January the 15th, 2021, your then mental impression was	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it. Q. Do you recall what was that like the Dondero PI do you recall what proceeding that was? A. I don't I don't recall (Simultaneous speaking.) A at least two that week, I believe. Q. Sitting here today, you think it was January 13 or January 14? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Did you ask Mr. Waterhouse anything about that \$1.4 million payment before you sent Exhibit 8? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you ask anyone else at the debtor again, we're excluding legal
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note. So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and reiterated our demand. Q. When you were just now putting words in Mr. Dondero's mouth, were you speculating as to his mental process or did he say anything like that to you? A. He wasn't allowed to talk to me and I didn't so I was speculating, but part of it is that I believe the colloquy you had yesterday with Frank had or two days ago, had a reference to Mr. Dondero being in court. I don't remember if that was on an email or if it was in the the colloquy that you had. Q. But at least as of January the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery \$1.4 million payment? A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it. Q. Do you recall what was that like the Dondero PI do you recall what proceeding that was? A. I don't I don't recall (Simultaneous speaking.) A at least two that week, I believe. Q. Sitting here today, you think it was January 13 or January 14? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Did you ask Mr. Waterhouse anything about that \$1.4 million payment before you sent Exhibit 8? A. No. Q. Okay. Did you ask anyone else at

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	Page 110		Page 111
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	debtor as to anything having to do with why	2	let's just say January 12, whatever day it
3	that \$1.4 million payment had come in?	3	was - conference with Mr. Dondero, correct?
4	A. I did not. I don't well, I	4	A. None.
5	don't recall doing that.	5	Q. And no knowledge of what they may
6	Q. Why didn't you return I'm sorry,	6	have discussed?
7	strike that.	7	A. No.
8	Why didn't the debtor return the	8	Q. Okay. Can you think of a reason
9	payment?	9	why Dondero would have caused that
10	A. Because I would apply it on account	10	\$1.4 million payment to have been made?
11	and reduce the total amount owed and make the	11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
12	demand again.	12	form of the question.
13	Q. Why wouldn't you have applied it to	13	A. Can I speculate?
14	the amounts owing under the shared services	14	Q. If you're speculating, tell me
15	agreement and payroll reimbursement	15	you're speculating, sure.
16	agreement?	16	A. I I can speculate, yeah.
17	A. I believe because it was on account	17	Q. Speculate.
18	of the note, and the note had already been	18	A. He realized that the note had been
19	accelerated, so any payments are on account	19	accelerated and that he was going to try to
20	of the note.	20	decelerate it.
20	Q. What led you to believe that the	20	You know, one thing sort of
22	payment was on account of the note?	22	interesting that well, maybe there's a
23	A. I don't recall.	22	question on it.
-		23	-
24	Q. So until you read Mr. Waterhouse's		MR. RUKAVINA: Let's go off the
25	transcript, you had no knowledge of his -	25	record for a second.
	Page 112		Page 113
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.)	2	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read
2 3	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	2 3	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read it. This purports to be the amended and
2 3 4	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 3:40. We're going off the record.	2 3 4	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read it. This purports to be the amended and restated shared services agreement between
2 3 4 5	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 3:40. We're going off the record. (Recess taken.)	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read it. This purports to be the amended and restated shared services agreement between NexPoint and the debtor.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 3:40. We're going off the record. (Recess taken.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read it. This purports to be the amended and restated shared services agreement between NexPoint and the debtor. I'll represent to you that it is a
2 3 4 5	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 3:40. We're going off the record. (Recess taken.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 3:42. We're back on the record.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read it. This purports to be the amended and restated shared services agreement between NexPoint and the debtor.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 3:40. We're going off the record. (Recess taken.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read it. This purports to be the amended and restated shared services agreement between NexPoint and the debtor. I'll represent to you that it is a
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 3:40. We're going off the record. (Recess taken.) VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 3:42. We're back on the record. (Brief off-record discussion.) MR. RUKAVINA: So during	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read it. This purports to be the amended and restated shared services agreement between NexPoint and the debtor. I'll represent to you that it is a true and correct copy, as filed by your attorneys. And if I'm wrong about that, then certainly you're not going to be held to your
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	Page 114		Page 115
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	for itself, but as the CRO/CEO, what was your	2	A. Yeah, I think the termination
3	understanding of what this contract	3	notice had gone out but it had not yet become
4	effectuated as between the debtor and	4	effective.
5	NexPoint?	5	Q. Okay. And we see here what some
б	A. Part of the way the debtor was set	6	of the services that the debtor was
7	up and the way it was run was that the debtor	7	providing. We see it on the top of page 4,
8	would provide certain services to certain of	8	if you want to flip there.
9	the affiliated entities. And those would be,	9	It says, amongst other things,
10	to some degree, embodied in this agreement.	10	finance and accounting, payments,
11	Oftentimes the debtor provided	11	bookkeeping, cash management.
12	services to affiliates without any agreement,	12	Do you see all that, sir?
13	oftentimes they provided additional services	13	A. Yes.
14	that may not have been in the agreement, and	14	Q. Okay. Do you have an understanding
15	that was because they were such closely	15	of what those terms under this agreement
16	related parties.	16	meant?
17	Q. As of December 2020, do you agree	17	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
18	with me as of December 31, 2020, do you	18	form of the question.
19	agree with me that this agreement had not yet	19	A. Yes, I do.
20	been terminated?	20	Q. Okay. Give me your understanding,
21	A. As of December 20?	21	please, sir.
22	Q. I'm sorry.	22	A. The debtor provided back office
23	As of December 31, 2020, do you	23	support for under those terms, for the
24	agree with me that this agreement had not yet	24	affiliated entity and received some form of
25	been terminated?	25	remuneration in exchange for that and other
	Page 116		Page 117
1	Page 116 J. Seery	1	Page 117 J. Seery
1 2		1 2	-
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery services.	2	J. Seery NexPoint's funds?
2 3	J. Seery services. Q. And when you said affiliated	2 3	J. Seery NexPoint's funds? A. Correct.
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	already been told don't make the payment, it	2	payment by NexPoint for Mr. Waterhouse's
3	wouldn't be scheduled.	3	approval?
4	Q. So, to summarize, it's ultimately	4	A. No, I'm not.
5	up to NexPoint to specifically approve or	5	Q. If there is no such email, do you
6	disapprove any potentially scheduled	6	have any explanation or understanding for why
7	payments?	7	there wouldn't be such an email?
8	A. Correct.	8	A. Sure.
9	Q. Okay. And in this instance, what	9	Q. Okay. What is it?
10	you've learned is that Mr. Waterhouse was	10	A. She was told not to make the
11	- told by Dondero, don't make the payment?	11	payment.
12	A. Correct.	12	Q. So, consequently, she did not
13	Q. Okay. And that that is the sum	13	include it in any upcoming payment list?
14	of your understanding as to why the	14	A. Correct.
15	December 31 payment wasn't made?	15	Q. And that goes back to what you
16	A. I don't think that's the sum of it.	16	tell told me before, that Waterhouse told
17	There's there's emails that show that	17	her what Dondero told him, right?
18	Ms. Hendrix prepared and requested from	18	A. That's correct.
19	Mr. Waterhouse payment of these amounts	19	Q. Okay. And are you aware that
20	okayed and he approves them. So they they	20	Mr. Waterhouse said testified that that
21	are the amounts that are permitted to be	21	instruction had come sometime in early
22	approved, and they're all to third parties.	22	December of 2020?
23	None of them are to HCMLP.	23	A. I don't recall.
23		23	This was in the testimony
24		24	_
25	Ms. Hendrix prepared the December 31 note	25	yesterday?
1	Page 120 J. Seery	1	Page 121 J. Seery
2	Q. From a couple days ago.	2	form of the question.
3	A. Yeah, two days ago, I'm sorry.	3	A. Absolutely.
1 2	A. ICall, two days ago, I m sorry.	1 5	
	I don't regall the gradific dates	1	-
4	I don't recall the specific dates	4	Q. Did they have no such obligation?
4 5	that he said that.	5	Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No.
4 5 6	that he said that. Q. Well, whatever the whatever the	5 6	Q. Did they have no such obligation?A. No.Q. Is it your understanding that they
4 5 6 7	that he said that. Q. Well, whatever the whatever the dates that he testified about were with	5 6 7	Q. Did they have no such obligation?A. No.Q. Is it your understanding that they had no obligation to communicate with
4 5 6 7 8	that he said that. Q. Well, whatever the whatever the dates that he testified about were with respect to the Dondero discussion, would you	5 6 7 8	Q. Did they have no such obligation?A. No.Q. Is it your understanding that they had no obligation to communicate withMr. Dondero and inform him of the
4 5 6 7 8 9	that he said that. Q. Well, whatever the whatever the dates that he testified about were with respect to the Dondero discussion, would you have any reason to dispute those dates?	5 6 7 8 9	 Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No. Q. Is it your understanding that they had no obligation to communicate with Mr. Dondero and inform him of the consequences that would happen if that
4 5 7 8 9 10	<pre>that he said that. Q. Well, whatever the whatever the dates that he testified about were with respect to the Dondero discussion, would you have any reason to dispute those dates? A. No.</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10	Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No. Q. Is it your understanding that they had no obligation to communicate with Mr. Dondero and inform him of the consequences that would happen if that payment wasn't made?
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4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<pre>that he said that. Q. Well, whatever the whatever the dates that he testified about were with respect to the Dondero discussion, would you have any reason to dispute those dates? A. No. Q. Okay. So, sir, is it your understanding that having been given that instruction by Mr. Dondero, that employees of the debtor, including Mr. Waterhouse, had no further obligation with respect to that December 31 payment?</pre>	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No. Q. Is it your understanding that they had no obligation to communicate with Mr. Dondero and inform him of the consequences that would happen if that payment wasn't made? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form. (Simultaneous speaking and reporter interjection.) A. I I don't think it would be appropriate for the employees of the debtor to go to the founder of the organization, who owns and controls all of the entities, after he's given them a direction, to go challenge his direction. And that's just not the way Highland ever worked, from what I could see. Q. Did you believe, in December of 2020, that employees of Highland had a

-	Page 122	_	Page 123
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	respect to that promissory note?	2	something that doesn't exist. There's no
3	A. Not specifically with respect to	3	hats. There's one hat for Mr. Dondero. He
4	the promissory note, but generally it was a	4	controls all of the entities other than
5	concern of mine throughout the case.	5	HCMLP.
6	Q. Well, we can can we agree on	6	And his edicts, whether they be
7	this; that when Mr. Dondero gave	7	from prior to our taking over HCMLP as
8	Mr. Waterhouse that instruction,	8	independent directors or with respect to any
9	Mr. Waterhouse should have known that that	9	of the other entities, are final.
10	instruction was not on behalf of Highland	10	Q. Mr. Dondero might not have had two
11	because Mr. Dondero no longer had any	11	hats, but in December of 2020, would you
12	management role with Highland?	12	agree that Mr. Waterhouse wore two hats?
13	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	13	A. Yes, he did.
14	form of the question.	14	Q. The CFO of the debtor and the
15	A. I think he should have known that,	15	treasurer of NexPoint?
16	yes.	16	A. That's correct.
17	Q. And can we therefore agree that	17	Q. And both being executive officer
18	Mr. Waterhouse should have known that that	18	positions, correct?
19	instruction from Dondero was coming from	19	A. Correct.
20	NexPoint	20	Q. Pardon me. With, to your
21	MR. MORRIS: Objection	21	understanding, under Delaware law, fiduciary
22	(Simultaneous speaking.)	22	duties to his respective principals, correct?
23	Q Dondero wearing his NexPoint	23	A. I believe these are both Delaware
24	hat?	24	but I'm not positive.
25	A. I I think you're trying to parse	25	Q. Certainly you would have expected
1	Page 124 J Spery	1	Page 125 J Spery
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery Mr. Waterhouse to have fiduciary duties, in	2	J. Seery December of 2020 with respect to this
2 3	J. Seery Mr. Waterhouse to have fiduciary duties, in December of 2020, to the debtor?	2 3	J. Seery December of 2020 with respect to this promissory note, might have conflicted with
2 3 4	J. Seery Mr. Waterhouse to have fiduciary duties, in December of 2020, to the debtor? A. Yes.	2 3 4	J. Seery December of 2020 with respect to this promissory note, might have conflicted with his duties - whatever they were - to
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	Page 126		Page 127
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	it, correct?	2	on the 31st, and we sent it, or if it was in
3	A. Yes.	3	December. I believe I testified to that
4	Q. Okay. And would you expect	4	before. And the shared service payments
5	Mr. Waterhouse to have had similar duties to	5	hadn't been made, so there may have been some
6	the bankruptcy estate?	6	discussion that Dondero's cut it off.
7	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	7	Q. Well, I I think I asked you
8	form of the question.	8	before about the timing in reference to the
9	A. No, I believe that would be my	9	January 7 letter, when
10	direction, if I had I would be his	10	A. Correct.
11	superior at HCMLP. If I directed that we	11	Q you said it might have been
12	collect it, we collect it. If I direct that	12	right around there.
13	we don't, then we don't.	13	Am, am I understanding or strike
14	Q. Is it fair to say, from your prior	14	all that.
15	testimony, that at no time prior to January	15	Is it your testimony that maybe you
16	1, 2021 did Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. Klos or	16	learned about the Dondero instruction on or
17	Ms. Hendrix tell you about the Dondero	17	before December 31, 2020?
18	instruction not to make any more payments?	18	MR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and
19	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	19	answered.
20	form of the question.	20	A. That that's correct. I don't
21	A. Prior to when?	21	recall when I learned but, factually, I know
22	Q. January 1, 2021.	22	that the payments on shared services hadn't
23	A. I I don't as I said, I don't	23	been made. I could not have known that the
24	recall if it was right around the time of	24	December 31 payment wouldn't have been made
25	the the payment had been failed to be made	25	on December 31 until after December 31.
1	Page 128	1	Page 129
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2	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned	2	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could
2 3	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the	2 3	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't
2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of	2 3 4	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of time, could you not have? A. I I could have, but I did not learn that. Q. Okay. That's that's what I'm trying that's what I'm trying to ascertain. I'm trying to refresh your memory. So you can now testify that prior to the payment not being made, you did not know about the Dondero instruction not to make the payment? A. With respect to the the note payment, that's correct. Q. Okay. So what that's what I mean. 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it. I knew the effect with respect to the shared service because it wouldn't be paid. He might have changed his mind and I didn't know that. Q. Okay. I'm going to I'm going to try again. On or about January 31, 2020 A. December 31. Q. Thank you. On or before December 31, 2020, sitting here today, do you remember being informed of the Dondero instruction not to make payments? MR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and answered. A. Again, I don't recall the exact date I learned. I believe I certainly knew that the shared service payments had not been

	Page 130		Page 131
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	response to my answer.	2	Q where Dondero tells Waterhouse
3	Why, why does why is that	3	no more payments, right?
4	relevant? Because from that you deduced that	4	A. Fair enough.
5	all payments were to cease?	5	Q. So sitting here today, it is
б	A. No, they were due before.	6	possible that before December 31, 2020, you
7	Q. That's okay, I apologize.	7	had heard vis-a-vis Ms. Hendrix that NexPoint
8	So this shared services contract	8	would not be making its scheduled payment
9	required periodic payments, right?	9	because of the Dondero edict?
10	A. Correct.	10	A. Scheduled payment on the note?
11	Q. And, and and are you saying that	11	Q. On the note.
12	before December 31, 2020, NexPoint had	12	A. No, I don't think that's fair.
13	already failed to make at least one of those	13	Q. That's all I'm okay. So I'm
14	periodic payments?	14	I'm asking just about the note.
15	A. I believe so, yes.	15	As of December 31, 2020, sitting
16	Q. Okay. Did you, at that point in	16	here today, do you remember having heard that
17	time, inquire as to why that payment hadn't	17	NexPoint would not be making its December 31
18	been made?	18	payment because of the Dondero edict?
19	A. I don't recall, but I loosely	19	A. I pretty clearly recall that the
20	recall - but I don't know exactly when I	20	payments had not been made, and I had heard
21	learned it - that there had been this edict.	21	that there had been an edict.
22	Q. Okay. I'll use that word "edict."	22	The full implication of that edict
23	That's the one we're both saying the same	23	and whether it extended to the note I did not
24	thing, right	24	know until the payment was missed.
25	A. Correct.	25	Q. Understood. I think that I
	Page 132		Page 133
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	think thank you. I understand now.	2	Q. Okay. When you say largely, can
3	So you knew that there had been an	3	you think of anyone right now that was no
4	edict not to make payments, you just didn't	4	longer there or changed?
5	realize definitively that that edict also	5	A. Not specifically. There were
6	applied to the promissory note payment?	6	there was some attrition during 2020 and we
7	A. Correct.	7	didn't specifically replace some of those,
8	Q. Okay. By December 31, 2020, had	8	but some some people we did replace. We
9	the debtor laid off certain people, certain	9	actually hired people in 2020.
10	employees, let's just say for cost-cutting	10	Q. But as with respect pardon me.
11	purposes as opposed to regular terminations,	11	As it respects strike that.
12	you know you know what I'm trying to say?	12	With respect only to the payment
13	Had there been just	13	we're talking about, i.e. scheduling future
14	A. Had there been a RIF?	14	permission to pay them, all those personnel
15	Q. A reduction	15	that would have had a role in on that for
16	~ (Simultaneous speaking.)	16	the debtor were still there in December 2020?
17	Q. Yes, yes.	17	A. I I believe that group was
18	A. No, there had not been.	18	largely the same.
19	Q. So to your understanding, the	19	Q. Waterhouse, Klos and Hendrix?
20	debtor personnel that would have had any	20	A. Ellison Rober I can't remember
21		21	her last name. So there there were a
	involvement with these treasury and payment		
22	involvement with these treasury and payment services, helping affiliated companies make	22	couple others in that group as well. and then
22 23	services, helping affiliated companies make		couple others in that group as well, and then there were some other junior people that
23	services, helping affiliated companies make their payments, all those personnel were	23	couple others in that group as well, and then there were some other junior people that would have assisted them.
	services, helping affiliated companies make		there were some other junior people that

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	Page 134		Page 135
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	question. Let's say that on December the	2	A. I certainly
3	10th, 2020, Hendrix tells you that Dondero	3	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
4	has instructed that the note payment by	4	(Simultaneous speaking and
5	NexPoint will not be made.	5	reporter interjection.)
6	Would you have issued any	6	A. I certainly was familiar with the
7	instructions to employees of the debtor	7	agreement and had consulted it numerous
8	following up on that, what you just learned?	8	times.
9	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	9	If your question is did I consult
10	form of the question.	10	this agreement with respect to that demand
11	A. I, I don't know know if	11	letter, the answer's no.
		12	
12	knowing what I know now and that they hadn't		Q. Okay. If you'll turn to Section
13	made the shared service payments at that time	13	2.06 of this agreement for me, sir.
14	and that it seemed to be going towards	14	And certainly you can look at the
15	litigation, I would not have done anything, I	15	definitions, but the staff and services
16	don't think.	16	provider, that's the debtor, right?
17	Q. Okay. So, again, to round off this	17	A. Yes.
18	topic, you do not believe that employees of	18	Q. And management company, that's
19	the debtor had any obligation, after	19	NexPoint, right?
20	Dondero's edict, to follow up with NexPoint	20	A. Yes.
21	about its upcoming note payment?	21	Q. Okay. So Section 2.06, the last
22	A. No.	22	sentence, sir, that basically says that the
23	Q. Okay. Did you consult this shared	23	debtor will not have any duties or
24	services agreement, to your recollection,	24	obligations to NexPoint unless those duties
25	before your January 7, 2021 letter?	25	and obligations are specifically provided for
1	Page 136	1	-
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery in this agreement.	2	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an
2 3	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly?	2 3	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and
2 3 4	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes.	2 3 4	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section	2 3 4 5	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly?
2 3 4	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please,	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly.
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please,	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section. A. (Document review.) Okay.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section. A. (Document review.)	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section. A. (Document review.) Okay.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section. A. (Document review.) Okay. Q. And and you might want to look	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today? A. I know what every one of those
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section. A. (Document review.) Okay. Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today? A. I know what every one of those words mean.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery in this agreement. Did I paraphrase that correctly? A. Roughly, yes. Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section. A. (Document review.) Okay. Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor. A. Okay. Q. So I read this and, and and it says (as read): Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, each covered person shall discharge its duties under this agreement with the care, skill, prudence and	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today? A. I know what every one of those words mean. Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to Mr. Dondero and advise him of the ramifications of his edict and try to persuade him otherwise? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yes, I do. Q. Okay.
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	Page 138		Page 139
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	would you expect your officers to come to you	2	to you, after you issue an instruction and if
3	and say, Mr. Seery, just so you know, there's	3	they believe it's bad for the company, to
4	going to be consequences, please reconsider?	4	dissuade you of that instruction?
5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	5	A. I, I
6	A. Me personally?	6	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
7	Q. Yes.	7	form of the question.
8	MR. MORRIS: form of the	8	A. I would prefer that they did, yes.
9	question.	9	Q. Okay. NexPoint was paying the
10	(Simultaneous speaking and	10	debtor's employees in this including
11	reporter interjection.)	11	Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix, for
12	A. My relationship with people who	12	services under this contract, correct?
13	work with or for me is very different than I	13	A. Correct.
14	understand Mr. Dondero's. But as a	14	0. And other than amounts in
15	professional and someone who's been doing	15	controversy that are not insignificant,
16	this for thirty years, if I give my	16	NexPoint paid millions of dollars to the
17	direction, I expect it to be followed. And I	17	debtor under this contract, did it not?
18	know, from what I have heard and seen,	18	A. I don't believe it paid millions
19	Mr. Dondero is that to the nth degree.	19	
1	_	20	Q. Okay. A of dollars.
20	Q. So, again, I understand that you		
21	expect your instructions, Mr. Seery's	21	MR. MORRIS: Yeah, objection.
22	instructions, to be followed.	22	Q. Okay. But it paid it paid some
23	A. Yes.	23	amount under this contract?
24	Q. But from your officers, do you	24	A. I would say for the services, one
25	believe that they have an obligation to come	25	would easily say a paltry amount. And the
		1	
1	Page 140	1	
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip	2	J. Seery losses, that one would have some
2 3	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland.	2 3	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications
2 3 4	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that	2 3 4	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I
2 3	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive	2 3 4 5	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there.
2 3 4	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I
2 3 4 5	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses of action is going to be detrimental has no	2 3 4 5	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601 also applied to you with respect to as a
2 3 4 5	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601
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	Page 142		Page 143
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	check, but our my understanding, based	2	other provision.
3	upon the work of the accounting group, was	3	Q. Do you believe that Section 601
4	that the payment was due and scheduled. It	4	played any role at all, now that you're
5	had to be paid.	5	reading it, with respect to your decision to
6	If it had not been due, it had been	6	call the note as opposed to call NexPoint and
7	prepaid, it would not have been scheduled.	7	say, hey, what happened?
8	So there was no need for me to go doublecheck	8	A. I don't I don't believe it
9	that.	9	governs it at all.
10	Q. And you did not separately inquire	10	Q. Do you believe it governed in any
11	of anyone at the debtor as to whether	11	respect whatever Mr. Waterhouse and
12	NexPoint had a defense to your January 7	12	Mr. Dondero discussed on or about January
13	letter, correct?	13	January 12, 2021?
14	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	14	A. I don't know the substance of their
15	form of the question.	15	discussion, other than that the what we've
16	A. No, I did not.	16	referred to as the edict, at least that's as
17	Q. Is that not, sir, something that	17	it's been reported. So I don't know what
18	would have been prudent to do pursuant to	18	colloquy they had with respect to
19	Section 601, check as to whether NexPoint had	19	ramifications of making a payment or not.
20	made a prepayment or had a defense?	20	Clearly, there should have been
21	MR. MORRIS: Objection	21	more ramifications for not making the shared
22	A. I	22	services payments, but Mr. Dondero issued a
23	(Simultaneous speaking.)	23	similar edict or
24	A I don't believe that's something	24	(Simultaneous speaking.)
25	that would have been required by this or any	25	Q. Mr. Dondero didn't issue a similar
	- 144		
1	J. Seery	1	Page 145 J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery edict?	1	J. Seery
	J. Seery		J. Seery account when you executed and issued your
2	J. Seery edict? A. I said he did.	2	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter?
2 3 4	J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did.	2 3	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. So why didn't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. So why didh't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I don't recall if it was five, but this one
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. So why didn't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the parties prior course of dealing, i.e. rolling	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. So why didh't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I don't recall if it was five, but this one contained five notes, if three term notes that were rolled notes. But those were done
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. So why didn't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the parties prior course of dealing, i.e. rolling up prior notes, had any role on January 7, 2021?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I don't recall if it was five, but this one contained five notes, if three term notes that were rolled notes. But those were done prior to bankruptcy and they were done with
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. So why didn't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the parties prior course of dealing, i.e. rolling up prior notes, had any role on January 7, 2021? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I don't recall if it was five, but this one contained five notes, if three term notes that were rolled notes. But those were done prior to bankruptcy and they were done with Mr. Dondero on both sides of the transaction.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. Q. He did. So why didn't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the parties prior course of dealing, i.e. rolling up prior notes, had any role on January 7, 2021? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I don't recall if it was five, but this one contained five notes, if three term notes that were rolled notes. But those were done prior to bankruptcy and they were done with Mr. Dondero on both sides of the transaction. Q. So your borrower, who owes you
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. Q. He did. So why didn't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the parties prior course of dealing, i.e. rolling up prior notes, had any role on January 7, 2021? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. No, I don't. 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I don't recall if it was five, but this one contained five notes, if three term notes that were rolled notes. But those were done prior to bankruptcy and they were done with Mr. Dondero on both sides of the transaction. Q. So your borrower, who owes you 24 million and change that you're under a
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery edict? A. I said he did. Q. He did. Q. He did. So why didn't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon NexPoint's failure to pay? A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees. Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the parties prior course of dealing, i.e. rolling up prior notes, had any role on January 7, 2021? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter? A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note. Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I don't recall if it was five, but this one contained five notes, if three term notes that were rolled notes. But those were done prior to bankruptcy and they were done with Mr. Dondero on both sides of the transaction. Q. So your borrower, who owes you

1	Page 146		Page 147
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	borrower, and your affiliate entity misses a	2	Q. And what was your view?
3	scheduled payment, you believe that you have	3	A. I don't think certainly by that
4	no obligation to do anything before you	4	time, if there ever had been, I don't think
5	called the note immediately due?	5	by that time there were any fiduciary duties
6	A. That that's absolutely correct.	6	owed.
7	MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. Do you mind	7	Q. Okay. Real quick, we're still on
8	if we take another restroom break?	8	this shared services agreement, sir, page 4.
9	MR. MORRIS: Sure.	9	This is a list of services to be provided.
10	MR. RUKAVINA: I'm getting	10	I'm just you can read it in detail, but I
11	near near the end. Five minutes,	11	just have a very simple question. 4B talks
12	please.	12	about legal compliance risk analysis.
13	(Brief off-record discussion.)	13	In December of 2020, was the debtor
14	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	14	providing legal services to NexPoint?
15	4:16. We're off the record.	15	A. I don't believe so, or at least not
16	(Recess taken.)	16	any there might have been some assistance.
17	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	17	I'm trying to think what would have been done
18	4:21. We're back on the record.	18	at that time in terms of support, but there
19	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	19	certainly compliance was probably
20	Q. Did you have a view, as of December	20	transferred pretty fully by then.
20	2020 or January 2021, as to whether the	21	I don't think NexPoint was involved
22	debtor owed any fiduciary duties to NexPoint?	22	in any litigation at that point, certainly
22	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	23	not that the debtor was supporting, so $I - I$
23	form of the question.	23	don't think very much, if anything.
25	A. I I believe I did.	25	Q. Okay. Do you know whether NexPoint
25	A. I I DEITEVE I did.	25	2. Okay. Do you know whether hextorne
	Page 148		Page 149
1	JSeerv	1	-
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	had written policies and procedures in place	2	J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the
2 3	had written policies and procedures in place with respect to how it conducted its	2 3	J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the total principal on this note on January 12,
2 3 4	had written policies and procedures in place with respect to how it conducted its business?	2 3 4	J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the total principal on this note on January 12, 2021?
2 3 4 5	had written policies and procedures in place with respect to how it conducted its business? A. I'm not sure.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the total principal on this note on January 12, 2021? I'm sorry, were you aware of it at
2 3 4 5 6	had written policies and procedures in place with respect to how it conducted its business? A. I'm not sure. MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. You can put	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the total principal on this note on January 12, 2021? I'm sorry, were you aware of it at about that point in time?
2 3 4 5 6 7	<pre>had written policies and procedures in place with respect to how it conducted its business? A. I'm not sure. MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. You can put that down, sir.</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the total principal on this note on January 12, 2021? I'm sorry, were you aware of it at about that point in time? A. No, not until I saw this email.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	<pre>had written policies and procedures in place with respect to how it conducted its business? A. I'm not sure. MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. You can put that down, sir. (Brief off-record discussion.)</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the total principal on this note on January 12, 2021? I'm sorry, were you aware of it at about that point in time? A. No, not until I saw this email. Q. Okay. Did you ever discuss so I
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	Page 150		Page 151
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	going to be Exhibit 11, sir.	2	there was a court hearing.
3	(Exhibit 11, Email Chain	3	Do you remember what that court
4	D-NNL-028514 - D-NNL-028515, marked	4	hearing might have been?
5	for identification, as of this date.)	5	A. IIdon't.
6	Q. So, Mr. Seery, this you're not	6	Q. Okay. Do you have any recollection
7	on this email chain, but this email begins on	7	as to why you would have been asking about
8	December 10, 2020, from Ms. Hendrix to	8	the original maturity date of the NPA loan
9	Mr. Romey I'm sorry, from Mr. Romey to	9	before it was restructured?
10	Ms. Hendrix, where he writes (as read):	10	A. I think it's a mistake, that there
11	Can you tell me the original	11	were there were five notes
12	maturity date for the NPA loan	12	Q. Okay.
13	before it was restructured? Sorry	13	A that were rolled into this one.
14	for the hustle. Seery is asking	14	I may have just been checking
15	for this ASAP for today's court	15	whether they were all demand or if any of
16	hearing.	16	them have had a maturity. I don't I don't
17	Do you see that, sir?	17	know why I would have been asking for it. I
18	A. I do see it.	18	don't recall what the hearing was about.
19	Q. Do you recall asking Mr. Romey	19	Q. Fair enough. You testified before
20	anything about that loan or anything about	20	that and I'm not trying to put words in
20	this on or about January December 10,	20	your mouth, sir.
22	2020?	22	You testified before that there was
22		22	
	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the		something maybe inappropriate or shady about
24	A. Not specifically.	24	the roll-up of the five notes into the one NexPoint note.
25	Q. Okay. It says that you were	25	Nexpoint note.
	Page 152		-
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2	-	1 2	J. Seery Q. Mr. Surgent?
	J. Seery Whatever whatever words you used, was that your speculation as to why it	-	J. Seery Q. Mr. Surgent? A. I don't recall specifically. He
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	MR. MORRIS: Objection	2	So I I know way more now, so
3	Q not up to what you expected them	3	it's hard to separate those things. But with
4	to be?	4	respect to Mr. Waterhouse, I think he was
5	A. No, I just preferred, for what we	5	he was adequate. I think the team was very
6	were doing, Mr. Klos.	6	good. And I think that the I was always
7	Q. Did you ever form the opinion that	7	concerned about loyalties.
8	Mr. Waterhouse was I don't know what word	8	Q. Did you ever, when you were the
9	to use Mr. Dondero's stooge or tentacle?	9	CRO, discipline, censure, caution
10	A. No.	10	Mr. Waterhouse about anything?
11	Q. Okay. Did you have any opinion as	11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
12	to whether he was again, I don't know what	12	form of the question.
13	word to use whether he was a responsible,	13	A. I actually gave him a raise on his
14	proper CFO when he was the CFO of Highland	14	base salary because he couldn't get bonuses
15	and you were the CRO?	15	because of the Court order structure. I did
16	A. While he was CFO, I I think he	16	caution him and many employees about
17	was adequate, but I think the challenge that	17	loyalties and their duties to the debtor.
18	the employees had at Highland was the pull	18	Q. And you remember cautioning him
19	that Dondero had, the go-betweens that he	19	specifically about that or as part of larger
20	had.	20	group?
21	And it's hard to say at a specific	21	A. As part I I believe it was
22	time, because I know a lot more now,	22	part of the larger group. I certainly did it
23	including to do with payments, including tens	23	with both legal and accounting, particularly
24	of millions of dollars offshore, with respect	24	after Judge Jernigan's expressed
25	to Ellington.	25	expression of concern in in and around
	Page 156		Page 157
1	Page 156 J. Seery	1	Page 157 J. Seery
1 2		1 2	
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery July of 2020.	2	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me.
2 3	J. Seery July of 2020. Q. After you learned about the	2 3	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to
2 3 4	J. Seery July of 2020. Q. After you learned about the NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment,	2 3 4	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse?
2 3 4 5	J. Seery July of 2020. Q. After you learned about the NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment, did you give any instructions to	2 3 4 5	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse? A. The whole accounting team as well
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery July of 2020. Q. After you learned about the NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment, did you give any instructions to Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else to the effect	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse? A. The whole accounting team as well as the legal team.
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery July of 2020. Q. After you learned about the NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment, did you give any instructions to Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else to the effect of don't negotiate any settlement or cure or	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse? A. The whole accounting team as well as the legal team. Q. Do you recall if that's in writing
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	Page 158		Page 159
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	beyond obvious to Mr. Dondero?	2	to make up a new story?
3	A. Yes, I do, well	3	Q. Well, sir, I object to you saying
4	Q. Why	4	I'm going to make anything up. I'll let
5	A beyond well beyond obvious.	5	Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Dondero testify as
6	Q. Why is that?	6	they did.
7	A. Because the shared services had	7	But certainly you would you
8	already been terminated. We were heading	8	would not be aware of any deal that Frank or
9	towards a confirmation of a monetization	9	James Dondero might have made, right?
10	plan. He had already failed to pay shared	10	A. I I would not be aware of any
11	service amounts. He had already been found	11	such deal.
12	in contempt of court.	12	Q. Certainly you would have never,
13	The idea that he could cut a deal	13	ahead of time or after the fact, authorized
14	with a former employee over material asset of	14	any such deal?
15	the debtor is nonsensical.	15	A. No, I would not.
16	Q. Okay. Mr. Waterhouse wasn't a	16	Q. Okay. Why not? Why not accept a
17	former employee on January 12, 2021, was he?	17	cure and reinstate the note?
18	A. No, he was not, correct.	18	A. Because the full amount of the note
19	Q. And although the notice of	19	was due. We're in a monetization plan. This
20	termination had gone out for the shared	20	is an opportunity to monetize an asset.
21	services agreement, it had not been	21	MR. RUKAVINA: Just a moment,
22	terminated as of January 12, 2021, correct?	22	please.
23	A. That's correct.	23	THE WITNESS: Sure.
24	Are you are you implying that	24	MR. RUKAVINA: It's 4:30 local,
25	that there was such a deal and you're going	25	right?
	Page 160		Page 161
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Mr. Seery, allow me just five	2	background, you mentioned that you had been
3	minutes to consult with my co-counsel. I	3	involved in hundreds of bankruptcies.
4	believe that I'm done, but before I make	4	Could you tell us, just by listing
5	that decision, I just want to have a few	5	them, the the most substantial companies
6	minutes.	6	that you were involved with bankruptcies for?
7	THE WITNESS: Certainly.	7	A. United Airlines, TWA, Columbia Gas,
8	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	8	Lehman Brothers. It, it it's a
9	4:34. We're going off the record.	9	thirty-year career, so
10	(Recess taken.)	10	Q. I'm just asking for the highlights.
11	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	11	A. Those aren't bad.
12	4:40. We're back on the record.	12	Q. Okay. Were there any other
13	(Brief off-record discussion.)	13	financial services companies that you were
14	MR. MORRIS: Pass the witness.	14	involved in the bankruptcy or restructuring
15	Mr. Seery, thank you for doing this	15	of?
16	in person in your beautiful city.	16	A. Lehman Brothers would be considered
17	THE WITNESS: Thank you. It's	17	a financial services company.
18	coming back, slowly.	18	Q. Okay. And what kind of company
19	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Good	19	would you consider Highland?
20	afternoon, Mr. Seery.	20	A. Highland is a financial advisor.
21	THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.	21	Q. Okay. Were there any other
22	EXAMINATION	22	financial advisors that you were involved in
1	BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:	23	the restructuring or bankruptcy of?
23		1	
23 24	Q. When Mr. Rukavina started	24	A. I guess technically MF Global, in
	Q. When Mr. Rukavina started questioning you, and you were describing your	24 25	A. I guess technically MF Global, in some of its places, would fall into that

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1	Page 162		Page 163
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	category. Madoff would fall into that	2	compensation for the CEOs
3	category.	3	A. I, I
4	Q. Any others?	4	(Simultaneous speaking.)
5	A. There may be. Off the top of my	5	A no, I wouldn't be able to tell
б	head, I don't recall.	б	you that.
7	Q. Okay. And in the course of those	7	Q. Even a ballpark you couldn't
8	engagements, were you generally aware of the	8	couldn't say?
9	top-level executive compensation for the	9	A. They're all different kinds of
10	top-level executives prior to the the	10	companies.
11	bankruptcies?	11	Q. I understand, but can you for
12	A. Not specifically. It just depends	12	any of those companies, can you give me a
13	on each each company.	13	ballpark of what the compensation was?
14	Q. Generally, were you were you	14	A. It could be anywhere in any
15	aware? Is that the kind of thing you took	15	particular year from zero to \$25 million.
16	note of?	16	Q. Okay. And is there a general
17	A. Not it I was more concerned	17	pattern that founder CEOs have higher
18	with the particular issue that I was dealing	18	compensation than hired-off-the-street CEOs?
19	with as opposed to whether somebody what	19	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
20	somebody made.	20	form of the question.
21	Q. In the bankruptcies that you were	21	A. No, there's not. In fact, it could
22	involved with, with the with the larger	22	sometimes go the other way.
23	companies and all of the financial services	23	Q. But but is it sometimes the
24	or financial advisory companies, can you	24	case, in your experience, that founder CEO
25	can you tell me generally the range of	25	compensation is on the high end?
1	Page 164 J. Seerv	1	Page 165 J. Seerv
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	1 2 3	
2 3	J. Seery MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.	2	J. Seery up being worth I think the number is I think it's zero.
2 3 4	J. Seery MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I, I I don't have any basis to	2 3 4	J. Seery up being worth I think the number is I think it's zero. You're aware of that, correct?
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	Page 166		Page 167
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. And and not even in a general	2	combination of types of businesses. It's
3	way, other than zero to 25 million?	3	basically, in the last five years, at best a
4	A. That's a pretty good range.	4	melting ice cube. It receives certain
5	Q. Okay. Do you have an understanding	5	management fees and then it gives away
6	of what the typical compensation is for a	6	services at below cost.
7	financial advisory CEO is for a company that	7	So Highland was run at a loss.
8	has a billion or more under management?	8	Typically people who run businesses that
9	A. It depends on the type of assets	9	operate at an operating loss don't get paid a
10	that are under management, it tends it	10	lot of money.
11	depends on the performance of the assets and	11	Q. Let me let me ask you, you're
12	it depends on the cost structure of the	12	now you've been the CEO of Highland for a
13	business.	13	while, right?
14	Q. And taking those things into	14	A. That's correct.
15	account, can you describe for us what the	15	Q. And you're going to remain the CEO
16	compensation for a CEO of a financial advisor	16	for a while longer?
17	firm is, where there are assets under	17	A. Perhaps.
18	management of a billion or more?	18	Q. And do you have an expectation of
19	A. When you [mean] a financial	19	how many years in total you'll likely be the
20	advisor, do you mean an FA type firm or do	20	CEO of Highland?
21	you financial advisor, or do you mean	21	A. The less the better.
22	somebody who advises investors?	22	Q. But aside from that, do you have an
23	Q. I I'm talking about a company	23	expectation of how many years you will likely
24	similar to Highland.	24	be the CEO of Highland?
25	A. So high Highland is a is a	25	A. I don't. I hope we complete the
	Page 168		Page 169
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	monetization by 2022. Whether I'm the CEO or		
	MONECIZACION DY 2022. WHECHEL I M CHE CEO OL	2	based on the returns that we get for the
3	not that will depend on the oversight board	2 3	based on the returns that we get for the investors.
3 4	_		
	not that will depend on the oversight board and whether I want to continue to do it. Q. Okay. And if you are as as	3	investors.
4	not that will depend on the oversight board and whether I want to continue to do it.	3 4	investors. Q. So based on, if you were as as
4 5	not that will depend on the oversight board and whether I want to continue to do it. Q. Okay. And if you are as as	3 4 5	investors. Q. So based on, if you were as as successful as you hope to be, what do you
4 5 6	not that will depend on the oversight board and whether I want to continue to do it. Q. Okay. And if you are as as successful as you hope to be, whatever that	3 4 5 6	investors. Q. So based on, if you were as as successful as you hope to be, what do you think that number would be on an annual
4 5 6 7	not that will depend on the oversight board and whether I want to continue to do it. Q. Okay. And if you are as as successful as you hope to be, whatever that is, how much do you expect to make as the CEO	3 4 5 6 7	investors. Q. So based on, if you were as as successful as you hope to be, what do you think that number would be on an annual basis?
4 5 6 7 8	not that will depend on the oversight board and whether I want to continue to do it. Q. Okay. And if you are as as successful as you hope to be, whatever that is, how much do you expect to make as the CEO of Highland on average for each year that you	3 4 5 6 7 8	investors. Q. So based on, if you were as as successful as you hope to be, what do you think that number would be on an annual basis? (Simultaneous speaking and
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	Page 170		Page 171
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	in any matter, in any connection whatsoever	2	Q. Okay. So what is significantly
3	other than this one.	3	more than 3 to 4 million?
4	Now, your question was?	4	Is that twenty?
5	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Can you read	5	A. That would be
6	it back?	6	MR. MORRIS: Objection
7	(As read by the reporter):	7	(Simultaneous speaking and
8	"QUESTION: And so what does	8	reporter interjection.)
9	what is because I don't know you	9	A. Twenty is significantly more than a
10	very well, Mr. Seery. To you, what is	10	few, but it's it's not any there's no
11	significantly more than a few million a	11	prospect of \$20 million of a bonus in this
12	year?"	12	type of arrangement. There's simply not
13	A. It will depend on on the cost.	13	enough assets here.
14	It depends on the overall performance, and	14	Q. Okay. So when you say
15	and that will dictate whether there's upside	15	significantly more than a few, do you mean
16	to a performance bonus.	16	something like ten, 10 million a year?
17	Q. Is significantly let let's	17	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
18	break this down to little pieces.	18	form of the question.
19	A few million, is that two, three,	19	A. Again, I I don't have a specific
20	four, five? What is a few million?	20	number in mind. I think that's that
21	A. Typically I think of two as a	21	there's no chance of that either.
22	couple, three as a few.	22	Q. So can you tell me what you mean by
23	Q. Okay. Is four also a few?	23	significantly more than a few million?
24	A. Four is a little more than a few,	24	A. Five is significantly more than
25	but it could be in that neighborhood.	25	three.
	D		De
1	Page 172 J. Seery	1	Page 173 J. Seery
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery Q. Okay. Does that mean you're hoping	1 2 3	J. Seery recall. I've certainly seen loans be given
2 3	J. Seery Q. Okay. Does that mean you're hoping for compensation of 8 million a year or	2 3	J. Seery recall. I've certainly seen loans be given as part of compensation.
2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Okay. Does that mean you're hoping for compensation of 8 million a year or 5 million a year, just so I understand you?	2 3 4	J. Seery recall. I've certainly seen loans be given as part of compensation. Typically senior executives, in my
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17 other than Okada and Dondero in about twelve 17 said you're right, they said I have to pay it	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Q. Okay. Did you investigate whether or not any of the following people - mike Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph] received loans that were potentially forgivable and then that were, in whole or in part, forgiven? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I have looked at that, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you determine? A. I determined that Highland, I don't	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	<pre>that have been north of \$500,000, so nothing like this.</pre>
18 years; that no loans were forgiven, notes 18 back. And he did, and we structured it.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	Q. Okay. Did you investigate whether or not any of the following people - mike Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph] received loans that were potentially forgivable and then that were, in whole or in part, forgiven? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I have looked at that, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you determine? A. I determined that Highland, I don't believe, has made a loan to any employee	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	<pre>that have been north of \$500,000, so nothing like this.</pre>
19 so they were actually, I don't believe 19 Q. So did you determine that the	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	Q. Okay. Did you investigate whether or not any of the following people - mike Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph] received loans that were potentially forgivable and then that were, in whole or in part, forgiven? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I have looked at that, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you determine? A. I determined that Highland, I don't believe, has made a loan to any employee	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	<pre>that have been north of \$500,000, so nothing like this.</pre>
20 they got any before 2014, maybe '13. 20 you mentioned Yang.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	Q. Okay. Did you investigate whether or not any of the following people - mike Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph] received loans that were potentially forgivable and then that were, in whole or in part, forgiven? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I have looked at that, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you determine? A. I determined that Highland, I don't believe, has made a loan to any employee other than Okada and Dondero in about twelve years; that no loans were forgiven, notes	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	<pre>that have been north of \$500,000, so nothing like this.</pre>
21 No senior executive got it except 21 But the others that I listed, did	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Q. Okay. Did you investigate whether or not any of the following people - mike Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph] received loans that were potentially forgivable and then that were, in whole or in part, forgiven? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I have looked at that, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you determine? A. I determined that Highland, I don't believe, has made a loan to any employee other than Okada and Dondero in about twelve years; that no loans were forgiven, notes so they were actually, I don't believe	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	<pre>that have been north of \$500,000, so nothing like this. And I did determine that Okada's I believe he only had one loan. I could be wrong on that, but that's the only one I recollect, and he paid it back. Q. And did he pay it back in connection with this bankruptcy, a demand of the bankruptcy? A. He did, yes. Q. Under threat of lawsuit? A. No. I spoke to Mark and I said you should go talk to your counsel, you have a very good counsel, Sullivan & Cromwell. He went and talked to them and he said you're right, they said I have to pay it back. And he did, and we structured it. Q. So did you determine that the</pre>
22 with respect to Yang, but he was employed by 22 you determine whether they had or had not	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Q. Okay. Did you investigate whether or not any of the following people - mike Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph] received loans that were potentially forgivable and then that were, in whole or in part, forgiven? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I have looked at that, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you determine? A. I determined that Highland, I don't believe, has made a loan to any employee other than Okada and Dondero in about twelve years; that no loans were forgiven, notes so they were actually, I don't believe they got any before 2014, maybe '13.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	<pre>that have been north of \$500,000, so nothing like this.</pre>
23 New York, not by HCMLP. That was part 23 received loans that had been forgiven in	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q. Okay. Did you investigate whether or not any of the following people - mike Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph] received loans that were potentially forgivable and then that were, in whole or in part, forgiven? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I have looked at that, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you determine? A. I determined that Highland, I don't believe, has made a loan to any employee other than Okada and Dondero in about twelve years; that no loans were forgiven, notes so they were actually, I don't believe they got any before 2014, maybe '13. No senior executive got it except	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	<pre>that have been north of \$500,000, so nothing like this.</pre>
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25 left. And I don't think there's been any 25 A. It looks like they had, and that	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Okay. Did you investigate whether or not any of the following people - mike Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph] received loans that were potentially forgivable and then that were, in whole or in part, forgiven? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I have looked at that, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you determine? A. I determined that Highland, I don't believe, has made a loan to any employee other than Okada and Dondero in about twelve years; that no loans were forgiven, notes so they were actually, I don't believe they got any before 2014, maybe '13. No senior executive got it except with respect to Yang, but he was employed by	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<pre>that have been north of \$500,000, so nothing like this.</pre>

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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	was about more than ten or twelve years ago	2	compensation, that the notes are bona fide
3	and it had not been done since. None of	3	notes from the start that don't have a
4	those were obviously a founder, none of them	4	forgiveness term and that the forgiveness
5	were more than \$500,000.	5	term, for tax purposes, is subsequent and
6	Q. Okay. And did you learn that all	6	that taxes then are only paid when the note
7	of the notes that existed in relation to	7	is actually forgiven?
8	those loans for the people that I listed	8	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
9	none of the notes actually contained the	9	form of the question.
10	forgiveness term?	10	A. My experience and understanding of
11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	11	that is actually different. When an employee
12	form of the question.	12	receives a forgivable loan as part of either
13	A. I I do not know that, no.	13	their retention, and often it happens as a
14	Q. Well, did you search for the notes	14	a way to either retain somebody or to employ
15	at issue?	15	someone, that it's very clear that it's
16	A. I did not look at the notes, I just	16	forgivable up front. Otherwise, it would be
17	looked at the dollar amounts.	17	a trust-me loan.
18	Q. Did you talk to anyone who had been	18	Now, certainly the founder who
19	involved in the the issuance of the notes	19	controls everything can make his own trust-me
20	to the people that I listed that were	20	loan because he can trust himself, but but
21	eventually forgiven?	21	to structure it to avoid taxes, my experience
22	A. No.	22	is that that's actually illegal.
23	Q. Okay. Are are you aware that	23	Q. If you make payments on the loan
24	it's generally the case, when companies use	24	and it's only forgivable if certain
25	potentially forgivable loans as a part of	25	conditions occur in the future that are not
25	potentially longivable loans as a part of	2.5	
1	Page 180 J. Seery	1	Page 181 J. Seery
		1 1	
2	-	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	-
2	certain	2	form of the question.
3	certain MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3	form of the question. A. It it means a transaction
3 4	certain MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.	2 3 4	form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to
3 4 5	certain MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form. Q doesn't that does in your	2 3 4 5	form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost.
3 4 5 6	certain MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form. Q doesn't that does in your understanding, isn't that a a loan that,	2 3 4 5 6	form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of
3 4 5 6 7	<pre>certain</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7	<pre>form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between</pre>
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3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	<pre>certain</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	<pre>form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that A. No. Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency.</pre>
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	Page 182		Page 183
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	clear, just to be just to be	2	of a bona fide loan, that
3	certain. You may never get to a jury,	3	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
4	but go ahead.	4	form of the question.
5	A. I don't recall if that was a a	5	(Technical disruption.)
6	quote from Learned Hand or one of the other	6	Q later, but as long as that
7	well known	7	hasn't happened, interest payments should be
8	Q. It had that sound to you?	8	made, and if it's a
9	A judges, but I I think that	9	MR. RUKAVINA: We lost you,
10	structuring a transaction that has legitimate	10	Deborah. Deborah, we lost you.
11	purposes in a tax efficient way is not	11	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Can you
12	necessarily problematic.	12	did you hear me?
13	Structuring a transaction to avoid	13	MR. RUKAVINA: No.
14	taxes, and and mainly or solely to avoid	14	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. I'll,
15	taxes, is actually a a violation of the	15	I'll I'll start over then.
16	Internal Revenue Code.	16	Q. In your experience, is it a
17	Q. And looking at the various loans to	17	characteristic of a bona fide loan, whether
18	Mr. Dondero and the related company loans	18	demand or a term loan, that until it is
19	that are the subject of the notes litigation	19	actually forgiven until and unless it is
20	that you are here today to testify about, was	20	forgiven, that annual interest payments
21	it the case that annual payments both on the	21	should be made on a demand loan, and whatever
22	term loans and interest payments on the	22	is due pursuant to the terms of the note on
23	demand loans were made?	23	the term loan should also be made annually?
24	A. Oftentimes, yes.	24	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
25	Q. Okay. And is that a characteristic	25	form of the question.
	Dage 184		Dage 185
1	Page 184 J. Seery	1	Page 185 J. Seery
1 2	-	1 2	-
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery A. I I think that's a	2	J. Seery A. Can can you read that question
2 3	J. Seery A. I I think that's a characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I	2 3	J. Seery A. Can can you read that question back
2 3 4	J. Seery A. I I think that's a characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that	2 3 4	J. Seery A. Can can you read that question back (Simultaneous speaking.)
2 3 4 5	J. Seery A. I I think that's a characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a	2 3 4 5	J. Seery A. Can can you read that question back (Simultaneous speaking.) A I didn't understand it.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery A. I I think that's a characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery A. Can can you read that question back (Simultaneous speaking.) A I didn't understand it. MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery A. I I think that's a characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these are bona fide loans. The money was given, a	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery A. Can can you read that question back (Simultaneous speaking.) A I didn't understand it. MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court reporter can read it back.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery A. I I think that's a characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these are bona fide loans. The money was given, a note was signed, the amounts are owed.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery A. Can can you read that question back (Simultaneous speaking.) A I didn't understand it. MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court reporter can read it back. (As read by the reporter):
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	Page 186		Page 187
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	MR. MORRIS: And, and and I	2	MR. MORRIS: Object
3	and I object, you asked him if I	3	A. I I know that cornerstone is
4	just I, I	4	sometimes referred to as a portfolio company.
5	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Well, John	5	I know that Trussway is referred to as a
6	MR. MORRIS: it's not the	6	portfolio company.
7	judge will rule.	7	It would be I've never heard
8	Go ahead.	8	anyone refer to as MGM as a portfolio
9	BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:	9	company.
10	Q. You've heard of Highland has	10	Q. Have you ever made an inquiry as to
11	interests in Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM,	11	whether sometimes it was colloquially called
12	that's correct?	12	a portfolio company?
13	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	13	A. I I haven't made an inquiry as
14	form of the question.	14	to it, no. I've been around the business for
15	A. You should be precise. Highland	15	a year-and-a-half, nineteen months.
16	owns certain equity interests in Cornerstone,	16	0. Have you ever heard Mr. Dondero
17	approximately 4 percent. Highland owns,	17	refer to MGM as one of the portfolio
18	indirectly, all of the interests almost	18	companies?
19	all of the interests in Trussway. Highland	19	-
20		20	A. No, I haven't. It would be very odd if he would.
	owns a small piece of MGM.	20	
21	Q. Okay. And have you made any		Q. When you in the early days, when
22	inquiry into whether employees at Highland	22	you communicated with Mr. Dondero about the
23	referred to these colloquially as portfolio	23	prospects for the assets at Highland, did he
24	companies?	24	appear to have high hopes for the
25	A. I	25	monetization and increase in value of
	Page 188		Page 189
1	T Coorr		I Coorre
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM?	1 2	Q. Okay.
2 3	Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	1 2 3	Q. Okay. A. Certainly hope so.
2 3 4	Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.	1 2 3 4	Q. Okay.A. Certainly hope so.Q. If in fact all three of those
2 3 4 5	Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I don't recall him ever talking to	1 2 3 4 5	Q. Okay. A. Certainly hope so. Q. If in fact all three of those companies, MGM or Highland's interest in
2 3 4 5 6	Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I don't recall him ever talking to me very much about Cornerstone and potential	1 2 3 4 5 6	 Q. Okay. A. Certainly hope so. Q. If in fact all three of those companies, MGM or Highland's interest in those three companies are successfully
2 3 4 5 6 7	Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I don't recall him ever talking to me very much about Cornerstone and potential upside or Trussway.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	 Q. Okay. A. Certainly hope so. Q. If in fact all three of those companies, MGM or Highland's interest in those three companies are successfully monetized, will the assets of Highland exceed
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	Page 190		Page 191
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q it is a question.	2	form of the question.
3	A. It's we know what the at	3	A. I'm not in a position to answer
4	least now what the potential upside is to	4	that, but all of the assets minus the
5	MGM. We don't know what the upside is for	5	expenses to get there would need to exceed
б	Cornerstone or Trussway, but we understand	6	\$400 million.
7	the performance of the companies and the	7	Q. And right now, what do you think
8	framework with which somebody would value	8	the assets are worth?
9	them.	9	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
10	So it would be extremely unlikely,	10	form of the question.
11	not impossible but extremely unlikely, for	11	A. Again, I don't I know what MGM
12	those two companies - with MGM capped - to	12	is potentially worth, but it's hard to I
13	have a performance that exceeded the total	13	can't count that until it's done.
14	amount of claims.	14	0. I know but
15	Q. How close a matter is it?	15	(Simultaneous speaking.)
16	MR. MORRIS: Objection	16	MR. MORRIS: Let him finish,
17	(Simultaneous speaking and	17	please let him finish.
18	reporter interjection.)	18	A. You don't can't count that until
19	Q. How how close how close	19	it's done. And then the other the other
20	let me let me strike that and start again.	20	businesses we have to put through a process,
	_		
21	What would MGM, Trussway and	21	to see what they're worth. And they're,
22	Cornerstone need to be monetized for in order	22	they're, they're they've got potential
23	for the overall assets of Highland to exceed	23	upside but they have challenges as well.
24	its liabilities?	24	Q. Okay. Assuming you are as
25	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	25	successful as you hope to be, and crediting
	Page 192		Page 193
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery for the moment the potential value of the MGM	2	J. Seery fellow.
	J. Seery for the moment the potential value of the MGM transaction, what do you think the assets of		J. Seery fellow. Q. So then you hope it is likely?
2	J. Seery for the moment the potential value of the MGM	2	J. Seery fellow. Q. So then you hope it is likely? A. I certainly hope so.
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	Page 194		Page 195
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	you're okay, let me do one more segment	2	aware that there were what at issue in
3	and then I'll let you I'll excuse	3	these litigations, a term loan between
4	you to to do your errands and we'll	4	Highland and HCMS?
5	come back?	5	A. Yes.
6	MR. MORRIS: Sure.	6	Q. And a term loan between Highland
7	(Brief off-record discussion.)	7	and HCRE?
8	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: He needs	8	A. Yes.
9	he needs his ten or twelve minutes	9	Q. Okay. And when was the last
10	before 6:00	10	payment due on the HCMS term loan and the
11	THE WITNESS: Got it, got it.	11	HCRE term loan?
12	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: is that	12	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
13	right?	13	form of the question.
14	MR. MORRIS: Yep.	14	A. I I don't recall exactly. I
15	BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:	15	thought they were they were all in and
16	Q. Okay. When Mr. Rukavina was	16	around the same time. If they weren't the
17	questioning you, he was questioning you about	17	31st, they were right there.
18	the nonpayment of the NexPoint Advisors loan.	18	Q. All right. And were the annual
19	Remember that?	19	payments for the HCMS and HCRE term loans
20	And you were you only talking	20	made by December 31, 2020?
21	about NexPoint, that that loan not the	21	A. They were not.
22	HCMS term loan and not the HCRE term loan?	22	Q. And were the annual and was a
23	A. He was only asking me about the	23	payment made on each of those loans in
24	NexPoint, as I understood it.	24	January of 2021?
25	Q. Okay. So let me ask you, are you	25	A. I believe a payment was made after
	Dama 106		Dama 107
1	Page 196 J. Seery	1	Page 197 J. Seery
1 2	-	1 2	
	J. Seery		J. Seery
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	Page 198		Page 199
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	A. Yes, I know.	2	A. I don't recall specifically; I
3	Q. Okay. And can you tell me who	3	would have to look. If we had it, we would
4	wrote it?	4	have produced it.
5	MR. MORRIS: No.	5	Q. Okay. And if you had it, would you
6	Q. And that's because your counsel has	6	also have attached it to the complaint
7	directed you not to answer	7	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
8	MR. MORRIS: That's right.	8	form
9	Q or because you don't know?	9	Q the way the NexPoint letter was
10	MR. MORRIS: It's because I'm	10	attached to the complaint?
11	directing him not to answer. We're not	11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
12	going to even find out whether he knows	12	form of the question.
13	or not because it's privileged.	13	A. I I don't know if we would have
14	Q. Okay. Is this the only letter that	14	or not. I think the demand is sufficient on
15	you caused to be sent to Highland Capital	15	its own.
16	Management Services with regard to the term	16	Q. Other than the possibility that
17	loan in the original principal amount of	17	there was a let me back up.
18	20,247,628?	18	Was there a payment made in January
19	A. I don't recall. I would expect	19	on the HCMS term loan?
20	there to have been a follow-up letter as	20	A. I thought there was, but I don't
21	well, but I don't recall specifically.	21	recall specifically. I'd have to look at
22	Perhaps you have it.	22	the it would be in the complaint, I would
23	Q. I do not. That's why I'm asking, I	23	think.
24	don't see a letter like the one that we saw	24	Q. Okay. And if the complaint says
25	earlier that was to NexPoint.	25	there was, then there then that would be
20			
1	Page 200	1	Page 201
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery the case?	2	J. Seery A. Not that I recall.
2 3	J. Seery the case? A. If there was, it would have	2 3	J. Seery A. Not that I recall. Q. Okay. What about Ms. Hendrix and
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery the case? A. If there was, it would have similar to the NPA, it would have been applied on account. Q. Other than the letter that's been marked as Exhibit 111, did you have any communications with anyone at Highland Capital Management Services about the note or the payment or the nonpayment other than this possible post-payment letter and the that was similar to the NexPoint one that we looked at earlier? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I would only have communicated through the demands. Q. Okay. So just to make it very clear, did you talk with Mr. Dondero about the HCMS note payment, nonpayment or status of the of the demand? A. No.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 J. Seery A. Not that I recall. Q. Okay. What about Ms. Hendrix and Mr. Klos; did you talk with either of them about the note, the nonpayment, the payment or the status of the of of the loan? A. Do you mean at the time this demand note was sent? Q. Yes, in in December of 2020 or January/February of 2021, that time frame. A. Not that I recall specifically, no. Q. And was it your understanding that Highland provided shared services to Highland Capital Management Services? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. It did not have a shared service arrangement Q. That wasn't wasn't my question. But lots of free services were given to lots of Dondero entities by lots of

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	D 000		
1	Page 202 J. Seery	1	Page 203 J. Seery
2	Highland provided shared services to Highland	2	companies as if they're standalone operating
3	Capital Management Services?	3	entities that actually do things. These are
4	A. No.	4	entries on paper that move money around.
5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	5	So when Dondero asks an employee to
6	form	6	do work on behalf of himself, whether that's
7	A. Sorry.	7	closing his own house loans, whether that's
8	MR. MORRIS: of the question.	8	coming over and doing work at his house or
9	A. No, shared shared services refer	9	whether it's working for Highland Capital
10	to a specific agreement. There was no	10	Management Services, they they did it and
11	there was no agreement or other arrangement.	11	Highland was not compensated.
12	Highland employees did things	12	Q. Have you have you investigated
13	wherever Dondero asked them to do.	13	whether there was effective compensation for
14	Q. I, I I assume, when you say	14	the services that Highland provided to
15	there was no agreement, you're talking about	15	Highland Capital Management Services?
16	no formal written agreement like the one	16	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
17	we've looked at for NexPoint earlier today	17	form of the question.
18	MR. MORRIS: Objection to	18	A. I I don't know what effective
19	Q is that what you're referring	19	compensation means, but I have investigated
20	to?	20	whether Highland Capital Management received
21	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	21	anything from HCM Services.
22	form of the question.	22	Q. And who did you ask?
23	A. No, I'm referring to any type of	23	A. It's been part of the ongoing
24	agreement.	24	review of the business throughout the second
25	You, you you refer to these	25	half of this case and into the spring of this
	Page 204		Page 205
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery year.	1 2	J. Seery Services really just owned certain things and
			-
2	year.	2	Services really just owned certain things and
2 3	year. Q. And did you determine, in the	2 3	Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland.
2 3 4	year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was	2 3 4	Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland. The fact of the matter is, Highland
2 3 4 5	year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing	2 3 4 5	Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland. The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it
2 3 4 5 6	year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing services like the ones in the NexPoint shared	2 3 4 5 6	Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland. The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it gives money to Jim Dondero. I think he owes
2 3 4 5 6 7	year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing services like the ones in the NexPoint shared services agreement to Highland Capital	2 3 4 5 6 7	Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland. The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it gives money to Jim Dondero. I think he owes around a hundred million to services.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing services like the ones in the NexPoint shared services agreement to Highland Capital Management Services?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland. The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it gives money to Jim Dondero. I think he owes around a hundred million to services. MO* MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	year.Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing services like the ones in the NexPoint shared services agreement to Highland Capital Management Services?A. I think you asked me if we got some	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland. The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it gives money to Jim Dondero. I think he owes around a hundred million to services. MO* MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to strike. That wasn't my question.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing services like the ones in the NexPoint shared services agreement to Highland Capital Management Services? A. I think you asked me if we got some sort of I think you said either indirect or some other form of compensation. The answer was no. There were things that Highland employees did at different times at Mr. Dondero's directions for these various entities, none of which were paid for. Q. Was it generally the case that Highland provided the back office services for Highland Capital Management Services, such as bill paying? A. Sometimes. I don't know that it was generally the case. It depended. And Highland Capital 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland. The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it gives money to Jim Dondero. I think he owes around a hundred million to services. MO* MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to strike. That wasn't my question. Q. I asked you whether or not you noticed, in the course of your various investigations, that Highland Capital Management provided back office services like bill paying for cap for Highland Capital Management Services? A. I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. And I and I answered that I don't think you can think of this company this entity - or company, Highland Capital Services Inc in that manner.

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	Page 206		Page 207
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	So there wasn't doing work for a fund, et	2	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: If you want
3	cetera, so I don't there were certain	3	to take it now, that's fine.
4	things that were done. Whether they were ad	4	MR. MORRIS: Yeah, I would
5	hoc or specific, I didn't see any true	5	appreciate it.
6	pattern that this was similar to an agreement	6	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Well,
7	where third true third-party services were	7	actually, why don't if you don't
8	being continually performed.	8	mind, let me just finish 110.
9	Q. Did Highland Capital Management	9	MR. MORRIS: Okay.
10	Services have employees that you knew of?	10	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I think that
11	A. No.	11	will be pretty quick and then
12	Q. Okay. So if it wanted to pay a	12	MR. MORRIS: Okay.
13		13	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: then we
	bill, it was using employees at Highland	-	
14	Capital Management to do that, correct?	14	can break.
15	A. If it had a bill, yeah.	15	Is that all right?
16	Q. Okay. And in fact, did did	16	MR. MORRIS: Sure.
17	Highland Capital Management charge Highland	17	BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:
18	Capital Management Services for shared	18	Q. Okay. Okay. Can you see Exhibit
19	services?	19	110?
20	A. I don't believe so.	20	A. I can, yes.
21	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Let me show	21	Q. Okay. And I'm going to scroll down
22	you another document that I'll has	22	because what I'm going to ask you about is
23	been premarked as Exhibit 110.	23	the email from Fred Caruso to Brian Collins,
24	MR. MORRIS: Are we going to be	24	JP Sevilla, Frank Waterhouse, Dave Klos, with
25	able to take that break shortly?	25	a copy to you.
	D		David (000)
1	Page 208 J. Seerv	1	Page 209 J. Seerv
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery Do you recall Exhibit 110?	2	J. Seery outstanding fees and cost reimbursements.
2 3	J. Seery Do you recall Exhibit 110? A. Not specifically, no.	2 3	J. Seery outstanding fees and cost reimbursements. What kind of fees were these?
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	Page 210		Page 211
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	confirms that HCMLP was either providing	2	Q. I take it you got the gist.
3	services or advancing costs for HCM Services	3	A. I have made inquiry regarding
4	and then billing HCM Services?	4	whether there was any arrangement for to
5	THE WITNESS: Objection to the	5	provide services and pay back for those
б	form of the question.	б	services, and I was told there wasn't.
7	A. I I believe it was the latter.	7	Q. Who did you make
8	Q. Can you exclude the possibility	8	A. That's my recollection.
9	that this was an instance of HCMLP billing	9	Q. Who did you who did you make an
10	HCM Services for services performed by HCMLP?	10	inquiry to?
11	A. Well, there was no agreement, so I	11	A. Our our accounting team.
12	don't know the basis of it, but we could look	12	Q. And any which people?
13	for it. I don't I don't think that's the	13	A. That would be Waterhouse and Klos
14	case.	14	and Hendrix.
15	Q. Do you know whether or not there	15	It's not a specific inquiry that I
16	was an oral agreement with respect to HCM	16	made. There was this was over the time
17	providing services to HCM Services?	17	during the case.
18	A. Not that I ever heard of.	18	Q. You actually have a specific
19	Q. Did you ever specifically make an	19	recollection of speaking to any of the people
20	inquiry	20	that you just listed, like to Surgent, Klos
21	A. I, I have made	21	and
22	(Simultaneous speaking.)	22	A. I didn't mention Surgent.
23	A. You're not finished? I'm sorry.	23	Q. Okay. Klos, Hendrix and
24	Q. You can you can answer.	24	Waterhouse?
25	A. I, I have	25	A. Yes.
	Page 212		Page 213
1	Page 212 J. Seery	1	Page 213 J. Seery
1 2	-	1 2	-
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery Q. Okay. Do you have a specific	2	J. Seery Q. Did you ask whether there was an
2 3	J. Seery Q. Okay. Do you have a specific recollection of asking any or any of them	2 3	J. Seery Q. Did you ask whether there was an agreement caused by a pattern and practice of
2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Okay. Do you have a specific recollection of asking any or any of them whether there was an unwritten agreement	2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Did you ask whether there was an agreement caused by a pattern and practice of conduct?
2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Okay. Do you have a specific recollection of asking any or any of them whether there was an unwritten agreement between HCM and HCM Services for HCM to	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Did you ask whether there was an agreement caused by a pattern and practice of conduct? A. No.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Q. Okay. Do you have a specific recollection of asking any or any of them whether there was an unwritten agreement between HCM and HCM Services for HCM to provide shared services, back office	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Q. Did you ask whether there was an agreement caused by a pattern and practice of conduct? A. No. MR. MORRIS: Hey, Deborah, I'd
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	Page 214	-	Page 215
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Have you seen it before?	2	view, by December 31, 2020?
3	A. It it looks familiar, yes.	3	A. I believe there was, yes.
4	Q. Okay. This is a letter dated	4	Q. And was it made?
5	January 7, from you to Mr. Dondero at HCR	5	A. No.
6	HCRE Partners.	6	Q. And was the payment made in January
7	Did you cause this letter to be	7	of 2021?
8	sent?	8	A. A payment was made in January of
9	A. Yes.	9	2021 on account that the full amount that
10	Q. And like Exhibit 1 I think 111,	10	was demanded.
11	was this written by your counsel?	11	Q. Well, when high when HCM
12	A. It it certainly had my counsel's	12	received the payment from HCRE Partners, who
13	input and my input, so how	13	facilitated the the making of the payment,
14	Q. Okay.	14	as far as you know?
15	A I probably got a base and marked	15	A. I don't know.
16	it up, and they finished it.	16	Q. Do you know if anyone from Highland
17	Q. Okay. And	17	Capital Management was involved in the making
18	A. Same as the other.	18	of HCRE's payment to HCM?
19	Q. Okay. And was there any	19	A. I don't know.
20	communication, other than Exhibit 112,	20	Q. Do you know whether HCRE had
21	between you and HCRE Partners about the HCRE	21	employees?
22	term loan?	22	A. I don't believe it did.
23	A. No.	23	Q. And so was it your understanding,
24	Q. Do you know whether was there a	24	generally, that HCM employees provided
25	payment due on the HCRE term loan, in your	25	services like paying bills for HCRE Partners?
1	Page 216 J. Seery	1	Page 217 J. Seery
2	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2	the of the year?
3	form of the question.	3	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
4	A. It was similar to HCM Services, but	4	form of the question.
5	that doesn't mean they were the only people	5	A. Again, I I don't think I
6	to do anything for HCRE; I just don't know.	6	understand your question, but I don't know if
7	Q. Well, when HCM received the	7	there was any communication at all. I just
8	payments in January of 2021 from HCRE and HCM	8	don't recall.
9	Services, was there any communication that	9	Q. You don't recall one?
10	these payments were being made to pay down	10	A. No.
11	the term loan generally as opposed to to	11	Q. Did you look, in the course of
12	making the payment otherwise to be made on	12	responding to the discovery, at the what
13	December 31, 2020?	13	the the means by which HCM received the
14	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	14	payments from HCRE and HCMS?
15	form of the question.	15	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
16	A. I I'm not sure I understand your	16	form of the question.
17	question, but I I don't recall any	17	A. I I believe I did. I certainly
18	specific communication. Certainly if there	18	looked at the total payments that came in
19	was a payment made, we would have applied it	19	from various entities and how we applied
20	on the total balance due, as you described.	20	them, but I don't recall any specifics around
21	Q. But did anyone on behalf of the	21	communication.
22	HCRE or HCMS communicate that the payments	22	Q. Well, did you look for the wire
	were to be applied to the total balance due	23	transfer information?
23	·· ···································	1	
23 24	as opposed to fulfilling the payment that	24	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
23 24 25	as opposed to fulfilling the payment that otherwise was typically made at the end of	24 25	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

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	Page 218		Page 219
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	A. I, I	2	payment had been applied to the principal
3	Q. Was there let me rephrase.	3	balance as opposed to satisfying and curing
4	Was did the payments come in by	4	any default on the note?
5	wire?	5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
6	A. I don't recall.	6	form of the question.
7	Q. Did you look for any communication	7	A. If if we did send it, it would
8	that would accompany the payment?	8	have been in the the production. It
9	For example, a check can have a	9	certainly would have there was no cure
10	note on the note line, a wire can have a note	10	provision in the notes, so we would have
11	on the re line, an ACH payment can have a	11	applied it in the same way as we did the NPA
12	note on a re line. Did you attempt, in	12	payment and the services payment.
13	responding to the discovery in these notes	13	Q. If there are in fact no
14	cases, to find any such communications?	14	post-payment letters for the HCRE term loan
15	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	15	and the HCMS term loan, was there a reason
16	form of the question.	16	for that?
17	A. I'm relatively certain it didn't	17	A. No, no reason if there are none.
18	come in as a check, because I would have	18	They're not required. The notes are very
19	known that. I just don't recall if it came	19	clear with respect to the waiver of demand,
20	in by wire or ACH, and I didn't look for any	20	presentment.
21	specific communication that accompanied the	21	So there's no requirement of it. I
22	wire or the ACH payment.	22	thought there would be, that I would have
23	Q. Okay. And with respect to HCRE,	23	sent it, but I don't don't recall
24	did you send a letter like the one we looked	24	specifically.
25	at earlier for NexPoint, contending that the	25	Q. Did anyone on behalf of HCRE ever
1	J. Seerv	1	Page 221 J. Seerv
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2		2	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and
2 3	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the	2 3	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and answered.
2 3 4	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the payment would be applied to the principal	2 3 4	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and answered. A. I I don't recall the specific
2 3 4 5	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the payment would be applied to the principal to the balance?	2 3 4 5	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and answered. A. I I don't recall the specific words.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the payment would be applied to the principal to the balance? A. Other than the terms of the note,	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and answered. A. I I don't recall the specific words. Q. Now, at in and and you
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the payment would be applied to the principal to the balance? A. Other than the terms of the note, no.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and answered. A. I I don't recall the specific words. Q. Now, at in and and you don't recall when the words were sent to you
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the payment would be applied to the principal to the balance? A. Other than the terms of the note, no. Q. And do you have an understanding of why strike that.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and answered. A. I I don't recall the specific words. Q. Now, at in and and you don't recall when the words were sent to you either; you can't say whether it was December or January or some other time?
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	Page 222		Page 223
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	affiliated companies had overpaid shared	2	Q. Mr. Seery, what did you do to
3	service fees to Highland, correct?	3	investigate whether or not there had been
4	A. Absolutely not.	4	overpayments of shared service fees by
5	Q. Are you not aware that Mr. Dondero	5	NexPoint to Highland?
6	contended that NexPoint, for example, had	6	MR. MORRIS: I'm just going to
7	overpaid Highland by many millions of dollars	7	caution the the questioner not to go
8	for shared service fees?	8	too far down this path. These are
9	A. I'm quite aware that Mr. Dondero	9	topics that are related to a completely
10	has fabricated a story as part of the	10	separate contested matter, actually
11	negotiations for a pot plan. In fact, he	11	(Simultaneous speaking.)
12	included it in one of the term sheets, to	12	MR. MORRIS: Okay. So I just
13	fabricate a claim about additional services.	13	okay, that's fine.
14	I'm also quite aware of other	14	MR. RUKAVINA: Yeah, I'm not
15	evidence that shows that's not the case.	15	trying to litigate that, it's
16	Q. Let's take this in pieces.	16	MR. MORRIS: Yep.
17	How much did Mr. Dondero contend	17	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: it's
18	shared services had been overpaid	18	relevant to this whole incident that
19	A. I don't recall	19	Mr. Seery is
20	Q what amount?	20	MR. MORRIS: I don't think so,
21	A. I don't recall the exact amount.	21	but
22	Q. More than 10 million?	22	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: is
23	A. I think he claimed 14, some number	23	MR. MORRIS: but go ahead, I'm
24	like that, but it doesn't have any connection	24	not directing him not to answer.
25	to reality.	25	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I I'm not
1	Page 224 J. Seerv	1	Page 225 J. Seerv
1 2	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2 3	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been		J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute,
2	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been calling everybody else, so I'll be	2	J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute, whether regardless of your belief as to
2 3	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been calling everybody else, so I'll be polite about it, but it is relevant	2 3	J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute, whether regardless of your belief as to the bona fides of it, you were aware of an
2 3 4	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been calling everybody else, so I'll be polite about it, but it is relevant THE WITNESS: Well, the reason	2 3 4	J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute, whether regardless of your belief as to the bona fides of it, you were aware of an actual dispute about whether NexPoint had
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	MR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and	2	Over time it could be both. We've certainly
3	answered.	3	had discussions about it. I believe that it
4	A. I I will concede that	4	related to the shared services. I believe it
5	Mr. Dondero claimed that shared services by	5	also related to the notes, because the notes
6	NexPoint were overpaid for.	6	weren't paid.
7	Q. Okay. And will you also concede	7	Q. Okay. And am I correct that the
8	that you disagreed with that?	8	only reason you believe it also applied to
9	A. I don't need to concede that. I do	9	the notes was because the notes weren't
10	disagree with that.	10	paid
11	Q. Okay. Hence, we have a dispute,	11	MR. MORRIS: Objection
12	okay.	12	Q not because of the words used?
13	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	13	A. The the words were not limiting
14	form of the question.	14	to that I recall in any way.
15	Q. Mr. Seery, if you don't recall the	15	Q. Were the words did the words
16	words that Ms. Hendrix said to you, how do	16	specifically include don't pay the notes?
17	you know that whatever this edict was that	17	A. I believe I testified that I don't
18	you have mentioned did not relate simply to	18	recall the specific words, so I can't
19	don't pay any more shared services because	19	Q. Okay.
20	they have been overpaid?	20	A say what the specific words
21	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	21	were.
22	form of the question, "ans" and	22	Q. And and, Mr. Seery, I recognize
23	answered asked and answered.	23	that you're a smart guy and a cagey witness,
24	A. Again, I believe that it was	24	so you have said several times that the
25	Ms. Hendrix. It could have been Mr. Klos.	25	reason you believe the edict applied to the
	Page 228	_	Page 229
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	notes was because they weren't paid.	2	know is that we didn't get the shared service
3	And I'm just asking you to answer,	3	payments and we didn't get the we didn't
4	honestly, whether your belief that the edict	4	get the the note payments, and I read
5	concerned the notes was simp happenstance	5	Mr. Waterhouse's testimony from two days ago,
6	of what happened, not because of what was	6	which seemed to confirm everything I just
7	said to you?	7	said.
8	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	8	So it I think it makes sense,
9 10	form of the question, asked and	9	but I don't have a specific recollection of what was told to me and I do recollect that
11	answered.	10	the shared service payments were not made,
12	A. The idea that you're calling me	11 12	but that was before the amounts on the notes
13	cagey is is insulting and rude, so you should please withdraw that. No one's ever	12	were due, so there wouldn't have been a
14	called me cagey, and I always am honest.	14	discussion about the notes.
15	I said very specifically to	14	Q. Now, did you look at the payment
16	Mr. Rukavina how I heard what I heard, how I	16	history on all of the term loan notes that
17	came to understand it. I don't recall the	17	that payments had been made prior to December
18	specific words or the exact time. It is	18	31, 2020 in excess of the amounts due, if
19	clear what the facts are and what happened,	19	you if if the obligor was paying the
20	so that supports my interpretation of what I	20	minimums for the number of years the notes
20	heard and my recollection of it.	20	had been outstanding?
22	Q. You you can't admit, as you sit	22	A. Which which notes?
23	here today, you're not sure whether or not	23	Q. All of the note did you do that
24	the edict concerned the notes?	24	exercise for all of the notes, all of the
1	A. I didn't hear the edict. All I	25	term loan notes?
25			

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	Page 230		Page 231
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2	one.
3	form of the question.	3	Q. And were there documents that you
4	A. We we looked at the payments on	4	looked at in connection with that inquiry?
5	each of the notes, yes.	5	A. There would be a payment ledger.
6	Q. And did you determine whether or	6	Q. And have you produced that payment
7	not the amounts paid in total prior to	7	ledger?
8	December 31, 2020 exceeded the total amount	8	A. Yes.
9	due of principal and interest on the minimum	9	MR. MORRIS: Yes, we have.
10	principal and interest payments due on those	10	Q. Is there anyone from HCRE that you
11	notes	11	contend and I apologize if I asked that,
12	(Simultaneous speaking.)	12	because I'm I'm maybe mixing up HC HCMS
13	A. I	13	and HCRE.
14	Q outstanding?	14	But is there anyone from HCRE
15	A. We certainly looked at that. I	15	that that acknowledged to you or said
16	don't believe that's the case for each of	16	something to you, admitting that the payment
17	them, but I don't have a specific	17	that was made in January of 2021 was a
18	recollection of how they each balance out.	18	payment towards the overall principal and not
19	Q. Did any of the loans have payments	19	the payment that was due at the end of 2020?
20	that were made that, in total, exceeded the	20	A. No, I don't believe I had
21	total amount of minimum principal and	21	discussion with anybody who claimed to
22	interest payments due on the loans for the	22	represent HCRE; which, as you said, had no
23	number of years they had been outstanding?	23	employees.
24	A. One of them may have; I don't	24	Q. Have you strike that.
25	recall. I don't recall specifically which	25	Earlier I couldn't tell if it was
1	Page 232	1	Page 233
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery Mr. Morris talking or you, and I apologize	2	J. Seery Q. Mr Mr. Seery
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	a 30(b)(6) topic, and I object to the	2	we we may have an issue about
3	extent it calls for a legal conclusion.	3	picking up this deposition. Let me
4	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I'm I'm	4	let me ask another question.
5	just can you read it back and have	5	Q. Do you have a solvency analysis
6	the witness answer.	6	done for these note cases?
7	MR. MORRIS: Okay.	7	A. Not for these note cases, no.
8	(As read by the reporter):	8	Q. And are you prepared to explain
9	"QUESTION: And therefore, is it	9	right now, in this deposition, how what
10	also your position, as the 30(b)(6)	10	Highland's solvency was at any of the time
11	witness for HCM, that whether Highland	11	periods, either when the notes were made or
12	was or was not solvent at the time the	12	when the alleged agreement regarding
13	notes were made or at the time the	13	forgiveness potential forgiveness of the
14	forgiveness condition was agreed upon,	14	notes was entered into?
15	that the solvency of Highland is	15	Are you prepared today to tell us
16	irrelevant to those issues?"	16	what you think about Highland's solvency and
17	A. I I don't think it's irrelevant.	17	why?
18	It's not a precondition to a case for an	18	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
19	actual fraud. But when these things are done	19	form of the question.
20	in the face of solve insolvency, when	20	A. I I believe I already did, but I
21	they're when when the supposed	21	can do it again, if you'd like. Mr. Rukavina
22	agreements are done on the eve or after	22	asked me very specific questions about where
23	bankruptcy, that sure adds to the badges of	23	I thought solvency was, and I gave my very
24	fraud.	24	specific answers.
25	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Then, John,	25	Q. For each for the dates of each
	Page 236		Page 237
1	Page 236 J. Seery	1	Page 237 J. Seery
1 2		1 2	-
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the	2	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award
2 3	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your	2 3	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for
2 3 4	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your answer as to whether Highland was solvent and	2 3 4	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for bankruptcy.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your answer as to whether Highland was solvent and why?	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for bankruptcy. I don't the the idea that
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your answer as to whether Highland was solvent and why? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for bankruptcy. I don't the the idea that there are these subsequent agreements, we
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your answer as to whether Highland was solvent and why? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for bankruptcy. I don't the the idea that there are these subsequent agreements, we don't even agree that that exists. We think
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your answer as to whether Highland was solvent and why? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. There's there's about twelve different dates in there, but why don't I make it easy. In '17, I think Highland was insolvent. Highland had significant exposure to litigation claims that it had not properly put on its balance sheet, and I think the actions of the principals show that they understood the risks with respect to those claims. And that's why you have a number of actions, including taking money offshore, including rolling out these notes thirty years. That's 2017. '18 is similar, because the because the actions get more and more developed and the claims against Highland get	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for bankruptcy. I don't the the idea that there are these subsequent agreements, we don't even agree that that exists. We think it's completely fabricated and false. But to the extent it incurred occurred during '17 '18, December/January. '18, '19, December/January. '18, '19, December/January. '19, '20 after the bankruptcy, yeah, I think that that pretty much shows that they fall into insolvency. Again, with an actual fraud, we don't need it. But it certainly helps with the badges of fraud. Q. Is that your complete answer? A. To to your question, yes. Q. And do you have Highland has made breach of fiduciary duty claims against Dugaboy and then aiding and abetting claims against Nancy Dondero and Jim Dondero? A. That's correct.

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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	A. Yes.	2	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
3	Q. Where are where can we find	3	form of the question, asked and
4	them?	4	answered, mischaracterizes the
5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	5	testimony. It calls for a legal
6	form of the question.	6	conclusion.
7	A. They're they're in the amended	7	A. It it's in my opinion, it's
8	complaint.	8	the law, and our position is it's the law,
9	Q. No, no, no, where where do the	9	that when a limited partner takes over the
10	duties come from? What are the duties based	10	operation and running of the partnership and
11	on?	11	takes on those duties, they step into the
12	A. With respect to both Dugaboy and	12	role of a general partner.
13	Nancy Dondero, Nancy Dondero is the trustee	13	And that is the we don't believe
14	of Dugaboy. Dugaboy was a limited partner.	14	this agreement exists, but if it were to
15	Limited partners are not permitted to run the	15	somehow metastasize into something of an
16	affairs of the partnership.	16	agreement, then clearly we believe that it
17	She has testified that she made	17	breached the fiduciary duties that those
18	agreements on behalf of Highland. So she	18	persons and entities who took on those duties
19	stepped into the role of a general partner,	19	would have to the partnership.
20	as did Dugaboy. Her testimony was very clear	20	Q. Okay. And I'm I'm just I'm
20			-
	on these points, that she cut the agreements	21 22	just trying to understand your testimony. You're talking about duties under
22	on behalf of Highland.		
23	Q. Okay. So it is are you saying	23	the the HCM fourth amended limited
24	that it is the HCMLP partnership agreement	24	partnership agreement?
25	that gives rise to the fiduciary duties?	25	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
	Page 240		-
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery form of the question, mischaracterizes	2	J. Seery Q. Is there anything other than law,
2 3	J. Seery form of the question, mischaracterizes the testimony.	2 3	J. Seery Q. Is there anything other than law, generally, and the fourth amended limited
2 3 4	J. Seery form of the question, mischaracterizes the testimony. A. The duties are under Delaware law	2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Is there anything other than law, generally, and the fourth amended limited partnership agreement of Highland Capital
2 3 4 5	J. Seery form of the question, mischaracterizes the testimony. A. The duties are under Delaware law related to partnerships.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Is there anything other than law, generally, and the fourth amended limited partnership agreement of Highland Capital Management that gives rise to the duties that
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	Page 242		Page 243
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	form of the question, asked and	2	trustee of Dugaboy took a management step?
3	answered.	3	A. Nancy Dondero and Jim Dondero claim
4	A. I I believe I gave a pretty	4	that Nancy Dondero and Dugaboy entered into
5	good, concise summary, but is there more that	5	an agreement on behalf of the partnership and
б	you want to know?	6	gave away 63 million or maybe that's the
7	When it our position is that	7	total amount of the notes, but some 50
8	when a limited partner takes over the	8	million-ish amount of notes for virtually
9	management or any of the management roles of	9	nothing - and in most instances could
10	the partnership and enters into an agreement	10	actually be nothing - with no investigation,
11	on behalf of the partnership, they stepped	11	no discussion, no analysis and really no
12	into the general partner role.	12	authority.
13	When they're in the general partner	13	But they they assert that that
14	role they have fiduciary duties to the	14	was the agreement. And without any
15	partnership and all of the partners. When	15	consideration received by this entity,
16	they breach those duties, which we argue is	16	nothing, they claim that they did this.
17	the case if this supposed agreement were	17	Now we don't we don't believe
18	actually something, then they should be	18	this agreement exists, again, to be clear.
19	liable for the damages caused by those	19	We think it's fabricated. We think that
20	breaches.	20	that's really beyond any kind of dispute. We
21	Q. You've said, a couple times now, if	21	think you all know that too, but we'll play
22	a limited partner steps in and manages the	22	along.
23	partnership.	23	Q. Is there any other action that you
24	Can you tell me every way in which	24	contend is management that you contend
25	you contend Dugaboy or Nancy Dondero as the	25	Dugaboy or Nancy undertook with respect to
	Demo 044		
			Page 245
1	Page 244 J. Seery	1	Page 245 J. Seery
1 2		1 2	-
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery Highland?	2	J. Seery A the full implications of what
2 3	J. Seery Highland? A. No. Taking control of the payment	2 3	J. Seery A the full implications of what they are arguing.
2 3 4	J. Seery Highland? A. No. Taking control of the payment to an affiliate of the general partner for no	2 3 4	J. Seery A the full implications of what they are arguing. Q. Okay. Other than the things that
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	Page 246		Page 247
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Statement of Limitations, Methods and	2	Q. Okay. But, generally, if you
3	Disclaimers Regarding Debtor's Amended	3	signed a declaration under penalty of perjury
4	Schedules of Assets and Liabilities.	4	for non-individual debtors that was then
5	Is that a document that you have	5	annexed to a filing, you would have looked
6	seen before?	6	through the filing and assured yourself that
7	A. I I don't recall it	7	it was correct, to the best of your knowledge
8	specifically.	8	and belief?
9	Q. Well, let me ask a different way.	9	A. I would have either looked through
10	In this was filed in September of 2020.	10	the filing or I would have reviewed it with
11	What was your role with respect to	11	my team, whomever prepared it.
12	filings of the debtor in September of 2020?	12	Q. And so as you sit here today, do
13	A. Depending on the filing, I executed	13	you have any reason to believe that there are
14	many of them. So if I executed this one,	14	inaccuracies in docket 1082?
15	please let me know.	15	MR. MORRIS: Do you want to
16	I certainly was around and	16	give do you need to read the
17	consulted with respect to all the filings. I	17	document?
18	was the CEO of the company.	18	A. I have no
19	That's my signature, so I've seen	19	Q. Yeah. And I and I emailed it to
20	this.	20	John, so if you want to sit down and take a
21	Q. Okay, okay.	21	look at it, please
22	(Simultaneous speaking.)	22	(Simultaneous speaking.)
23	A. I may not have seen the I don't	23	A. No, I I don't need to review it.
24	know if I I just don't recall the, the	24	No one's brought anything to my
25	the piece at the top.	25	attention. I don't I have no reason to
23	the prece at the top.	20	attention. I don t I have no reason to
	Page 248		Page 249
1	-	1	
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2 3	J. Seery believe it wasn't accurate at the time. MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank	2 3	J. Seery you. EXAMINATION
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1 J. Sery 2 A. Okay. 3 O. Por the \$30.7 million note, to the 4 best of your knowledge, did the debtor 5 maintain a payment ledger showing any 6 historical payments on that \$30.7 million 7 note? 8 N. Yee, ye would have we would 9 A. Yee, we would have we would 9 N. Yee, ye would have we would 10 O. And to the best of your knowledge, 11 backedse, is schiht: 7 that or is Exhiht: 7 12 Itigation? 13 N. Yee, N. NEANINA: Week week and the word th		Page 250		Page 251
3 Q. For the \$30.7 million note, to the what the native of this Exhibit 7 is and best of your knowledge, did the debtor maintain a payment ledger showing any historical payments on that \$30.7 million note? A. Yee, we would have we would have. A. Yee, we would have we would have. A. Yee, we would have we would have. A. Yee. A. Yee. A. Yee. M. WORES: and I'll be able to do that, but I do know that if you the suplemental productions. M. WORES: and I'll be able to do that, but I do know that if you the suplemental productions. M. WORES: Realt in the sale to do that, but I do know that if you the suplemental productions. M. WORES: Realt in the sale the suplemental productions I know the su	1		1	-
4 best of your knowledge, did the debtor 4 please send it to me, along with any 5 maintain a payment ledger showing any 5 metadata. 6 A. Yee, we would have we would 6 NR.MERES: Enail that exhibit 7 to me 8 A. Yee, we would have we would 9 NR.MERES: I wait that bashe 10 0. And to the best of your 10 to do that, but I do know that if you 11 would that have been produced in this 11 10 to do that, but I do know that if you 12 litigation? 11 10 the supplemental productions. 11 13 A. Yee, 11 10 10 the supplemental productions I know 14 0. Okay. To the best of your 14 it recently. 15 MR.MURATINE: Yee, we received 14 14 recently. 15 MR.MURATINE: Yee, we received 14 15 nowledge, is Enhibit 7 that or is Enhibit 7 15 MR.MURATINE: Yee, we received 14 16 not. It may be that this was I think 14 payment meda against all notes at 15 16 ref we have t	2	A. Okay.	2	would be willing to please check to see
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	23	EXAMINATION	24	(Simultaneous speaking)
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	Page 254		Page 255
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	files means a document, if it's in Excel,	2	searching?
3	providing it in Excel; or if it's in email,	3	A. At Pachulski? I don't I should
4	providing it as a in a in email format,	4	know, but I worked mostly through John.
5	a PST format or something that will show the	5	Q. Okay. And then what about the
6	metadata; or if it's a Word document, in	6	non-lawyers; who were the non-lawyers who
7	in Word, with its properties showing.	7	worked on collecting materials responsive to
8	That's that's what I mean. Do	8	the discovery requests?
9	you know if that was done?	9	A. I believe at third parties or
10	A. Counsel certainly had access to all	10	at
11	of that. We didn't just PDF things and send	11	(Simultaneous speaking.)
12		12	
	them to counsel. It was done electronically.		
13	So anything on the system responsive was	13	mean
14	was accessible.	14	A. DSI
15	Q. Okay. And just who is the person	15	Q anyone other than the lawyer
16	who conducted the searches to respond to	16	outside lawyers.
17	discovery requests?	17	A. Yeah, DSI. The outside firm, ISI.
18	A. It would have been through the	18	I don't know if Robert Half was involved in
19	Pachulski firm, you know, working in with	19	some of this production as well. He's been
20	outside either DSI or one of the outside	20	on
21	providers, to go through and and find	21	MR. MORRIS: Robert Half does
22	certain whatever the terms they came up	22	document review.
23	with to find the data.	23	A the payroll for a long time now
24	Q. And do you know who the actual	24	during this case.
25	people were that that did the the	25	MR. MORRIS: They do they do
	Dago 256		Page 257
1	Page 256 J. Seery	1	Page 257 J. Seery
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery the document review.	2	J. Seery probably five different ways in
2 3	J. Seery the document review. I mean, I could just I could	2 3	J. Seery probably five different ways in interrogatories, in emails, if you
2 3 4	J. Seery the document review. I mean, I could just I could just represent to you that that we	2 3 4	J. Seery probably five different ways in interrogatories, in emails, if you actually think there's something out
2 3 4 5	J. Seery the document review. I mean, I could just I could just represent to you that that we came up with search terms, my firm ran	2 3 4 5	J. Seery probably five different ways in interrogatories, in emails, if you actually think there's something out there, instead of just fishing, you
2 3 4	J. Seery the document review. I mean, I could just I could just represent to you that that we came up with search terms, my firm ran the searches. There may have been	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery probably five different ways in interrogatories, in emails, if you actually think there's something out there, instead of just fishing, you should let me know if you think that
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery the document review. I mean, I could just I could just represent to you that that we came up with search terms, my firm ran the searches. There may have been certain financial data that we had to get	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery probably five different ways in interrogatories, in emails, if you actually think there's something out there, instead of just fishing, you should let me know if you think that there's
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery the document review. I mean, I could just I could just represent to you that that we came up with search terms, my firm ran the searches. There may have been certain financial data that we had to get from DSI, but we produced whatever came	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery probably five different ways in interrogatories, in emails, if you actually think there's something out there, instead of just fishing, you should let me know if you think that there's MR. RUKAVINA: Oh, oh, no, and I
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery the document review. I mean, I could just I could just represent to you that that we came up with search terms, my firm ran the searches. There may have been certain financial data that we had to get from DSI, but we produced whatever came up with the search terms to to Robert	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery probably five different ways in interrogatories, in emails, if you actually think there's something out there, instead of just fishing, you should let me know if you think that there's MR. RUKAVINA: Oh, oh, no, and I do think
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1	Page 258 J. Seery	1	J. Seery	e 259
2	THE WITNESS: I said I didn't.	2	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	
3	MR. MORRIS: He said he didn't.	3	6:49. This concludes today's	
4	THE WITNESS: I said I didn't.	4	deposition, Thursday, October 21, 2021.	
5	BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:	5		
-		6		
6	Q. Well, do you know if anybody did?	7		
7	A. I don't know, but certainly that's	8		
8	something that accounting would see rather	9		
9	easily.	10	I, , do hereby certify under	
10	RQ* MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. So I	11	penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoin	a
11	would like confirmation that that was	12	transcript of my deposition taken on	9
12	looked for, and and the same as $\ensuremath{\mathtt{I}}$	13	that I have made such corrections as appear note	, 2
13	requested previously, the Word versions	14		
14	of of the notes.		herein in ink, initialed by me; that my testimon	-
15	MR. MORRIS: Okay.	15	contained herein, as corrected, is true and corr	ect.
16	THE WITNESS: I, I I think	16		
17	that the materials that Mr. Morris	17	DATED this day of, 20 ,	
18	described has all that with bank	18	at, .	
19	statements.	19		
20	MR. MORRIS: It's okay, thank	20		
21		21		
21	you. Are we done?	22		
23	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Thank you.	23	JAMES P. SEERY, JR.	
24	MR. MORRIS: Yep.	24		
25	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Yes.	25		
	Page 260		Pag	e 261
1		1	I N D E X	
2	CERTIFICATE	3	WITNESS EXAMINATION BY PAGE	
3		4	JAMES P. MR. RUKAVINA 6, 249	
4	STATE OF NEW YORK)		SEERY, JR.	
5)ss.:	5	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ 160, 252	
6	COUNTY OF NEW YORK)	6		
7		7	Directions: 197 Motions: 172, 185, 205, 233, 244	
8	I, MARIANNE WITKOWSKI-SMITH, a Notary	9	MOCIONS: 172, 103, 203, 233, 244	
9	Public within and for the State of New York,	10	PRODUCTION REQUESTS	
10	do hereby certify:	11	PAGE: 250 Native Exhibit 7 and metadata.	
11	That JAMES P. SEERY, JR., the witness	12	258 Transfer documents notations and	
12	whose deposition is hereinbefore set forth,	1.2	Word versions of notes.	
13	was duly sworn by me and that such deposition	13 14		
14	is a true record of the testimony given by	15	EXHIBITS	
15	the witness.	16	EXHIBIT PAGE LINE	
16	I further certify that I am not	17	Exhibit 1	
17	related to any of the parties to this action		Notice of Deposition	
	by blood or marriage, and that I am in no	18 19	Seery 8 20 Exhibit 2	
18	way interested in the outcome of this		Notice of Deposition	
19		20	30(b)(6) 9 20	
20	matter.	21	Exhibit 3	
21	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto		Email Chain	
22	set my hand this 22nd day of October, 2021.	22	Re: HCMLP Roles 23 20	
23	Shelo Sm	23	Exhibit 4 Seery Declaration in Support of	
24		24	Motion for TRO 43 9	
25	MARIANNE WITKOWSKI-SMITH	25	(Continued on Next Page)	
1		1		

				Page 262		Page 26	:3
1				rage 202	1	ERRATA SHEET	5
2	EXHIBITS(Cont'd)				2	Case Name:	
3	EXHIBIT	PAGE 1	LINE		3	Deposition Date:	
4	Exhibit 5				4	Deponent:	
-	Promissory Note Dated May 31, 2017	55	12				
5 6	Exhibit 6	22	12		5	Pg. No. Now Reads Should Read Reason	
0	Correspondence				6		
7	Dated January 7, 2021	69	16		7		
8	Exhibit 7				8		
	Loan Document				9		
9	D-NNL-029141	99	12		10		
10	Exhibit 8						
	Correspondence				11		
11	Dated January 15, 2021	107	4		12		
12	Exhibit 9				13		
	Amended and Restated				14		
13	Shared Services Agreement	112	22		15		
14	Exhibit 10						
1 =	Email Chain	140	1 1		16		
15 16	D-NNL-007578 - D-NNL-007579 Exhibit 11	148	11		17		
10	Email Chain				18		
17	D-NNL-028514 - D-NNL-028515	150	3		19		
18	* * *	100	5		20		
19	PREMARKED				20		
	EXHIBITS	PAGE 1	LINE				
20	(Not Provided to Reporter)				21	Signature of Deponent	
21	Exhibit 109	245	16		22	SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME	
22	Exhibit 110	206	23		23	THIS DAY OF, 2021.	
23	Exhibit 111	196	8		24		
24	Exhibit 112	213	23		25	(Notary Public) MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:	
25					20		

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Exhibit B

Page 1 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 2 IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS 3 DALLAS DIVISION 4 In re:)) 5 HIGHLAND CAPITAL Case No.) 19-34054 L.P. MANAGEMENT, LP,) 6 Chapter 11) Debtor, 7 · _ _) HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, 8 LP, 9 Plaintiff,) Adversary No.) 21-03003-sgi 10 vs. 11 JAMES D. DONDERO, 12 Defendant.) 13 14 15 16 17 REMOTE DEPOSITION OF 18 BRUCE McGOVERN 19 Houston, Texas 20 Tuesday, 9th day of November, 2021 21 22 23 Reported by: 24 Daniel J. Skur, Notary Public and CSR 25 Job No. 202067

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1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2		2	APPEARANCES:
3		3	Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones
4		4	Attorney(s) for Debtor
5		5	780 Third Avenue
6		6	New York, New York 10017
7	9th day of November, 2021	7	By: John Morris, Esq.
8	10:01 a.m 10:34 a.m.	8	
9		9	
10		10	
11	Remote Deposition of BRUCE McGOVERN,	11	
12	located in Houston, Texas, before Daniel J.	12	Stinson
13	Skur, Notary Public and Certified Shorthand	13	Attorney(s)for James Dondero, HCMS
14	Reporter in and for the State of Texas	14	and HCRE
15	located in Waxahachie, Texas.	15	3102 Oak Lawn Avenue
16		16	Dallas, Texas 75219
17		17	By: Michael Aigen, Esq.
18		18	
19		19	
20		20	
21		21	
22		22	ALSO PRESENT:
23		23	La Asia Canty, Paralegal
24		24	Haley Winograd
25		25	
1		ge 4	Page 5
1	Pag McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021 PROCEEDINGS
2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED	1 2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 P R O C E E D I N G S REMOTE ORAL DEPOSITION OF
2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the attorneys for the respective	1 2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 PROCEEDINGS REMOTE ORAL DEPOSITION OF BRUCE McGOVERN
2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the attorneys for the respective parties herein, that filing and sealing be and	1 2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021 PROCEEDINGS REMOTE ORAL DEPOSITION OF BRUCE McGOVERN (REPORTER NOTE: This deposition is
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	Dama (Desc. 7
1	Page 6 McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 7 McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	Highland Capital Management, LP, a company that	2	know that? And we'll scroll down to the
3	has been reorganized following its bankruptcy	3	portions that you think you need to see.
4	in Texas.	4	Is that okay?
5	Are you aware of the bankruptcy?	5	A. Yes, I will.
6	A. Yes, I am.	6	Q. And if there's anything that I ask
7	Q. Okay. And we're here today for your	7	that you don't understand, will you let me know
8	deposition; is that right?	8	that?
9	A. Yes, that's correct.	9	A. Yes, I will.
10	Q. And you've been deposed on a number	10	Q. Okay. You were retained by the
11	of occasions in your professional capacity.	11	Stinson firm to provide expert testimony on
12	Do I have that right?	12	behalf of James Dondero; is that correct?
13	A. I believe there have been three	13	A. Yes, that's correct.
14	occasions, yes.	14	Q. Okay. And when were you retained?
15	Q. Okay. So I'm not going to ask you	15	A. I was retained sometime at the
16	about those occasions. I want to try to get	16	beginning of 2021, I believe. I don't recall
17	this done as quickly as we can.	17	the exact date, but it was in the first few
18	I'll just tell you that I don't	18	months of 2021.
19	know if any of those occasions were remote	19	Q. How did it come how did your
20	depositions, but remote depositions are	20	retention come about?
21	particularly difficult, only because we're not	21	A. I received a phone call, I believe,
22	in the same room.	22	from Michael Aigen, who is here today; and he
23	From time to time, we'll put	23	discussed with me the general nature of the
24	documents on the screen. If there's anything	24	underlying litigation and the issue on which he
25	that you need to see, will you please let me	25	and his firm were seeking expert testimony.
	Page 8		
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1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 9 McGovern - 11-9-2021
1 2		1 2	-
	McGovern - 11-9-2021		McGovern - 11-9-2021
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1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	that fair?	2	MR. MORRIS: Yes.
3	A. That's correct.	3	MR. AIGEN: I just want to point
4	Q. Okay. And I want to go a little bit	4	something out. The witness may not be
5	broader. I think I used the words whether	5	aware that one of our conversations, Dan
6	you I'd asked whether you had spoken with	6	Elms was listening, I believe.
7	him.	7	Actually, I apologize. I may be
8	So let me ask a different question:	8	convincing confusing this with other
9	Have you ever communicated with Mr. Dondero by	9	witnesses. Dan Elms is not a lawyer at our
10	email or otherwise?	10	firm. Now that I'm saying that, I actually
11	A. No. I've never had any	11	may be confusing it with conversations with
12	communications with him.	12	our other expert, so
13	Q. Is it fair to say that all of your	13	A. I don't recall him being in any of
14	communications relating to the work that you've	14	our discussions.
15	done in this lawsuit have been exclusively with	15	MR. AIGEN: I apologize. I probably
16	one or more lawyers from the Stinson firm?	16	should just be quiet.
17	A. Yes, that's correct.	17	BY MR. MORRIS:
18	Q. Okay. Have you ever communicated	18	Q. I'm going to ask my colleague, La
19	with anybody else regarding any of the work	19	Asia Canty, to put on the screen a copy of your
20	that you've done in connection with this	20	report, which has been premarked as Exhibit 61.
21	engagement other than lawyers from the Stinson	21	(Exhibit 61 introduced.)
22	firm?	22	BY MR. MORRIS:
23	A. No. I have not.	23	Q. And can you see that, sir?
24	Q. Okay. I'm going to ask you	24	A. Yes, I can.
25	MR. AIGEN: John.	25	Q. Okay.
20			2. oldj.
	Page 12		Page 13
1	McCovern = 11 - 9 - 2021	1	McCovern = 11 - 9 - 2021
1	McGovern - $11-9-2021$	1	McGovern - $11-9-2021$
2	MR. MORRIS: And if we could just	2	MR. MORRIS: If we can scroll down a
2 3	MR. MORRIS: And if we could just scroll to the last page, the signature	2 3	MR. MORRIS: If we can scroll down a little bit.
2 3 4	MR. MORRIS: And if we could just scroll to the last page, the signature line.	2 3 4	MR. MORRIS: If we can scroll down a little bit. BY MR. MORRIS:
2 3 4 5	MR. MORRIS: And if we could just scroll to the last page, the signature line. BY MR. MORRIS:	2 3 4 5	MR. MORRIS: If we can scroll down a little bit. BY MR. MORRIS: Q. You reviewed five documents for
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<pre>MR. MORRIS: And if we could just scroll to the last page, the signature line. BY MR. MORRIS: Q. And that's your signature, sir? A. Yes, it is. Q. And did you sign this on or around May 28th, 2021? A. Yes, I did. MR. MORRIS: You can go back to the top. BY MR. MORRIS: Q. As you sit here today, is there anything that you believe is inaccurate about your report? A. No. Q. Is there anything that you believe should be modified to state more clearly the opinions and the bases for them, as set forth in this report? A. No. Q. Your report has not been amended or</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 MR. MORRIS: If we can scroll down a little bit. BY MR. MORRIS: Q. You reviewed five documents for purposes of preparing your report. Do I have that right? A. Yes, that's correct. Q. Okay. And it's those five documents that are listed in the first page of your report, right? A. Yes, that's correct. Q. Okay. Since signing this report on May 28th, 2021, have you been provided with any additional documents that relate in any way to your opinions? A. I've been provided with copies of the promissory notes that were executed on behalf of some of the entities controlled by Mr. Dondero in favor of Highland Capital, and I believe I also have a copy of the complaint in the adversary proceeding filed against the entities.

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1	Page 14		Page 15
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	believe, sometime last week.	2	Q. Did you ever ask for any information
3	Q. And to confirm, those documents	3	concerning Highland's treatment of the loans in
4	haven't caused you to change your opinions as	4	its books and records?
5	set forth in your report in any way, correct?	5	A. No, I did not.
6	A. That's correct.	6	Q. Is Highland's treatment of the loans
7	Q. Did you have any discussion with	7	in its books and records relevant at all to
8	anybody about why you weren't given those	8	your opinions as set forth in Exhibit 61?
9	documents before you completed your report on	9	A. No, I don't believe it is.
10	May 28th?	10	Q. Were you given copies of Highland's
11	A. No. I was not provided any	11	audited financial statements?
12	explanation of that. What did occur is that I	12	A. No, I was not. I've discussed
13	met with attorneys from the Stinson law firm to	13	already all of the documents that I was
14	discuss the deposition today; and following	14	provided to you, both to prepare the report and
15	that conversation, I was sent by email copies	15	that I was provided subsequent to the report.
16	of the additional documents.	16	Q. Did you ask to see Highland's
17	Q. Okay. But you don't recall having	17	audited financial statements?
18	any discussion about why you hadn't been given	18	A. No, I did not.
19	copies of those documents before you completed	19	Q. Is it fair to say that the treatment
20	your report on May 28th, 2021, correct?	20	of the loans in Highland's audited financial
21	A. That's correct.	21	statements is irrelevant to your opinions as
22	Q. Okay. Were you ever given any	22	set forth in Exhibit 61?
23	information concerning Highland's treatment of	23	A. Yes. I think that's a fair
24	the loans on Highland's books and records?	24	assessment.
25	A. No, I was not.	25	Q. Did you ask for any documents that
			~ 1 1
1	Page 16 McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 17 McGovern - 11-9-2021
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 are not listed in your report?	2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 example, that there were promissory notes
2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 are not listed in your report? A. No, I did not.	2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 example, that there were promissory notes signed by a few different entities controlled
2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 are not listed in your report? A. No, I did not. Q. So is it fair to say that you never	2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 example, that there were promissory notes signed by a few different entities controlled by Mr. Dondero that were organized in different
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2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 are not listed in your report? A. No, I did not. Q. So is it fair to say that you never looked at any documents that were filed in Highland's bankruptcy case?	2 3 4 5 6	McGovern - 11-9-2021 example, that there were promissory notes signed by a few different entities controlled by Mr. Dondero that were organized in different forms. One, I believe, was HCE, but I can't
2 3 4 5 6 7	McGovern - 11-9-2021 are not listed in your report? A. No, I did not. Q. So is it fair to say that you never looked at any documents that were filed in Highland's bankruptcy case? A. The only documents I've looked at	2 3 4 5 6 7	McGovern - 11-9-2021 example, that there were promissory notes signed by a few different entities controlled by Mr. Dondero that were organized in different forms. One, I believe, was HCE, but I can't recall off the top of my head if that was a
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	Page 18		Page 19
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	Q. Okay.	2	Q. Okay. Let's look at the second
3	MR. MORRIS: If we could turn to the	3	assumed fact.
4	assumptions.	4	It says, quote: Subsequent to
5	Okay. Right there is fine.	5	Mr. Dondero's execution of the notes, but
6	BY MR. MORRIS:	6	before Highland Capital made demand for payment
7	Q. So you were asked to assume the	7	of the notes, Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero
8	facts that are set forth in the five numbered	8	entered into an oral agreement, which I think
9	paragraphs on this page, correct?	9	you're defining there as "the subsequent
10	A. Yes, that's correct.	10	agreement."
11	Q. Okay. And, in fact, you satisfied	11	Have I read that correctly?
12	yourself, have you not, that Assumed Fact	12	A. Yes, that is correct.
13	Number 1 is actually true, correct?	13	Q. Have you been given any document
14	A. That is an assumption.	14	withdrawn.
15	MR. AIGEN: Objection, form.	15	Have you been given any documentary
16	A. I don't have any basis for for	16	evidence concerning the subsequent agreement?
17	example, identifying that that's actually	17	A. No, I have not.
18	Mr. Dondero's signature; but I was asked to	18	Q. Do you know whether has anybody
19	assume that for purposes of the report, that he	19	ever informed you whether such documentation
20	had signed these promissory notes.	20	exists?
21	BY MR. MORRIS:	21	A. Nobody has ever suggested that to
22	Q. Did anybody tell you that	22	me.
23	Mr. Dondero disputed his execution of the three	23	Q. Okay. Did you ask to see any
24	promissory notes that were given to you?	24	documents concerning the existence of the
25	A. No.	25	subsequent agreement?
1	Page 20		Page 21
1	Page 20 McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 21 McGovern - 11-9-2021
1 2		1 2	
	McGovern - 11-9-2021		McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 A. No, I did not.	2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 A. I don't know the exact date. I was
2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 A. No, I did not. Q. And that's because you were just	2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after
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	Page 22		Page 23
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	agreements that may exist, correct?	2	assuming only that there was a subsequent
3	A. That's correct.	3	agreement that occurred after the execution of
4	Q. And you weren't asked to assume that	4	the notes, but before demand for payment on the
5	more than one subsequent agreement existed,	5	notes had been made.
6	correct?	6	Q. So you're not offering any opinion
7	A. That's correct.	7	that the subsequent agreement actually exists,
8	Q. And when you prepared your report,	8	correct?
9	the assumption that you made was that there was	9	A. That's correct.
10	only one subsequent agreement, correct?	10	Q. And you're not offering any opinion
11	A. Yes, the subsequent agreement to	11	that the terms of the subsequent agreement were
12	which I refer in my report.	12	reasonable, correct?
13	Q. Okay. Do you know who entered the	13	A. That's correct.
14	subsequent agreement on behalf of Highland	14	Q. You're not offering any opinion that
15	Capital?	15	the subsequent agreement was fair to both
16	A. No, I do not.	16	parties, correct?
17	Q. Do you know if the subsequent	17	A. That's correct.
18	agreement was ever disclosed to Highland	18	Q. And you're not offering any opinion
19	Capital's outside auditors?	19	that the person who entered into the subsequent
20	A. No, I do not.	20	agreement on behalf of Highland Capital
21	Q. Is it fair to say that the	21	fulfilled his or her or its duties, correct?
22	circumstances surrounding the entry into the	22	A. That's correct.
23	subsequent agreement are not relevant to your	23	Q. Are you offering any opinion at all
24	opinions as set forth in Exhibit 61?	24	about the subsequent agreement?
25	A. Yes, that's correct, because I'm	25	MR. AIGEN: Objection, form.
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1	Page 24 McCovrorn $-$ 11-9-2021	1	Page 25 MaCourorn $-11-9-2021$
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	McGovern - 11-9-2021 A. I'm offering an opinion only about the effect of the subsequent agreement, assuming that the subs subsequent agreement is as I described in my report. BY MR. MORRIS: Q. Okay. What if I asked you to assume that there was no subsequent agreement? Would that change your opinions? MR. AIGEN: Objection, form. A. It it would not change my ultimate opinion, which is that there is no cancellation of indebtedness income for Mr. Dondero. BY MR. MORRIS: Q. And your opinion today is that there's no taxable income to Mr. Dondero because the conditions subsequent that you were asked to assume have not yet been satisfied; is that fair? A. That's correct. My opinion is that	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	McGovern - 11-9-2021 agreement did not change the outcome for him, that it it would not cause him to have income from the the loans. Q. And so if there is no subs if I ask you to assume that there is no subsequent agreement, would your opinion be that Mr. Dondero therefore owes any unpaid principal and interest due under each of the notes that you've reviewed? A. Based on the my review of the promissory notes, yes, that the notes are demand notes in favor of Highland Capital. Q. Okay. Let's go to Assumed Fact Number 3. It states, quote: In the subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero, Highland Capital agreed that it would not collect on the notes unless certain conditions defined as "the conditions," could not be satisfied. In other words, Highland Capital agreed that the loans will be forgiven only if the conditions are satisfied.

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1	Page 26 McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 27 McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	of that everything in Number 3 is is an	2	would be satisfied?
3	assumption that you were asked to make in	3	A. No, I was not.
4	rendering your opinion, correct?	4	Q. Did you ask any did you ask for
5	A. Yes, that's correct.	5	any information concerning the likelihood that
6	Q. Do you know what the conditions	6	the conditions would be satisfied?
7	were?	7	A. No, I did not.
8	A. I don't know the details of the	8	Q. Is it fair to say that the opinions
9	conditions. I was asked to assume only that	9	set forth in Exhibit 61 do not take into
10	the conditions related to things beyond	10	account the likelihood that the conditions
11	Mr. Dondero's control, such as the sale of	11	would be satisfied?
12	certain assets above cost.	12	A. I think that's an accurate
13		13	
	Q. Okay. That bleeds into the fourth	14	statement. The the only assumption is that
14	assumption, but I just want to stick with		these conditions are things that will be beyond Mr. Dondero's control and subject to
15	Number 3 for the moment. Do you have any other	15	5
16	information about what the conditions were,	16	influences, such as market values. O. So the likelihood that the
17	other than the sale of an asset above cost?	17	~
18	A. No, I do not.	18	conditions would be satisfied was not relevant
19	Q. Did you ask any questions about the	19	to your analysis, correct?
20	nature, extent, and scope of the conditions?	20	A. As far as probability, that's
21	A. Only if whether the conditions were	21	correct.
22	things beyond his control, but other than that,	22	Q. Okay. And you're not offering any
23	I did not ask for details.	23	opinion as to the likelihood that any of the
24	Q. Were you given any information	24	conditions would be satisfied, correct?
25	concerning the likelihood that the conditions	25	A. That's correct.
	Page 28		Page 29
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth	2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy?
2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the	2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am.
2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not	2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll
2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they	2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the
2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio	2 3 4 5 6	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of
2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a	2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the
2 3 4 5 6	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control.	2 3 4 5 6	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did. Q. What if the satisfaction of the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption? A. Yes.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did. Q. What if the satisfaction of the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption? A. Yes. Q. Okay. If you if you accept that assumption for purposes of my hypothetical, and
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	<pre>McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did. Q. What if the satisfaction of the conditions was within Mr. Dondero's control? If you make that assumption, how does your how do your opinions change, if at all? A. I'm just thinking through your</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption? A. Yes. Q. Okay. If you if you accept that assumption for purposes of my hypothetical, and you also assume that the portfolio company assets that are the subject of the conditions were valued above cost at the time the subsequent agreement was entered into, would
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	<pre>McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did. Q. What if the satisfaction of the conditions was within Mr. Dondero's control? If you make that assumption, how does your how do your opinions change, if at all? A. I'm just thinking through your question. If the conditions are within his control, then that could potentially change the</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption? A. Yes. Q. Okay. If you if you accept that assumption for purposes of my hypothetical, and you also assume that the portfolio company assets that are the subject of the conditions were valued above cost at the time the subsequent agreement was entered into, would that impact your opinions if you assumed so I'm asking you to really make just two
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	<pre>McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did. Q. What if the satisfaction of the conditions was within Mr. Dondero's control? If you make that assumption, how does your how do your opinions change, if at all? A. I'm just thinking through your question. If the conditions are within his control, then that could potentially change the outcome as to whether there was income from the</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption? A. Yes. Q. Okay. If you if you accept that assumption for purposes of my hypothetical, and you also assume that the portfolio company assets that are the subject of the conditions were valued above cost at the time the subsequent agreement was entered into, would that impact your opinions if you assumed so I'm asking you to really make just two assumptions: Number one, Mr. Dondero had the
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	<pre>McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did. Q. What if the satisfaction of the conditions was within Mr. Dondero's control? If you make that assumption, how does your how do your opinions change, if at all? A. I'm just thinking through your question. If the conditions are within his control, then that could potentially change the outcome as to whether there was income from the discharge of indebtedness, but in order to provide an opinion on that, I would have to</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption? A. Yes. Q. Okay. If you if you accept that assumption for purposes of my hypothetical, and you also assume that the portfolio company assets that are the subject of the conditions were valued above cost at the time the subsequent agreement was entered into, would that impact your opinions if you assumed so I'm asking you to really make just two assumptions: Number one, Mr. Dondero had the ability to sell the portfolio company assets any time he wanted, and number two, that at the
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	<pre>McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did. Q. What if the satisfaction of the conditions was within Mr. Dondero's control? If you make that assumption, how does your how do your opinions change, if at all? A. I'm just thinking through your question. If the conditions are within his control, then that could potentially change the outcome as to whether there was income from the discharge of indebtedness, but in order to provide an opinion on that, I would have to know the details of the conditions; that is,</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption? A. Yes. Q. Okay. If you if you accept that assumption for purposes of my hypothetical, and you also assume that the portfolio company assets that are the subject of the conditions were valued above cost at the time the subsequent agreement was entered into, would that impact your opinions if you assumed so I'm asking you to really make just two assumptions: Number one, Mr. Dondero had the ability to sell the portfolio company assets any time he wanted, and number two, that at the time he entered into the subsequent agreement,
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<pre>McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. Let's move on to the fourth assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the conditions are satisfied was not and is not within Mr. Dondero's control because they included the condition that certain portfolio company assets be sold above cost or in a manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. Have I read that correctly? A. Yes, you did. Q. What if the satisfaction of the conditions was within Mr. Dondero's control? If you make that assumption, how does your how do your opinions change, if at all? A. I'm just thinking through your question. If the conditions are within his control, then that could potentially change the outcome as to whether there was income from the discharge of indebtedness, but in order to provide an opinion on that, I would have to know the details of the conditions; that is, exactly what they are and how it is that he has control over them.</pre>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	McGovern - 11-9-2021 bankruptcy? A. Yes, I am. Q. Are you aware that he had I'll I'll ask you to assume that he had the authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of Highland. Can you can you accept that assumption? A. Yes. Q. Okay. If you if you accept that assumption for purposes of my hypothetical, and you also assume that the portfolio company assets that are the subject of the conditions were valued above cost at the time the subsequent agreement was entered into, would that impact your opinions if you assumed so I'm asking you to really make just two assumptions: Number one, Mr. Dondero had the ability to sell the portfolio company assets any time he wanted, and number two, that at the time he entered into the subsequent agreement, the value of the portfolio company assets was above cost. How did those two assumptions, if

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2	A. Assuming those two facts, they could	2	A. That's correct. Although in in
3	change the analysis of the issue of whether	3	fairness, as I've said, I don't know the
4	Mr. Dondero had income from the cancellation of	4	details of all the conditions, but was asked to
5	indebtedness. The key question really is	5	assume that they included the condition that
6	whether Highland Capital, at the time of the	6	these assets be sold above cost.
7	subsequent agreement, was actually agreeing to	7	Q. Yeah, I just want to focus on on
8	cancel the loans at that time, or was it	8	the assumptions that you were asked to make, so
9	agreeing in the future to cancel the loans if	9	let me give you a hypothetical. Let's say one
10	certain conditions occurred?	10	of the company assets was valued at \$50 million
11	If those conditions are within the	11	on the date the subsequent agreement was
12	control of Mr. Dondero and in effect already in	12	entered into, but that Highland's cost for
13	place, then it's quite possible that he would	13	acquiring its interest in that asset was only
14	have had income from the discharge of	14	\$10 million, and Mr. Dondero had the ability to
15	indebtedness at that time because the loans in	15	sell that asset at at any time prior to the
16	fact had been forgiven.	16	bankruptcy filing.
17	Q. But you weren't ass you weren't	17	Under that hypothetical, would
18	asked to assume that Highland placed any	18	Mr. Dondero have to realize the income?
19	condition on the timing of the forgiveness,	19	A. If he actually sold the assets, then
20	correct?	20	then yes.
20	A. That's correct.	21	0. And what about if he didn't sell the
22	Q. And and you, in fact, were asked	22	assets, but that it was within his control to
23	to assume that if the portfolio company assets	23	do so at any time?
24	were sold above cost, the loans would be	24	A. It's possible that that could change
25	forgiven, correct?	25	the outcome, as far as whether he had income
25			the outcome, as far as whether he had theome
1	Page 32 $McCovern = 11 - 9 - 2021$	1	Page 33
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 from the cancellation of indebtedness, but if	2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 professor. I appreciate your time and
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5	within and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify:		6			
6	That BRUCE McGOVERN, the witness					
	whose deposition is hereinbefore set forth,		7			
7	was duly sworn by me and that such		8			
8	deposition is a true record of the testimony given by such witness.		9			
Ŭ	That pursuant to Rule 30 of the Federal					
9	Rules of Civil Procedure, signature of the					
10	witness was not reserved by the witness or other party before the conclusion of the		11			
1	deposition;		12			
11	I further certify that I am not		13			
12	related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage; and that I am		14			
12	in no way interested in the outcome of this					
13	matter.		15			
	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto		16			
14	set my hand this 9th day of November, 2021.		17			
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	Notary Public, State of Texas.					
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TSG Reporting - Worldwide

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Exhibit C

Privileged and Confidential - Work Product

Notes Payable to

Highland

8-Apr-21

Maker	<u>Term</u>	<u>Amount Owed</u> Per Lawsuit	Original Loan Amount	<u>Loan Date</u>	Adversary Proceeding
Nexpoint Advisors	30 yr	23,071,195	\$30,746,812	5/31/2017	21-3005
HCM Services	30 yr	6,757,249	\$20,247,628	5/31/2017	21-3006
HCM Services	Demand	947,519	150,000.00 200,000.00	3/26/2018 6/25/2018	21-3006 21-3006
			400,000.00 150,000.00	5/29/2019 6/26/2019	

JD	Demand	9,004,013	\$3,825,000	2/2/2018	21-3003
			\$2,500,000	8/1/2018	21-3003
			\$2,500,000	8/13/2018	21-3003
			1 Million and		
HCRE	30 yr	6,145,467	\$6,059,832	5/31/2017	21-3007
HCRE	Demand	5,012,261	100,000.00	11/27/2013	21-3007
			2,500,000.00	10/12/2017	21-3007
			750,000.00	10/15/2018	21-3007
	1	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	900,000.00	9/25/2019	21-3007
		and the second			

50,937,704

App. 202

Exhibit D

From: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com> To: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com> Subject: RE: Wires for today Date: Wed, 25 Nov 2020 10:01:23 -0600 Importance: Normal Inline-Images: image001.jpg

ok

From: Kristin Hendrix Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2020 10:01 AM To: Frank Waterhouse Subject: Wires for today						
<u>HCM</u>						
AT&T	USD	2,845.06				
Grubhub	USD	1,422.24				
HCMFA HCM Insurance Acct	USD	17,373.85	Dec premiums			
<u>NPA</u> HCM Insurance Acct UMB Bank		38,453.01 355.31	Dec premiums			
HCFD Operating						
HCMFA HCM Insurance	USD	61,691.00	Shared Services			
Acct	USD	51,779.84	Dec premiums			
Eagle Equity HCM Insurance Acct Okay to release?	USD	2,323.63	Dec premiums			
-						

Kristin Hendrix, CPA | Assistant Controller



300 Crescent Court | Suite 700 | Dallas, Texas 75201

O: 972.628.4127 | F: 972.628.4147

khendrix@highlandcapital.com | www.highlandcapital.com



From: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com> To: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com> Subject: RE: Wires for today Date: Mon, 30 Nov 2020 10:45:44 -0600 Importance: Normal Inline-Images: image001.jpg

ok

From: Kristin Hendrix Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:46 AM To: Frank Waterhouse Subject: Wires for today **HCM** Arris Western USD 11,000.00 **HCMFA** HCM USD 308,374.00 Shared Services HCFD Oper USD 250,000.00 **Equity Contribution** NPA **HCMFA** USD 325,000.00 one day loan **Transfer Pricing** HCFD Oper USD 120,762.09 HCFD Oper Sea Island Final Presidents Club bill USD 23,511.90 **HCFD 12B-1 HCMFA** 12B-1 Reimbursement USD 37,822.00 Falcon GP HCM USD 15,000.00 Shared Services **NREA** HCM Shared Services USD 80,000.00 Okay to release?

Kristin Hendrix, CPA | Assistant Controller



300 Crescent Court | Suite 700 | Dallas, Texas 75201

O: 972 628 4127 [F: 972.628 4147

From: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com> To: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com> Subject: RE: Wires for today Date: Tue, 1 Dec 2020 12:04:49 -0600 Importance: Normal Inline-Images: image001.jpg

ok

From: Kristin Hendrix Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 12:00 PM To: Frank Waterhouse Subject: Wires for today **HCM** Crescent TC USD 158,695.74 Seery USD 150,000.00 Nelms 30,000.00 USD Dubel USD 30,000.00 Simek USD 42,598.52 HCMNY Times Sq USD 27,454.67 **HCMFA** NPA USD 325,000.00 11/30/2020 Loan Repayment HIGHLAND TOTAL RETURN 72,912.75 USD Advisory Fees HIGHLAND FIXED **INCOME** USD 55,287.79 **Advisory Fees** HIGHLAND/IBOXX USD 25,004.95 SRLOAN ETF **Advisory Fees** HIGHLAND SMALL CAP EQUITY USD 19,293.59 Advisory Fees HCFD Paul DeMaio USD 2,000.00 Return of IT Holdback

Okay to send?

Kristin Hendrix, CPA | Assistant Controller



300 Crescent Court | Suite 700 | Dallas, Texas 75201

From: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com>
To: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com>
Cc: David Klos <DKlos@HighlandCapital.com>
Subject: FW: HCM - HCMFA/NPA
Date: Mon, 21 Dec 2020 12:30:25 -0600
Importance: Normal

FYI

From: Jack Donohue Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 12:15 PM To: Kristin Hendrix Cc: Fred Caruso Subject: HCM - HCMFA/NPA

Kristin,

Has NPA paid the December payments \$168k and 252k payments for shared service and subadvisor? The last payment I see was 11/2/2020. Has HCMFA paid the December payment of \$416k? The last payment I see was on 11/2/2020.

Thanks,

Jack

Jack M. Donohue, CPA

Development Specialists, Inc.

10 South LaSalle Street, Suite 3300| Chicago, Illinois 60603

Phone: (312) 263-4141| Fax: (312) 263-1180

http://DSIconsulting.com/

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From: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com> To: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com> Subject: Re: Wires for today Date: Wed, 23 Dec 2020 11:05:46 -0600 Importance: Normal Inline-Images: image001.jpg

Ok

On Dec 23, 2020, at 11:00 AM, Kristin Hendrix wrote:

<u>HCM</u>			
HCM Ins	USD	49,213.01	health insurance premium funding
EAC	USD	36,000.00	Retainer Invoice; approved by Seery
<u>HCMFA</u>			
HCM Ins	USD	8,686.93	health insurance premium funding
ACA	USD	375.00	
Principal			
Life	USD	71.53	
<u>NPA</u>			
HCM Ins	USD	20,079.46	health insurance premium funding
HCFD			
<u>Oper</u>		06 000 40	
HCM Ins	USD	26,339.40	health insurance premium funding
FF A			
<u>EEA</u> HCM Ins	USD	1 161 82	health insurance promium funding
	USD	1,161.82	health insurance premium funding
	.0		

Okay to release?

Kristin Hendrix, CPA | Assistant Controller

300 Crescent Court | Suite 700 | Dallas, Texas 75201

O: 972.628.4127 | F: 972.628.4147

khendrix@highlandcapital.com | www.highlandcapital.com

HIGHLAND CAPITAL

Exhibit E

From: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com> To: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com> Subject: Re: Wires for today Date: Thu, 31 Dec 2020 12:13:42 -0600 Importance: Normal

Ok

On Dec 31, 2020, at 12:11 PM, Kristin Hendrix wrote:

<u>нсм</u>

Meta-e	USD	360,384,10	approved by Seery
Houlihan Lokey	USD	41,460.00	approved by Seery
Bloomberg Finance LP	USD	16,491.04	approved by Seery
Arris Western Corp.	USD	11,000.00	approved by Seery
TW Telecom Holdings, llc	USD	6,182.17	approved by Seery
			final Garden leave payment (processed outside of
Mauro Staltari	USD	3,299.50	payroll)
Canteen Vending Services	USD	2,243.84	approved by Seery
Shawn Raver	USD	1,984.95	approved by Seery
Four Seasons Plantscaping	USD	481.71	approved by Seery
Action Shred of Texas	USD	450.00	approved by Seery
ProStar Services, Inc	USD	367.38	approved by Seery
UPS Supply Chain Solutions	USD	164.31	approved by Seery
<u>HCMFA</u>			
Shawn Raver	USD	4,631.55	
DTCC ITP LLC	USD	892.88	
<u>NPA</u>			
Bloomberg Finance LP	USD	26,177.78	
DST Asset Manager Solutions	USD	17,152.20	
Dallas Zoological Society	USD	9,404.00	
AnchorsGordan, PA	USD	1,605.75	
Dow Jones & Company, Inc.	USD	1,599.00	
UPS Supply Chain Solutions	USD	521.37	
CHASE COURIERS, INC	USD	24.48	
HCFD Oper			
Highland Capital Management Fund	LIOD	(1 5(0 00	Nov shared services
Advisors	USD	64,562.00	Nov shared services
DST Technologies, Inc.	USD	5,741.59	
UPS Supply Chain Solutions	USD	114.68	
Falcon			
E&P			
HCM USD 15,000.00 E	Dec shared	services	



App. 210 ACL-026166

Exhibit F

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

		_	
In re:		§	Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL		§ 8	Chapter 11
MANAGEMENT, L.P.,		8 8 8 8 8 8	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
		§	
	Debtor.	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL		~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	
MANAGEMENT, L.P.,		Š	
	Plaintiff,	8	
	r lainuill,	8 8	
VS.		3 §	
		§	
NEXPOINT ADVISORS,	L.P., JAMES	§	Adversary Proceeding No.
DONDERO, NANCY DO		§	21-03005
THE DUGABOY INVEST	MENT	§	
TRUST,		Š	
	Defendants.	8 8 8	
	Defendants.	8 8	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL		ş	Adversary Proceeding No.
MANAGEMENT SERVIC	CES, INC.,	§	21-03006
JAMES DONDERO, NAN	ICY		
DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY		§	
INVESTMENT TRUST,		\$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$	
		Š	
	Defendants.	8	
HCRE PARTERS, LLC (N	$J/\mathbf{K}/\Delta/$	8 §	Adversary Proceeding No.
NEXPOINT REAL ESTA		ş	21-03007
PARTNERS, LLC), JAME			21 00007
NANCY DONDERO, AN		§	
DUGABOY INVESTMEN		8 8 8 8	
		§	
	Defendants.	§	

EXPERT REPORT OF STEVEN J. PULLY, CPA, CFA, ESQ.

December 10, 2021

Confidential

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I. BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS

- 1. My professional background includes over thirty-six years of experience as an investment banker, corporate board member, corporate executive, hedge fund executive, attorney, consultant, and expert witness.
- I graduated with honors from Georgetown University in 1982 with a BSBA in Accounting, and I graduated from The University of Texas at Austin in 1985 with a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. I hold the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation and am a licensed CPA and attorney in the State of Texas. I also hold the Series 7, 63, and 79 FINRA securities licenses¹. My CFA designation and my law, CPA, and FINRA licenses are all current.
- 3. I currently work as a corporate executive, as a corporate board member, as an investment banker, and as an expert witness.
 - a. I work on a part-time basis as the Chief Executive Officer of Harvest Oil & Gas, a former public company that is in the process of dissolving. I was Chairman of the Board of Harvest before assuming the Chief Executive Officer role. Until recently, Harvest was largely managed by another company pursuant to a services agreement. When the services agreement was entered into, the services provider and the predecessor of Harvest were affiliates, which they ceased to be during the term of the agreement. Services provided under the agreement included treasury, accounting, and operating functions. One of my roles as Chief Executive Officer is to replace the former service provider by bringing most business functions inhouse.
 - b. I currently serve on the boards of seven private companies. I am typically appointed to boards by large shareholders. In total, I have been on the boards of thirty-two public and private companies. Those companies have operated in a broad cross section of industries, including agriculture, aviation, energy, entertainment, manufacturing, real estate, refining, retail, restaurants, technology, and telecom. I have served on the boards of companies that have outsourced most of their corporate functions or provided outsourcing services for other companies.
 - c. I conduct my investment banking work through Speyside Partners, LLC ("Speyside Partners"), an entity that I co-founded.² At Speyside I work on mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, financings, and restructurings.
- 4. Through the end of 2014, I spent thirteen years working for two different hedge funds. I was the General Counsel and a partner of Carlson Capital, the most recent hedge fund for which I worked. Carlson Capital managed approximately \$9 billion across a number of different funds during much of my tenure and followed a multi-strategy investing approach. Prior to working at Carlson Capital, I worked for Newcastle Capital Management, a hedge fund that pursued a deep value and activist investment strategy. I was the President of Newcastle Capital

¹ I formerly held the Series 24 FINRA license.

² The website for Speyside Partners is <u>www.speysidepartners.com</u>.

Management and worked there for almost six years. Newcastle Capital Management managed as much as \$650 million across a variety of funds while I was employed there. During my tenure, I served as the Chief Executive Officer of two companies controlled by the firm. Both Carlson Capital and Newcastle Capital Management had "shared-services" arrangements, where a separate entity provided a variety of back office, mid-office, and front office services to an affiliated party.

- 5. Prior to becoming a hedge fund executive, I was an investment banker for approximately twelve years at various large firms, including as a Managing Director for Bank of America Securities and as a Senior Managing Director for Bear Stearns. I also worked as an investment banker at Kidder Peabody, PaineWebber, and Wasserstein Perella. Over the course of my work at large investment banking firms, I focused on mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, capital raising, and restructurings.
- 6. Prior to becoming an investment banker, I was a securities and corporate lawyer for almost four years at Baker Botts.
- 7. Based on the work that I have done over the past thirty-six years, I have developed a deep understanding of services agreements and outsourcing generally as well as corporate governance-related matters. I applied the knowledge and experience that I have gained over the past thirty-six years to my analysis in this report.
- 8. I have previously served as a testifying and/or consulting witness in the following actions:
 - a. Ascent Resources Utica, LLC (f/k/a American Energy Utica, LLC); Ascent Resources, LLC (f/k/a American Energy Appalachia Holdings, LLC); Ascent Resources Utica Holdings, LLC (f/k/a American Energy Ohio Holdings, LLC); The Energy & Minerals Group Fund III, LP; EMG Fund III Offshore Holdings, LP; FR AEU Holdings, LLC and FR AE Marcellus Holdings, LLC v. Duane Morris LLP, in the 165th Judicial District Court of Harris County, Cause No. 2015-46550) — Consulting and Testifying witness for Plaintiffs.
 - b. *In re Paladin Energy Corp.*, Case No. 16-13590, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division Consulting and Testifying witness for Debtor.
 - c. In re: Potential Complaint Against Larry Noble, Noble Operating, LLC, Noble Natural Resources, L.L.C. and Javier Urias to Avoid Transfers Testifying witness for Potential Defendants.
 - d. James D. Sallah, not individually but solely in his capacity as Corporate Monitor for OM Global Investment Fund LLC and OM Global LP, Plaintiff, v. BGT Consulting, LLC, d/b/a BGT Fund Administration, and Lara Goldberg, Defendants Testifying witness on behalf of Defendants BGT Consulting, LLC, d/b/a BGT Fund Administration and Lara Goldberg.
 - e. Kenneth A. Kristofek, Gruene Interests, LLC and Gruene Interests Services, LLC, Gran Toro Rojo, LLC, and Gruene USFC, LLC, v. David Gunderson, Horace Winchester, Stan

Bradshaw, and Jerry Williamson, Gruenepointe Holdings, LLC, Adora 8, LLC, Adora 9, LLC, Adora 10, LLC, Adora 14 Realty, LLC, Onpointe Healthcare Development, LLC, U.S. Freedom Capital Holdings, LLC, Lake Ohana, LLC, U.S. Freedom Capital, LLC, and Encantado Investments, LLC, in the District Court of Dallas County, Texas, No. DC-16-07674 — Testifying witness on behalf of Plaintiffs.

- f. *In re SunEdison Securities Litigation*, in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, 16-md-2742-PKC Testifying witness on behalf of Plaintiffs.
- g. Avid Controls, Inc. v. GE Energy Power Conversion Technology, Ltd.; General Electric Company; and Current Power Solutions, Inc., In the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas Houston Division, Civil Action No. 4:19-CV-01076 Testifying witness on behalf of Plaintiff.
- h. *Lumos Partners, LLC, Claimant v. VAC-TRON EQUIPMENT, L.L.C., Respondent,* In Arbitration before the American Arbitration Association Testifying witness on behalf of Claimant.
- i. Lord Abbett Affiliated Fund, Inc., et al., Individually and On Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, Plaintiffs, v. Navient Corporation, et al., Defendants, Case No. 1:16-cv-112-GMS, in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, Case No. 1:16-cv-112-MN — Testifying witness on behalf of Plaintiff.
- j. Southland National Insurance Corporation in Rehabilitation, Bankers Life Insurance Company in Rehabilitation, Colorado Bankers Life Insurance Company in Rehabilitation, and Southland National Reinsurance Corporation in Rehabilitation, Plaintiffs, v. Greg E. Lindberg, Academy Association, Inc., Edwards Mill Asset Management, LLC, New England Capital, LLC and Private Bankers Life and Annuity Co., Ltd., Defendants, in the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division, 19 CV 13093 —Testifying witness on behalf of Defendants.
- k. Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Plaintiffs, v. Harold E. Riley Foundation and Mike C. Hughes, Defendants, in the District Court of Tarrant County, Texas, 67th Judicial District Testifying witness on behalf of Defendants.
- Advsr, LLC, Plaintiff, v. Magisto, Ltd. And Yahal Zilka, Defendants, in the United States District Court, Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, Case No. 3:19-cv-2670 — Testifying witness on behalf of Defendants.
- m. *Lumos Partners, LLC, Claimant v. Altavian, Inc.,* In Arbitration before the American Arbitration Association Testifying witness on behalf of Claimant.
- n. *Fouad Saade; and Kobi Electric, LLC, Claimants, v. Woodbridge International LLC, f/k/a Woodbridge Group, LLC; and Texender "Tex" Sekhon, Respondents,* In Arbitration before the American Arbitration Association Testifying witness on behalf of Claimant.
- 9. I have attached a copy of my curriculum vitae as <u>Exhibit A</u> to this expert report ("Report").

II. ENGAGEMENT

- 10. Highland Capital Management, L.P., is the debtor in the bankruptcy proceeding, *In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P., Debtor,* and is referred to herein as the "Debtor" or the "Plaintiff." I have been engaged in the matters related to the bankruptcy proceeding that are listed below (collectively referred to as the "Actions").
 - a. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Plaintiff, vs. NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, Defendants, Adversary Proceeding No. 21-03005, as a consulting and testifying expert witness on behalf of NexPoint Advisors, L.P. ("NexPoint"), and James Dondero ("Dondero" and NexPoint are collectively referred to as the "NexPoint Defendants").
 - b. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Plaintiff, vs. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, Defendants, Adversary Proceeding No. 21-03006, as a consulting and testifying expert witness on behalf of Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("HCMS"), and Dondero (Dondero and HCMS are collectively referred to as the "HCMS Defendants").
 - c. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Plaintiff, vs. HCRE PARTERS, LLC (N/K/A/ NEXPOINT REAL ESTATE PARTNERS, LLC), JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, Defendants, Adversary Proceeding No. 21-03007, as a consulting and testifying expert witness on behalf of HCRE Partners, LLC ("HCRE"), and Dondero (Dondero and HCRE are collectively referred to as the "HCRE Defendants").
 - d. The NexPoint Defendants, the HCMS Defendants, and the HCRE Defendants are collectively referred to as the "Defendants."
- 11. The Plaintiff has made claims against the Defendants for breach of contract, turnover of property, fraudulent transfer, and breach of fiduciary duty.
- 12. My engagement is through the law firms of Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C. ("Munsch Hardt") and Stinson LLP ("Stinson"), which are acting as counsel to the Defendants. I am being compensated for my time at the rate of \$750.00 per hour. My compensation is not in any way contingent on (i) the opinions I express in this Report or any additional report, (ii) the content of any testimony I may give, or (iii) the outcome of the Action.
- 13. I have met with Dondero as well as D. J. Sauter, who is the General Counsel of NexPoint. I have also met with attorneys from counsel to the Defendants: Munsch Hardt, and Stinson.
- 14. I was asked to provide my opinion regarding whether it was appropriate for the Plaintiff to not pay the interest and principal on the Notes (as hereinafter defined) on behalf of NexPoint, HCMS and HCRE (collectively, the "Makers") by December 31, 2020.

III. BRIEF SUMMARY OF OPINIONS

- 15. I believe that the Plaintiff did not act reasonably by failing to pay amounts due on the Notes on behalf of the Makers by December 31, 2020, and otherwise in how it comported itself with respect to the Notes. Section 6.01 of the NexPoint Services Agreement (as hereinafter defined) sets forth a standard of care that the Plaintiff was supposed to comply with in paying the NexPoint Term Note; I also believe that each of the services agreements between the Plaintiff and the Makers required the Plaintiff to act in a reasonable way.
- 16. In forming my opinions and preparing this Report, I relied on all the materials listed in <u>Exhibit</u> <u>B</u> or otherwise cited herein as well as my background and personal experiences.
- 17. In offering my opinions, I am not opining on the legal enforceability of any agreements between the parties to the Actions.
- 18. I reserve the right to amend my Report should new information become available, including any assertions of the parties, witnesses, or any experts made in response to this Report.

IV. ASSUMPTIONS

- 19. The Debtor filed for bankruptcy on October 16, 2019. During the Debtor's bankruptcy, James Seery ("Seery") served as the Chief Executive Officer and/or Chief Restructuring Officer of the Debtor.
- 20. The Debtor was formerly managed by Dondero, who was the firm's co-founder and was its President until January 9, 2020, at which time he resigned all positions with the Debtor and also relinquished control of the Debtor.³ As of October 9, 2020, Dondero ceased to have any involvement as an officer or director of the Debtor.⁴ Dondero also testified that there was tension between Seery and him as well as Seery and others at Highland.⁵
- 21. During 2020, the relationship between Dondero and the Plaintiff became increasingly adversarial. For example, in addition to Dondero ceasing to have any involvement as an officer or director of the Plaintiff, there were various adversarial proceedings between the parties.⁶
- 22. NexPoint, HCMS and HCRE executed certain notes in favor of the Debtor as described below:
 - a. NexPoint executed a promissory note in the original principal amount of \$30,746,812.33, and payable in thirty annual installments beginning by December 31, 2017 (the "NexPoint Term Note").⁷ The NexPoint Note was fully payable in

³ Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, Page 291, lines 9 – 12.

⁴ *Id.* at Page 374, lines 8 – 10.

⁵ *Id.* at page 87, lines 8 - 14.

⁶ See, e.g., *Id.* at page 374, lines 6 – 9.

⁷ Amended Complaint dated August 27, 2021 (the "NexPoint Amended Complaint"), filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P. as plaintiff against defendants, NexPoint Advisors, L.P., James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, and The Dugaboy Investment Trust at 2.

the event of default.⁸ As of December 31, 2020, \$23,610,194.59 of principal remained outstanding on the NexPoint Term Note.⁹

- b. HCMS executed a term note in the original principal amount of \$20,247,628.02 and payable in thirty annual installments beginning on December 31, 2017 (the "HCMS Term Note").¹⁰ The HCMS Term Note was fully payable in the event of default.¹¹
- c. HCRE executed a term note in the original principal amount of \$6,059,831.51 and payable in thirty annual installments beginning on December 31, 2017 (the "HCRE Term Note").¹² The HCRE Term Note was fully payable in the event of default.¹³
- 23. The Debtor and the Makers were all involved in the investment management business, collectively managing billions of dollars on behalf of investors at various points over the course of their relationship with each other. At the time that the NexPoint Term Note, the HCMS Term Note, and the HCRE Term Note (collectively, the "Notes") were entered into, the Plaintiff, NexPoint, HCMS, and HCRE were all related parties as a result of overlapping equity ownership of the entities. As of December 31, 2020, NexPoint, HCMS, and HCRE ceased to have any overlapping equity ownership with the Plaintiff but continued to have overlapping ownership with each other.
- 24. The Plaintiff and NexPoint are parties to an Amended and Restated Shared Services Agreement dated January 1, 2018 (the "NexPoint Services Agreement") pursuant to which Plaintiff provided a broad array of services to NexPoint.¹⁴ NexPoint operated its business with a small number of employees, relying on Plaintiff's much larger workforce to provide many key services for NexPoint to run its business. The NexPoint Services Agreement details numerous areas where the Plaintiff was to provide services to NexPoint, with the Plaintiff essentially providing the entire workforce for most areas of NexPoint's business. The areas that the Plaintiff provided services to NexPoint were detailed under the following headings in the NexPoint Services Agreement: Back- and Middle-Office, Legal Compliance/Risk Analysis, Tax, Management of Clients and Accounts, Valuation, Execution and Documentation, Marketing, Reporting, Administrative Services, Ancillary Services, and Other.¹⁵ The NexPoint Services Agreement essentially covered all functional areas of NexPoint's business other than the executive and investment functions.

⁸ NexPoint Amended Complaint, Exhibit 3. Additionally, I am informed that there was the potential for forgiveness of the Notes in certain circumstances that had also not occurred by December 31, 2020.

⁹ D-NNI -074142.

¹⁰ Amended Complaint dated August 27, 2021 ("HCMS Amended Complaint"), filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P. as plaintiff against defendants, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc., James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, and The Dugaboy Investment Trust at 2.

¹¹ HCMS Amended Complaint, Exhibit 6.

¹² Amended Complaint dated August 27, 2021 ("HCRE Amended Complaint"), filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P. as plaintiff against defendants, HCRE Partners, LLC, James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, and The Dugaboy Investment Trust at 2.

¹³ HCRE Amended Complaint, Exhibit 6.

¹⁴ Amended and Restated Services Agreement dated January 1, 2018, Exhibit 9 to Seery Deposition.

¹⁵ *Id.* at pages 3 - 5.

- 25. The NexPoint Services Agreement contains several provisions relating to the Plaintiff's obligation to make interest and principal payments on the NexPoint Term Note, including the following:
 - a. Section 2.02(a) details various "Back and Middle Office" tasks that the Plaintiff was responsible for performing on behalf of NexPoint.¹⁶ Those services included "payments,"¹⁷ which encompassed payments of interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note.
 - b. Section 2.02 (b) provided for the Plaintiff to provide "[a]ssistance and advice with respect to legal issues...".¹⁸
 - c. Section 6.01 describes the standard of care that the Plaintiff was supposed to provide to NexPoint.¹⁹ The provision provides that the Plaintiff "shall discharge its duties under this Agreement with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims."
 - d. Section 8.01 required that any amendments or modifications to the agreement were required to be in writing and signed by each party.²⁰
 - e. Section 8.07 provided that any "condition or obligation imposed upon any Party may be waived only upon the written consent of the Parties."²¹
- 26. The Plaintiff first sought to provide notice of termination of the NexPoint Services Agreement in November of 2020, however, the termination date was extended²² and the NexPoint Services Agreement was still in effect as of December 31, 2020.
- 27. While there was no written agreement between either HCMS or HCRE, on the one hand, and the Plaintiff, on the other hand, relating to services that the Plaintiff was to supply to either party, the services that the Plaintiff provided to HCMS and HCRE were essentially the same services that the Plaintiff provided to NexPoint²³ and involved a comprehensive array of services that were necessary in the day-to-day operations of the business of HCMS and HCRE. Like with NexPoint, by December 31, 2020, there was a long history of the Plaintiff having provided services to HCMS and HCRE.²⁴

¹⁶ *Id*. at pages 3 - 4.

¹⁷ *Id.*, Section 2.02(a) provided, "Back- and Middle Office. Assistance and advice with respect to back- and middle-office functions including, but not limited to . . . finance and accounting, payments, operation, bookkeeping, cash management . . . accounts payable . . ."

¹⁸ *Id.* at page 4.

¹⁹ *Id*. at 11.

²⁰ *Id.* at 14.

 $^{^{21}}$ *Id.* at 16.

²² Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 375, lines 3-10.

²³ See, e.g., Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 335, line 19 to page 336, line 13; Waterhouse Deposition, page 353, lines 6 – 10, page 357, lines 19 – 24.

 $^{^{24}}$ Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 94, lines 20 – 22; page 95, lines 4 – 9.

28. When asked about whether the Plaintiff had a services agreement with HCMS, Dondero replied as follows during his deposition²⁵:

My answer would be the advisors like NexPoint and HFAM that had to have by law and regulatory statute have to have formal sub advisors and shared services agreements had formal shared services agreement. Entities that didn't need to have formal written shared services agreements were often serviced similarly or -- or exactly the same as those entities, but without a written agreement, but with a verbal shared services agreement providing, again, all the same similar services, and the entities that didn't have a written shared services agreement ·weren't getting shared services or support from any other entities other than Highland doing the same thing for them that it did for the mutual funds.

- 29. Dondero had a similar response with regard to there being an oral agreement for the Plaintiff to provide services to HCRE.²⁶
- 30. There was extensive testimony about the services that the Plaintiff provided to HCMS and HCRE:
 - a. Under the oral agreements to provide services to HCMS and HCRE, the Plaintiff was responsible for making payments of interest and principal on the HCMS Notes and the HCRE Notes, which had previously been made by December 31, 2017, 2018, and 2019.²⁷
 - b. HCMS and HCRE relied on the Plaintiff to provide services because HCMS and HCRE, like NexPoint, did not have the employees or infrastructure to run its business without the services provided by the Plaintiff.²⁸
 - c. According to Frank Waterhouse ("Waterhouse"), the Chief Financial Officer of the Plaintiff throughout 2020²⁹, the Plaintiff provided the same services to HCRE and HCMSS that it did for NexPoint.³⁰ He also specifically testified that Plaintiff's services included timely paying of bills and loan payments for HCMS³¹ and the same bill paying for HCRE that it did for HCMS and NexPoint.³²
- 31. Interest and principal were due on the Notes by December 31, 2020. Neither interest nor any principal payments were paid on any of the Notes by December 31, 2020. The Plaintiff was supposed to facilitate these payments even though the payments were supposed to be to itself.

²⁵ Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 335, line 19 to page 336, line 13.

²⁶ *Id.* at page 381, lines 10 - 23.

 $^{^{27}}$ Waterhouse Deposition, page 354, lines 2 – 23, page 357, lines 2 – 18.

²⁸ Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 371, lines 5-9.

²⁹ Waterhouse Deposition, page 28, lines 15-16.

³⁰ *Id.*, page 353, 6-10; 357: 19 – 24.

³¹ *Id.* at page 354, lines 2 to page 357, line 18.

 $^{^{32}}$ *Id.* at page 358, lines 12 - 24.

- 32. On January 7, 2021, the Debtor delivered a letter to each of the Makers (the "Acceleration Letters") indicating that a default had occurred on each of the Notes and demanding the immediate full payment of "all principal, interest, and any other amounts due on the Note…".³³ The effect of the Acceleration Letters was that millions of dollars of principal payments were suddenly due; had the Acceleration Letters not been sent, principal on the Notes would have amortized ratably through 2047.
- 33. In addition to being the Plaintiff's Chief Financial Officer, Waterhouse was also an officer of two of the three Makers as of December 31, 2020.
 - a. He was the Treasurer of NexPoint, an officer-level role, during all periods relevant to my Report. Waterhouse reported at his deposition, "I still manage the finance and accounting function for NexPoint."³⁴
 - b. He was the treasurer and acting treasurer of HCMS.³⁵
- 34. Plaintiff alleges that Dondero orally instructed Waterhouse to not pay the interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note that was due on December 31, 2021.³⁶ No evidence has been presented that suggests that Dondero's alleged instructions for the Plaintiff to not pay interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note was in writing. The apparent rational for the alleged instruction was that NexPoint believed that there had been substantial overcharges totaling in the millions of dollars by the Plaintiff under the NexPoint Services Agreement. The overcharges related to charges for employees who were no longer working for the Plaintiff but that were still being charged to NexPoint, which was a violation of the NexPoint Services Agreement. Furthermore, Dondero denies that he instructed Waterhouse not to pay the NexPoint Term Note.³⁷
 - a. Dondero denies that he instructed that no interest and principal be paid on the NexPoint Term Note, testifying, "There is no logical reason, nor would I have ever authorized or suggested no payment to put us...in default due to a *deminimis* amount of money....even if I was highly annoyed with Seery, even if we knew that Seery and Highland had overcharged NexPoint by whatever it was, 14, 16, million bucks, I would not have let a small amount cause a...breach."³⁸
 - b. Dondero also testified that the Plaintiff made the payments due on the Notes by December 31 of 2017, 2018 and 2019 without any specific authorization from any of the Makers.³⁹
- 35. No evidence was presented suggesting that Dondero, HCMS or HCRE instructed the Plaintiff not to make payments on the HCMS Term Note or the HCRE Term Note. HCMS and HCRE had a reasonable expectation that interest and principal on the HCMS Notes and HCRE Notes

³³ Exhibit 6 to Seery Deposition taken on October 21, 2021.

³⁴ Waterhouse Deposition, page 28, lines 15-16.

³⁵ *Id.*, at page 30, lines 9 – 16.

 $^{^{36}}$ Id., at page 390, lines 4 – 13.

³⁷ Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 391:18-25.

³⁸ Id.

³⁹ *Id.* at page 463, lines 10-25.

would be paid by December 31, 2020, given past practices and the Plaintiff's obligation to do so.

- 36. Mr. Waterhouse testified about his responsibility in connection with making the payments on the Notes that were due by December 21, 2020⁴⁰:
 - Q: Did you approve of each payment that was made against principal and interest on the notes that were given by the affiliates of Mr. Dondero?
 - A: Did I approve the payments? I approve I approve if there was cash if there was cash being repaid on a note payment, yes, I approved in the general sense of being made aware of the payment and the amount."
 - Q: And are you the person who authorized Highland's employees to effectuate those payments?
 - A: Yes.
- 37. No evidence has been presented of any discussions that the Plaintiff had with Dondero or any of the Makers prior to December 31, 2020, with regard to payments on the Notes other than the alleged discussion between Dondero and Waterhouse described above relating to the NexPoint Term Note. Specifically, the evidentiary record reflects that there was no follow-up by Waterhouse or anyone else at the Plaintiff confirming that it was Dondero's intent for there not to be any payments made on the NexPoint Term Note.⁴¹
 - a. A number of Plaintiff's employees knew about Dondero's alleged instructions prior to December 31, 2020, with respect to the NexPoint Term Note, yet no effort was undertaken to investigate Dondero's instructions by speaking with him or otherwise confirming what NexPoint's intent was regarding the NexPoint Term Note.
 - b. Deposition testimony by Kristin Hendrix ("Hendrix"), who was the assistant controller of the Plaintiff at the time, revealed that she knew by November 30, 2020, or December 1, 2020, that the Plaintiff was not going to pay the interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note that was due by December 31, 2020.⁴²
 - c. Waterhouse testified that he did not follow-up with Dondero about whether NexPoint should make the payments required by December 31, 2020.⁴³
- 38. Waterhouse also testified that there had not been any instructions from anyone to the Plaintiff to not make the required payments on the HCMS Term Note or the HCRE Term Note by December 31, 2020.⁴⁴ When asked about Dondero's tone when he talked to him about the fact that the payments had not been made on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note,

⁴⁰ Waterhouse Deposition, page 56, line 21 to page 57, line 10.

⁴¹ *Id.*, at page 391, lines 18 – 21.

⁴² Hendrix Deposition, page 12, lines 4 - 7.

⁴³ Waterhouse deposition, pages 391: line 18 to page 392, line 2.

⁴⁴ Waterhouse Deposition, pages 393, line 21 - 25 to page 394, line 4.

Waterhouse said that the tone was very negative and that Dondero's reaction was consistent with the fact that Dondero was surprised that the payments had not been made.⁴⁵

V. SERVICES AGREEMENTS GENERALLY

- 39. Companies seeking to conduct operations more efficiently frequently outsource various operational, accounting, treasury, and other functions to a service provider. By outsourcing such functions, the customer of the services provider can avoid costly employee and infrastructure investments that would otherwise be required to conduct the outsourced functions.
- 40. The agreement between the party receiving the services and the party providing the services is often referred to as a "services agreement," an "outsourcing agreement," or a "shared services agreement." These terms have the same meaning for purposes of this Report although the term "shared services" is often used in the context of a company sharing services with an affiliated party.
- 41. The parties to a services agreement are sometimes related and other times are completely separate with no prior business relationship.
- 42. The actual agreement that comprises the services to be provided under a services agreement varies in form. Some services agreements are comprehensive, others provide limited written direction, and still others are oral.
- 43. Smaller companies are often more likely to outsource a broad set of business functions, typically because they are growing rapidly and do not have the financial resources or time to build out various important business functions.
- 44. Virtually every company outsources some type of business function to a third-party. For example, many companies outsource limited functions such as payroll processing or IT services to various vendors. There is a distinct difference, however, between outsourcing limited functions to a vendor that provides services for many clients versus the more fulsome relationship that is embodied by the typical services agreement involving the services provider managing major aspects of a company's operational and back-office functions.
 - a. Providers of more fulsome services have additional duties relative to a provider that is responsible for limited services. Those additional duties generally emanate from the level of responsibility that the services provider takes on and the services provider's more intimate knowledge of its customer's business.
 - b. Said another way, a provider of a straightforward and often outsourced service such as payroll processing has no reason to understand the underlying business issues of its customers or the perspectives of the employees for which it processes payroll. On the other hand, a provider of more fulsome services has an intimate knowledge

 $^{^{45}}$ *Id.* at page 394, lines 12 - 21.

of the goals, objectives, and capabilities of its customers and in discharging its obligations, cannot ignore that knowledge.

- 45. In the case of services agreements that cover a fulsome set of activities for the customer, even if there is a comprehensive agreement between the parties, it is difficult to enumerate with specificity each individual task that the services provider is expected to perform. Tasks are therefore often described in broad terms as opposed to specific detail (i.e., the service provider is required to handle accounting functions for its customer as opposed to saying that a trial balance is required 15 days after month-end, or the annual audit must be completed by a specified date).
 - a. Despite the difficulty in describing each task with specificity that the services provider is required to perform, the specific tasks become apparent as the services provider performs functions on behalf of its customer. In the ordinary course, practices develop that inevitably are deemed acceptable to the services provider and its customer. Such practices are generally fully clarified within one year of the inception of the services agreement because that timeframe allows the parties to interact with each other over the course of a full accounting cycle.
 - b. Following the initial cycle of activities, those previously performed practices are often referred to as "past practices" and such past practices become an important piece in gauging whether the services provider has met it obligations in future periods. Having been affiliated with companies that are customers of services providers, I think of past practices as having virtually the same effect as a written document provided that the services agreement is not written in a way that prohibits such an interpretation.
- 46. Services agreements between related parties often present complicated issues, especially if the relationship changes between the parties during the term of the services agreement. For example, at the beginning of the term of the services agreement, two related parties might constructively work together, almost obviating the need for a detailed agreement between the parties. If there is a change in the relationship between the parties that leads to less cooperation, the original agreement may not be comprehensive enough to optimally deal with the change in circumstances.
 - a. In such situations, past practices can become an even more important factor in determining the services provider's obligations and the reasonable expectations that the customer should have if the contract language is not explicit on the point.
 - b. While the services provider and a customer that is related at the outset of an agreement may cease to be related at some point during the term of the agreement, the services provider's knowledge of the customer's business objectives does not necessarily become stale immediately upon the change in affiliate status. Consequently, any higher duty that comes about from the knowledge that the services provider has about its customer is not necessarily impacted if the affiliate status of the services provider and its customer changes.

VI. OPINIONS

- A. The Plaintiff was obligated to pay interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note by December 31, 2021, on behalf of NexPoint. Despite the alleged instruction from Dondero that the Plaintiff should not make any payments on NexPoint's behalf, the Plaintiff's obligations to make the payments did not end. At a minimum, the Plaintiff had a duty to investigate whether the payments should have been made, which it did not do. In not making the payments on the NexPoint Term Note and not undertaking steps to further investigate whether the payments should have been made, the Plaintiff did not act reasonably.
- 47. The payment terms of the NexPoint Term Note required that interest and principal was due to the Plaintiff from NexPoint on or before December 31, 2020. It is undisputed that interest and principal were not paid on the NexPoint Term Note by the required date.
- 48. The Plaintiff was obligated to make the payment of interest and principal on behalf of NexPoint on or before December 31, 2020, under the NexPoint Services Agreement.
- 49. The Plaintiff has taken the position that the interest and principal that was due on the NexPoint Term Note by December 31, 2020, was not paid because of Dondero's alleged directive to Waterhouse to not make the payments.⁴⁶
- 50. The evidentiary record highlights several noteworthy facts:
 - a. The Plaintiff had conflicting roles because it was the payee of the NexPoint Term Note and also had the obligation to cause the payments to be made on the NexPoint Term Note. The conflicting roles were also heightened because of the increasingly adversarial role that had developed between the Plaintiff and Dondero.
 - b. The Plaintiff stood to benefit mightily if NexPoint defaulted on the payment of interest or principal, given the Plaintiff's ability to immediately accelerate the payment of the NexPoint Term Note. Without a default, some of the principal of the Notes could have been outstanding until 2047.
 - c. Waterhouse was an officer of the Plaintiff and was also an officer of NexPoint, creating a conflict beyond the conflicts that the Plaintiff had that are described above. Given his dual roles, he had knowledge of the business objectives and financial condition of NexPoint, which should have made it clear to him that NexPoint would not welcome a default on the NexPoint Term Note.
 - d. NexPoint allegedly made overpayments to the Plaintiff that Dondero wanted to be offset against the required interest and principal payments on the NexPoint Term Loan.⁴⁷ The overpayments related to workers that the Plaintiff was charging to NexPoint that no longer worked for the Plaintiff, which violated the terms of the

⁴⁶ Waterhouse Deposition, page 390, lines 4 - 13.

⁴⁷ Seery Deposition, page 226, lines 2 - 4; Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 392, lines 3 - 7.

NexPoint Services Agreement. There were ongoing discussions between Dondero and Seery leading up to the end of 2020 relating to the topic.

- e. There is no evidentiary record describing any effort by the Plaintiff to warn NexPoint of the implications of Dondero's alleged request for the payments on the NexPoint Term Note to not be made. For example, despite the fact that the NexPoint Services Agreement required the Plaintiff to provide NexPoint with legal services, the Plaintiff failed to provide NexPoint with legal advice that failing to pay interest and principal could result in an acceleration of the NexPoint Term Loan.
- 51. In my opinion, Dondero's alleged statement to Waterhouse that the Plaintiff should not make payments on the NexPoint Term Note on December 31, 2020, did not provide a basis for the Plaintiff to not make the payments on the Notes given its obligations to NexPoint under the NexPoint Services Agreement. Several reasons support my opinion:
 - a. There is no evidence that the Plaintiff took any reasonable steps to address the myriad of conflicts that it faced.
 - i. The Plaintiff's obligations regarding the required payments of the Notes involved the conflict-ridden task of authorizing and making a payment to itself. Additionally, the Plaintiff stood to benefit significantly by putting the NexPoint Term Note into default given that a default would allow the Plaintiff to realize the proceeds from repayment of the note far earlier than it otherwise would have; had the NexPoint Term Loan not been accelerated, it would have remained outstanding until 2047. While the evidence is silent on whether the Plaintiff was considering the repayment benefit of the NexPoint Term Loan to itself, from an appearance standpoint, the conflict was glaring.
 - ii. The Plaintiff apparently took no steps to address these conflicts either by conferring with NexPoint or Dondero. Conferring with NexPoint or Dondero would have helped in establishing that NexPoint and Dondero really did not want the Plaintiff to transfer funds to pay interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Loan.
 - iii. The Plaintiff also has presented no evidentiary record reflecting how any internal steps were taken to address the conflict. Such steps might have included conducting meetings internally with minutes to reflect discussion regarding the conflict or any efforts to seek guidance from counsel to assist with the conflict.
 - iv. According to deposition testimony by Hendrix, who was the assistant controller of the Plaintiff at the time⁴⁸, she recalled receiving a phone call from Waterhouse on either November 30, 2020, or December 1, 2020, where Waterhouse indicated that no payments would made by the Plaintiff

⁴⁸ Hendrix Deposition, page 12, lines 4 - 7.

on behalf of NexPoint.⁴⁹ Accordingly, it seems that Plaintiff decided as early November 30, 2020 or December 1, 2020, to not make the payments on the NexPoint Term Note. Given the apparent time frame of the decision to not make the payment, the Plaintiff had ample time to confirm in writing with Dondero that the payments should not be made or to otherwise take reasonable steps to ensure that a mistake was not being made and that the Plaintiff was acting reasonably.

- b. The Plaintiff had an obligation to act reasonably in discharging its obligations to make the payments on the NexPoint Term Note on behalf of NexPoint. In addition to not properly addressing conflicts as set forth above, the evidentiary record further reflects that the Plaintiff did not act reasonably.
 - i. No effort was undertaken to inform Dondero that the Plaintiff disagreed with his assumption that there were offsets to the required interest and principal payment requirements on the NexPoint Term Note. Absent any communication from the Plaintiff, Dondero simply had no way of knowing that the Plaintiff disagreed with his perspective that a right of offset did exist, so it was reasonable for him to think that discussion of an offset was on the table.
 - ii. Waterhouse had worked for or with Dondero for many years, making him very familiar with Dondero's management style. Dondero is a decisionmaker who is willing and does change his mind when presented with new facts, something that Waterhouse should have been aware of yet did nothing to address.
 - iii. Given the massive implications of a default of the NexPoint Term Loan to NexPoint, which the Plaintiff should have understood given the robust services that it was providing to NexPoint and the dual financial responsibilities that Waterhouse had to both organizations, the Plaintiff should have acted more responsibly by engaging with NexPoint and Dondero to confirm NexPoint's intent.
 - iv. The NexPoint Services Agreement provides that the Plaintiff was supposed to provide NexPoint with legal advice. In effect, the Plaintiff was NexPoint's law firm. Had the Plaintiff met its commitment, it would have had its internal counsel consult with NexPoint to point out the legal ramifications of the interest and principal payments not being made. There is no evidence suggesting that the Plaintiff took any steps to meet its obligation to provide legal advice as required under the NexPoint Services Agreement.
- c. Waterhouse had a conflict separate from the conflicts that the Plaintiff otherwise had given that he was an officer of both the Plaintiff and the NexPoint. Among

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 71, lines 4 - 7.

other things, Waterhouse's officer role for NexPoint must have provided him with insights into NexPoint's business objectives, which could not have included any appetite for having the Notes accelerated. Yet there is no evidence that Waterhouse's knowledge was utilized in Plaintiff's decision making regarding the required payments of the Notes. It is inapposite to argue that because Waterhouse had knowledge about NexPoint from a source other than the Plaintiff, that he was entitled to ignore that knowledge. In discharging its duties under the NexPoint Services Agreement, the Plaintiff should have been using all information that it had available in its work on behalf of NexPoint.

- d. The NexPoint Services Agreement provided that any amendment to the agreement needed to be in writing⁵⁰ and any consent to a change in the agreement needed to be in writing.⁵¹ No such effort to comply with the writing requirement was undertaken and highlights the fact that any oral statement by Dondero regarding the NexPoint Term Loan not being paid was insufficient under the express terms of the NexPoint Services Agreement.
- e. Section 6.01 of the NexPoint Services Agreement also describes the standard of care that the Plaintiff was supposed to provide to NexPoint in the discharge of its obligations under the agreement.⁵² The provision provides that the Plaintiff "shall discharge its duties under this Agreement with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims." For reasons already described herein, the Plaintiff did not discharge its duties with such care.
- 52. For the foregoing reasons, any alleged default under the NexPoint Term Note was the result of the Plaintiff's own negligence and misconduct, which underscores that Plaintiff did not act reasonably in the discharge of its obligations to NexPoint.
 - B. Based on the oral agreement that the Plaintiff had with HCMS and HCRE and consistent with the services that the Plaintiff had previously provided, HCMS and HCRE had a reasonable expectation that the Plaintiff would continue paying interest and principal on behalf of those entities absent explicit direction to the contrary. As there was no directive from anyone affiliated with HCMS or HCRE to relieve the Plaintiff of that responsibility, the Plaintiff did not act reasonably by not meeting its obligations to make payments of interest and principal on behalf of HCMS.
- 53. While the services agreements between Plaintiff, on the one hand, and HCMS and HCRE, on the other hand, were oral, the existence of an oral services agreement between affiliated parties involved in the investment management business is common and is something that I have regularly observed.

⁵⁰ Amended Services Agreement, Section 8.01.

⁵¹ *Id.* at Section 8.07.

⁵² *Id.* at Section 6.01.

- 54. Like with NexPoint, the Plaintiff provided HCMS and HCRE with a comprehensive array of services that were necessary to the day-to-day operation of their businesses. There was a lengthy history of the Plaintiff providing HCMS and HCRE with such services. The broad array of services provided by the Plaintiff to NexPoint were the same as the scope of work performed by the Plaintiff for HCMS and HCRE.
- 55. The evidentiary record highlights several noteworthy facts:
 - a. The evidentiary record reflects that the Plaintiff historically made payments on behalf of the HCMS Term Note and HCRE Term Note in addition to providing an array of other critical services to HCMS and HCRE not dissimilar from many of the services that the Plaintiff provided to NexPoint under the NexPoint Services Agreement.⁵³
 - b. No evidence has been presented suggesting that there was any communication from HCMS, HCRE, or Dondero suggesting that the payments on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note should not continue.
 - c. No evidence has been presented suggesting that on payment dates in years prior to 2020 HCMS or HCRE had to notify the Plaintiff that it wanted the Plaintiff to make the required payments on the HCMS Term Note or the HCRE Term Note. Accordingly, it would not have been reasonable for the Plaintiff to expect that HCMS or HCRE were required to take any affirmative steps to have payments made on their notes.
 - d. The Plaintiff had conflicting roles because it was the payee of the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note and also had the obligation to cause the payments to be made of those notes. The conflicting roles were also heightened because of the increasingly adversarial role that had developed between the Plaintiff and Dondero.
 - e. The Plaintiff stood to benefit mightily if HCMS and HCRE defaulted on the payment of interest or principal, given the Plaintiff's ability to immediately accelerate the payment of those notes. Without a default, some of the principal of the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note could have been outstanding until 2047.
 - f. Waterhouse was an officer of the Plaintiff and was also an officer of HCMS, creating a conflict beyond the conflicts that the Plaintiff had that are described above. Given Waterhouse's dual roles, he had knowledge of HCMS's business objectives and financial condition, which should have alerted him that HCMS would not welcome a default on the HCMS Term Note.

⁵³ See, e.g., Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, pages 335:19 to 336:13; page 381, lines 10-23.

- g. The Plaintiff made no effort to warn HCMS or HCRE of the implications of the Plaintiff not making payments on the HCMS Term Note or HCRE Term Note by December 31, 2020.
- 56. Dondero testified about the payments that were required on the HCMS Term Note by December 31, 2020, indicating that there was an expectation by HCMS that the payments were going to be made, regardless of whether there were specific instructions by HCMS to do so:⁵⁴
 - Q: Okay. Do you know whether anybody acting on behalf of HCMS ever instructed or authorized Highland to make a payment on account of HCMS's term note to Highland?
 - A. Well, again, and maybe I didn't say it clearly enough. I think there was a reliance in the due course aspect, especially on small amounts, and it would have been done by Highland personnel on behalf of Services.

* * * * *

- Q. And I'm going to ask you, Mr. Dondero, to be patient with me and to listen carefully to my question. Are you aware of anybody acting on behalf of HCMS, whoever instructed Highland to make a payment in satisfaction of any payment that was due at the year-end of 2020 under the term note?
- A. Not specifically, but I'm saying I don't think it needed to be made specifically.
- 57. The Plaintiff was required to act reasonably in the performance of its obligations to HCMS and HCRE given the record of past practices and the precedent created by similar work done by the Plaintiff for NexPoint. With respect to the payments required under the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note by the Plaintiff, HCMS and HCRE had a reasonable expectation that they would continue receiving such payment services absent a clear termination by Plaintiff of its obligations to HCMS and HCRE. Given that there is no evidence suggesting that any of the parties had terminated the Plaintiff's obligations to provide services to HCMS and HCRE as of December 31, 2020, especially given that the Plaintiff continued to perform other services on behalf of those entities as of such date, the Plaintiff did not act reasonably by not making the payments on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note by December 31, 2021. Likewise, it was also not reasonable for the Plaintiff to not discuss with HCMS and HCRE that payments were not going to be made on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note and the HCRE Term Note given that payments had been made in prior years without any request by HCMS or HCRE.
- 58. Hendrix testified that the instruction to her not to make the NexPoint Term Loan payment by December 31, 2020, did not apply to the payments required on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note by December 31, 2020.⁵⁵ She also testified that she made no attempt or effort to determine whether Dondero wanted the payments required on the HCMS Term Note

⁵⁴ Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, pages 371:23 – 372:18.

 $^{^{55}}$ Hendrix Deposition, page 100, lines 20 – 23; page 101, lines 8 – 12.

and the HCRE Term Note to be paid by December 31, 2020.⁵⁶ Finally, Hendrix made no attempt to check with anyone whether the payments should be made.⁵⁷ Hendrix's testimony underscores that Plaintiff did not act reasonably in discharging its obligations to HCMS and HCRE.

59. For the foregoing reasons, any alleged default under the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note was the result of the Plaintiff's own negligence and misconduct, which underscores that Plaintiff did not act reasonably in the discharge of its obligations to HCMS and HCRE.

VII. CONCLUSION

60. In summary, based on the evidence that I have reviewed and relied upon, as well as my training and experience, it is my opinion that the Plaintiff did not act reasonably in choosing not to pay the interest and principal due under the Notes. As a result of Plaintiff's failures to act reasonably, it should not have accelerated payment of the principal amount of the Notes.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Jruly

Steven J. Pully, CPA, CFA, ESQ.

⁵⁶ *Id.* at page 102, lines 10 – 13.

⁵⁷ *Id.* at page 105, lines 8 – 11.

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Exhibit A

STEVEN J. PULLY 4564 Meadowood Road, Dallas, Texas (214) 587-6133 sjpully@yahoo.com

Employment History					
October 2014 – Present	 SPEYSIDE PARTNERS/INVESTMENT BANKER/CONSULTANT/BOARD DIRECTOR/CORPORATE EXECUTIVE Investment banker/consultant to companies, investors and creditors on matters including capital raising, distressed debt restructurings, asset dispositions, activist investing defense, strategic opportunities, and expert witness matters Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, Harvest Oil & Gas (post-reorg) 				
January 2008 – Sept. 2014	 CARLSON CAPITAL, L.P., General Counsel and Partner, Dallas, Texas Responsible for legal affairs of hedge fund with over \$9.0 B of AUM; worked closely with affiliated oil and gas private equity fund with \$700 of AUM beginning in 2010 Member of Management, Operating and Valuation Committees (Chair) 				
Dec. 2001 – October 2007	 NEWCASTLE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., President, Dallas, Texas Activist fund with \$650 MM of assets under management Operating positions for portfolio companies: CEO of Pinnacle Frames, Jan. 2003 – June 2004 (largest domestic picture frame manufacturer with 600 employees; involved in multiple visits to Wal-Mart, visited China and identified new CEO for company); CEO of New Century Equity Holdings, June 2003 – Oct. 2007 (cash shell seeking to acquire business) 				
May 2000 – Dec. 2001 January 1997 – May 2000 April 1996 – Dec. 1996 January 1996 - April 1996	 BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES, Managing Director, Investment Banking - M&A/ Energy & Power Groups; Houston and Dallas, Texas BEAR STEARNS & CO. INC., Senior Managing Director - Investment Banking Department; Dallas, Texas CONVERGENT ASSOCIATES, INC., President, Dallas, Texas. Private equity firm that controlled three technology-oriented companies involved in travel, media and software; affiliated with EDS WASSERSTEIN PERELLA & CO., INC., Vice President - Investment Banking Department; Dallas, Texas Left after brief association because supervisor announced departure plans 				
July 1989 - Dec. 1995	PAINEWEBBER INCORPORATED/ KIDDER, PEABODY & CO., First Vice President - Investment Banking Department; New York City and Houston, Texas				
October 1985 - July 1989	BAKER & BOTTS, Attorneys, Associate – Corporate Department; Houston, Texas				

Board Experience

- **Board Leadership** Experience as Lead Director, Chairman of the Board, Executive Committee member and Chairman of Audit, Compensation, Governance and Strategic Committees
- **Accounting/Finance** CPA and CFA certifications, significant experience with financial statements and analysis, member of several audit committees including chair role
- **Strategic Transactions/Capital Raising** Substantial history with successful strategic transactions and efficient capital raising, including debt restructurings
- **Governance/Activist Investing Expertise** Extensive experience with shareholder governance and activist investing/defense; positive reputation with shareholders as a value creator

Legal/Regulatory - Licensed attorney, extensive experience managing legal/compliance department

Public Company Directorships

Previous: Bellatrix Exploration, Energy XXI (Chair – Comp and Strategic), EPL Oil & Gas Inc. (Lead Director, Chair - Comp), Ember Resources, Cano Petroleum, Goodrich Petroleum, Harvest Oil and Gas (Chairman of the Board, Chair – Audit), Peerless Systems (Chair – Audit), New Century Equity Holdings, MaxWorldwide, Geoworks Corporation, Pizza Inn (Chair – Governance), Titan Energy, VAALCO Energy (Chair – Governance, Comp), Whitehall Jewelers (Chairman)

Private Company Directorships

Current: Harvest Oil & Gas (Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, formerly public company), Limetree Bay Energy, Heritage Power, Response Team 1, Wild Rivers, OWS, ExpressJet **Previous:** Fox & Hound, GenCanna Global, Pinnacle Frames & Accents, Aspire Holdings (Chair – Comp), PermianLide, Tribune Resources (Chair – Audit), PGi, Southland Royalty, Greylock Energy, Karya Properties, PRIMEXX Energy, Titan Energy

Professional Certifications, Education and Other Interests

CHARTERED FINANCIAL ANALYST, 2004 (Active member), **CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT,** Texas, 1985 (Active member), **STATE BAR OF TEXAS,** 1985 (Active member), **FINRA** Series 7, 63 and 79 (Current)

The University of Texas School of Law, 1985 International Law Journal, Moot Court, Board of Advocates

Georgetown University, BSBA with honors, 1982, Major in accounting with 3.90 GPA in major President of Student Government Senate, National Model U.N. Team Centre for Management Studies, Oxford University, England, Summer 1981

Sailing, golf, writing, biking and travel; married with two adult daughters

Board of Advisors, Georgetown McDonough School of Business, 2015 - 2018

Documents Reviewed

Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract and (II) Turnover of Property of the Debtor's Estate (Dkt. No. 1, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03004)

Amended Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract, (II) Turnover of Property, (III) Fraudulent Transfer, and (IV) Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Dkt. No. 63, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005)

Defendant NexPoint Advisors, L.P.'s Answer to Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 64, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005)

Amended Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract, (II) Turnover of Property, (III) Fraudulent Transfer, and (IV) Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Dkt. No. 68, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006)

Highland Capital Management Services, Inc.'s Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint (Dkt. No. 6, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006)

Defendant Highland Capital Management Services, Inc.'s Answer to Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 73, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006)

Amended Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract, (II) Turnover of Property, (III) Fraudulent Transfer, and (IV) Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Dkt. No. 63, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007)

Defendant HCRE Partners, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC)'s Answer to Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 68, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007)

Defendant James Dondero's Answer to Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 83, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003)

Remote Videotaped Deposition of Frank Waterhouse, taken October 19, 2021 and Exhibits

Video Deposition of James P. Seery, Jr., taken October 21, 2021 and Exhibits

Deposition of Kristin Hendrix, taken October 27, 2021 and Exhibits

Deposition of David Klos, taken October 27, 2021

Remote Deposition of James Dondero, Volume II, taken October 29, 2021 (Rough draft) and Exhibits

Remote Deposition of James Dondero, Volume III, taken November 4, 2021 (Rough draft) and Exhibits

Exhibit G

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-----Х : : : : : : RE: Highland Capital Management, L.P. : : : : : : : -----X

EXPERT REPORT OF ALAN M. JOHNSON

MAY 28, 2021

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INTRODUCTION

I have been retained by Stinson LLP ("Stinson"), counsel to Mr. James Dondero, to provide expert opinions based on my knowledge and experience advising asset management and other financial service firms on compensation over the period 2013 to 2019. Specifically, I have been asked to independently analyze the competitiveness of compensation provided to Mr. Dondero compared to compensation received by executives and senior employees with similar experience and roles. In addition, I was asked to opine on and provide information on the use of loans in the marketplace as a form of compensation. Mr. Dondero is the Founder and, throughout the period, was the CEO, and head portfolio manager of Highland Capital Management LP ("HCM") and in that role, performed the same services for related companies and companies managed by HCM, including Highland Capital Management Financial Advisors ("HCMFA") and NexPoint Advisors ("NPA"). Market competitive compensation for Mr. Dondero during this period is relevant based on the apparent shortfall in annual compensation to Mr. Dondero. Throughout this period, he received loans in lieu of additional current compensation. Consistent with company practice, the loans were considered a form of deferred compensation that could be realized over time as the loans were forgiven and the income recognized by the individuals.

My opinions in this report are based on my experience consulting on executive compensation since 1980, my review of certain materials produced on Highland and its affiliates, and my perspectives on compensation programs for comparable senior executives and key employees in the industry.

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BACKGROUND

Professional Experience

The issues I have been asked to provide opinions on are topics I have regularly encountered during many years of advising financial services firms, including asset management firms. I am an executive compensation consultant, and my firm, Johnson Associates, is a prominent boutique compensation consulting firm. My firm has specialized for many years in analyzing and advising the financial services industry, including major investment and asset management firms, hedge funds and other alternative investment firms, advisory firms, commercial banks, insurance companies, and brokerage firms.

I have extensive experience reviewing and assessing appropriate market levels of compensation for clients. I have worked as a compensation consultant since 1980. In 1992, I founded my own compensation consulting firm, Johnson Associates in New York City. Johnson Associates, where I am currently Managing Director, is a boutique firm specializing in compensation consulting for the financial services industry. We routinely consult on and have a strong understanding of market compensation levels for senior professionals and executives. Prior to founding my own firm, I was a consultant at several leading compensation advisory firms.

Our clients have included many of the world's most significant financial institutions, asset managers and alternative investment firms across a broad range of issues. A summary of my work history and education is attached as Exhibit A. I am regularly quoted on compensation issues in major publications, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *Business Week*, *The New York Times*, *Fortune*, *The Washington Post*, *Bloomberg* and many others.

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Over the past 20 years, I have provided expert testimony in more than 40 cases and have been qualified as an expert in the field of executive compensation 30+ times since founding my firm in 1992 (both on the employee and employer side). A list of cases in which I have rendered expert testimony since 2016 is attached as Exhibit B.

Compensation

I am being compensated at my normal hourly rate of \$715 per hour for preparing this report. My compensation is not contingent on the content of my opinions. I have been assisted in this engagement by my associate, Michael Perniciaro. Michael's normal hourly rate is \$225 per hour. All opinions in this report are my own.

Facts and Data Considered

In preparing this report, I considered certain documents provided to me, interviews with Mr. Dondero and former Highland or affiliate employees. The documents include information about Highland and its related entities, Mr. Dondero's compensation history, and financial statements over the period. Importantly, given the state of document production in this case, I did not receive all the documents typical for an assessment of compensation. The result of which could lead to a conservative bias in my assessment of market competitive compensation. I have evaluated publicly disclosed proxy statements of a select group of Highland peer firms, as well as information from news sources. The information is consistent with the data and outcomes across our client studies.

SUMMARY OF OPINIONS

Based on my experience as an executive compensation consultant and my review of the compensation and other documents, it is my opinion that:

- Reasonable compensation for Mr. Dondero's role is positioned well above the market median, toward the market high end. Based on analysis and market research, it is apparent that Mr. Dondero was the key leader of the firm and deeply involved in all its operations, with contributions well beyond the traditional CEO / Chief Investment Officer role at comparators. Competitive market high-end for Mr. Dondero's role is about \$6.0M per year while his actual compensation over the period was an average of about \$3.0M per year. Therefore, the aggregate shortfall in compensation provided to Mr. Dondero against reasonable compensation levels in the market is at least \$21M over the period I examined. Market compensation figures strictly represent Mr. Dondero's managerial responsibilities and does not include any premium as a Founder. Founders are often paid significantly more in the market.
- I understand from Mr. Dondero that the 2018 loans that are the subject of this suit were modified by an agreement in late 2018 or early 2019 under which the loans would be forgiven upon the sale at over cost of substantially all of any of three portfolio company assets held in the Highland platform, MGM, Cornerstone and/or Trussway. Based on interviews from prior employees, the use of forgivable loans was a known business practice at Highland and there was a clear expectation similar loans would be forgiven. Loans are often used both in private firms and more broadly in the market, both as a perk without forgiveness and also with forgiveness as deferred compensation.

 While I do not have sufficient data to know the capital in the firm at year end 2018,¹ the substantial amount of capital remaining in the firm at the time of bankruptcy (i.e., ≅ \$399.6M) includes undistributed earnings to its Founders and primary shareholders, Mr. Dondero and Mr. Okada. For asset management firms, it is market practice to distribute most earnings annually to the firm's equity holders. The retention of the earnings in the business, further illustrate the shortfall in payments made to Mr. Dondero over the period.

¹I have been told that the Debtor has not produced much of what was requested by Mr. Dondero and that Mr. Dondero no longer has access to the Highland server. Therefore, I understand, what information he provided was from his own accountants, recollections, and/or from companies over which he still has control.

STATEMENT OF OPINIONS

Factual Background

From my review and analysis of available materials and research, I understand the consolidated Highland business ("Highland") is a multi-strategy asset management firm focused on CLOs, hedge funds, and several private investments. Prior to the financial crisis, in 2008, Highland was very successful, reaching its peak revenue and assets under management levels. Looking at the post financial crisis period from 2013 to 2019, Highland continued to operate under the leadership of Mr. Dondero. During this period, several loans were made to Mr. Dondero. Part of my mandate was to assess market compensation levels during this period relative to firms with similar size and earnings. To do so, an assessment of Highland's financial information is necessary. I did not receive all of the financial information for HCM that I would have liked to have had because, I was told, HCM refused to produce most of the documentation requested from it. However, I was able to review the actual financials of HCMFA and NPA, and to obtain information Mr. Dondero possessed and/or recollected. The revenues for HCMFA and NPA ranged from \$30.5M to \$65.9M over the period with assets under management of \$4.7B to \$7.5B. To complete my analysis, Mr. Dondero provided his best recollection of the size and structure of the consolidated three entities stating assets under management from 2013 to 2019 ranging from \$10.0B to \$20.0B, with a primary focus on CLOs and an average of about \$1.0B being in hedge funds. Based on the incomplete nature of my data review, there is a possibility that the market figures provided in this report could be understated based on my conservative approach, relying primarily on the documented data for HCMFA and NPA but only the recollection of Mr. Dondero for HCM, not the actual documentation, such as audited financial statements.

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When examining Mr. Dondero's role at Highland relative to others in the market, it is apparent that his contributions and responsibilities exceeded the traditional duties of executive officers and lead investors who are paid significant amounts elsewhere. Mr. Dondero was the key man running daily business and operations, attracting clients, and overall investments. Given his outsized role, it would be reasonable to expect his compensation to be well above the market median. The sources utilized to ascertain specifics of his role and arrive at this conclusion include interviews with former Highland or Highland affiliate employees, as well as articles in the public domain and discussions with Mr. Dondero.

The total annual compensation for Mr. Dondero from 2013 - 2019 was \$3.0M on average and the aggregate compensation over the period was \$21.0M (source: W-2 filings). To assess the compensation in the market and determine the final market range, I utilized three methodologies including: (1) proxy analysis of CEOs at similarly sized, publicly traded asset management firms, (2) market research on Portfolio Manager compensation, (3) top-down analysis of typical percent of revenue allocated to CEO and/or top portfolio managers. Market compensation figures provided in this report strictly represent Mr. Dondero's managerial responsibilities and does not include any premium as a Founder.

To opine on the use of the loans as a form of compensation, I relied on market research, industry expertise, and interviews. My findings from this assessment are the use of forgivable loans was a normal business practice for Highland and there was a clear expectation they would be forgiven over time, based on varying performance criteria, depending on the employee.

An important additional consideration is the Founders, Mr. Dondero and Mr. Okada, did not receive the typical amount of distribution payments from their equity ownership. Based on the financials filed in connection with the bankruptcy, there was a significant amount of capital

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in the business amounting to \$399.6M. This amount includes undistributed earnings to the original equity shareholders, primarily Mr. Dondero.

Market Assessment of Executive and Investor Compensation

During my career as a compensation expert, I have had significant experience assessing and designing annual compensation awards across the financial services industry, including comparable asset management firms. Accordingly, I am familiar with typical annual compensation levels for senior executives and senior portfolio managers at comparable asset management firms. I would expect pay levels for a key individual such as Mr. Dondero to be substantial, given his contributions, responsibilities, and the competitive market for investment management pay.

To assess reasonable compensation across the competitive market range, it is important to determine Mr. Dondero's responsibilities and contributions relative to others in the industry. It is my understanding that Mr. Dondero worked tremendously long hours, was involved in all aspects of the business including investment decisions, fundraising, business management / administration and the operation of portfolio companies. An article published in the *Dallas Morning News* states, "Mr. Dondero works 70 hours weeks... his days are filled with board and investor meetings, company strategy sessions and constant monitoring and adjusting of the firm's portfolios."² In my opinion, Mr. Dondero's role as CEO and head portfolio manager clearly exceeds the traditional duties of executive officers who are paid significant amounts elsewhere. Based on his significant responsibilities and key man status for the firm, it would be reasonable to expect annual compensation significantly above the market median.

² "High Intensity Pays Off For Highland," The Dallas Morning News, September 3, 2003, https://www.pressreader.com/usa/the-dallas-morning-news/20060903/283218733648003.

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The appropriate positioning for Mr. Dondero is further accentuated by the assessment of "replacement cost". If Mr. Dondero departed Highland in the period of 2013 to 2019, the cost of replacing him as CEO / head investor with a similar level of contribution across all functions would be multiples of his annual compensation. In assessing and providing market compensation for Mr. Dondero's role, I considered how his skillsets and contributions are valued in the market. My assessment of market compensation considers the cost of replacing Mr. Dondero with an outside hire.

The final market range provided in Exhibit C reflects my industry experience and expertise as well as three methodologies for determining competitive compensation magnitudes. These methodologies include: (1) proxy analysis of CEOs at similarly sized, publicly traded asset management firms over the period, (2) market research on Portfolio Manager compensation, (3) top-down analysis of typical percent of revenue allocated to CEO and/or top Portfolio Managers. Several methodologies utilized to capture Mr. Dondero's specific role as CEO and head portfolio manager. The market figures do not include any premium for being a Founder. In the market, Founders can be, and generally are, paid substantially more.

As shown below and in Exhibit E, the average annual compensation of public company asset management CEOs from 2013 to 2019 ranges from \$2.1M - \$4.1M. Importantly, in the market it is common for some senior investment professionals to earn more than the CEO or other corporate officers. Incorporating firm leadership functions into the investment role is a savings of sorts, as someone must still do this job.

Proxy Analysis CEO Total Compensation (Asset Management)								
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Average
25th Percentile	\$1,515	\$1,680	\$2,405	\$1,845	\$2,370	\$2,310	\$2,220	\$2,049
Median	\$2,600	\$2,490	\$2,600	\$2,080	\$3,380	\$3,080	\$2,670	\$2,700
75th Percentile	\$3,210	\$2,805	\$3,130	\$3,815	\$3,945	\$3,285	\$3,435	\$3,375
90th Percentile	\$4,510	\$3,760	\$3,840	\$4,690	\$4,125	\$3,720	\$3,990	\$4,091

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While we examined the disclosed compensation of a select group of public peers (Exhibit D), few of Highland's direct competitors are public and disclose the pay of their top investment professionals (see Exhibit F for some discussions about investment management compensation in the public domain). Instead, firms are either 1) private, or 2) if public, disclosed officers most often are not highly paid portfolio management professionals.

Specifics of individual portfolio management pay are closely guarded for competitive reasons. That said, there are some articles quoting portfolio manager pay in the public domain showing compensation for portfolio managers can be well above the competitive range for public asset management CEOs (see Exhibit F). For example, according to an article published by "efinancialcareers" top performing portfolio managers at the average Hedge Funds with greater than \$4.0B assets under management earned \$6.8M in total compensation.³ While Highland's structure differs from a pure hedge fund, the skills and role responsibilities are comparable to Mr. Dondero. Another example is the CEO of the Harvard Endowment, Mr. Narvekar, earned \$6.25M in 2019.⁴ The McLagan "Highland Capital CEO Compensation Analysis" (April 2020) produced by HCM, shows 2018 total compensation for the Head of Alternative Credit Strategy / CIO of \$4.1M at the 75th percentile and 2018 total compensation for CEO With/Without CIO Responsibilities making \$5.4M at the market median and \$9.6M at the market 75th percentile.

The final method for assessing compensation in the market is a top-down analysis of competitive percentages of revenue attributed to portfolio managers or their teams in the market. Based on competitive market research and industry knowledge, 10% to 12% of revenue would

³ Dan Butcher, "Here Are the Salaries and Bonuses at Hedge Funds in the U.S.," eFinancialCareers, May 5, 2018, https://www.efinancialcareers.com/news/finance/the-salaries-and-bonuses-of-investment-professionals-at-large-hedge-fund-compensation.

⁴ Janet Lorin, "Harvard Endowment Chief Narvekar \$6.25 Million for 2019," Bloomberg.com (Bloomberg, May 14, 2021), https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-05-14/harvard-paid-endowment-chief-narvekar-6-25-million-for-2019.

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be within the competitive market range for someone in Mr. Dondero's role. One public example of a dual CEO and CIO sharing directly in profitability is Mario Gabelli; he earns a fixed 10% of aggregate pre-tax profit every year per his employment agreement.⁵

The final competitive range below (Exhibit C) reflects the market competitive annual total compensation range. This competitive range was determined based on my interactions with asset management firms and over 30 years of industry experience and the insights gained from the three methodologies for determining competitive market compensation outlined above. Market compensation figures strictly represent Mr. Dondero's managerial responsibilities and does not include any premium as a Founder.

Figures in 000s	201:	3 - 2019 Total Annual Marke	et Range
Market Match	Market Median	Market 75th Percentile	Market 90th Percentile / High-End
CEO / Portfolio Manager	\$3,000	\$4,250	\$6,000

Based on the market research and the insights gained through my extensive experience advising on compensation in the industry, reasonable annual compensation for Mr. Dondero's extensive role as CEO and portfolio manager is positioned at the market high-end at **\$6.0M per year**. This figure takes into account firm size, profitability, asset class, and both the investment functions, as well as responsibilities for running the firm. In summary, given his outsized role, his compensation should be positioned toward the market high-end. If the comparison was directly to hedge fund portfolio managers, the figures would be far higher (i.e., often \$10M+

⁵ "Schedule 14A GAMCO INVESTORS, INC.," SEC.gov, April 29, 2020,

https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/0001060349/000106034920000009/gblproxyfinal2020.htm

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annually). Additionally, market figures do not include any premium for being a Founder. In the market, Founders are often paid substantially more than the market figures shown.

Mr. Dondero's aggregate compensation during the period of 2013 to 2019 is well below the reasonable market compensation level. Mr. Dondero's aggregate actual compensation from 2013 - 2019 was \$21.0M (source: W-2 filings). Reasonable competitive compensation for Mr. Dondero based on our analysis of his role is \$6.0M per year or \$42.0M in aggregate over the period. The shortfall in actual compensation to Mr. Dondero versus reasonably expected competitive compensation levels over the period is about **\$21.0M** (Exhibit C). Market figures provided do not include any premium as a Founder, which further broadens the shortfall to market. An important additional consideration is the relative lack of typical equity distributions to Mr. Dondero for his historic ownership of the firm.

Use of Loans as Compensation

In my expert opinion, the use of loans from a company to its senior professionals continues to be a common practice for private businesses. At Highland, the use of loans was a common practice with the clear expectation among senior professionals that the loans would be forgiven over time based on performance, particularly of success in specified projects. I heard from former Highland or Highland affiliate employees that similar loans were used at Highland as deferred incentive compensation and intended to be forgiven over time or on the occurrence of particular achievements.

While, for public companies, Sarbanes Oxley Section 402 explicitly prohibits publicly traded companies from making loans to executive officers it is still a common practice at private

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companies.⁶ The use of these loans at private companies is beneficial for retention by allowing the firm to provide annual or periodic or other forgiveness for a portion the loan and eventually forgiving the full amount. The amount of loan forgiveness is considered income to the professionals and is taxable when forgiven. This was the case at Highland as well. In a publicly available article for the *Dow Jones Private Equity Analyst – Global Compensation Study*, two Proskauer partners outline the tax regulations for similar loans to professionals.⁷

Market Practices on Equity Distributions

It is the standard practice in the market to distribute the majority of earnings to equity owners each year for asset management businesses. Based on the financials filed in connection with the bankruptcy, there was a significant amount of capital in the business equaling \$399.6M. This amount included undistributed earnings to the primary equity holders, Mr. Dondero and Mr. Okada. Highland did not distribute these earnings based on their philosophy of "delayed gratification". This policy has been in place since the inception of the firm, including the peak years prior to the financial crisis. Very recently, the "delayed gratification" approach paid off in connection with Highland's private direct investment in MGM which was announced to be acquired by Amazon with significant economics attached.⁸

⁶ Sarbanes-Oxley Act (2002).

⁷ Michael J Album and James E Gregory, "Human Capital Considerations For Maturing Private Equity Firms," Dow Jones Private Equity Analyst-Global Compensation Study, 2012, pp. 84-96, https://www.proskauer.com/insights/download-pdf/1930.

⁸ Annie Palmer, "Amazon to Buy MGM Studios for \$8.45 Billion," CNBC (CNBC, May 26, 2021), https://www.cnbc.com/2021/05/26/amazon-to-buy-mgm-studios-for-8point45-billion.html.

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CONCLUSION

It is my opinion that Mr. Dondero's aggregate compensation from 2013 to 2019 is significantly below the reasonable competitive compensation level for his role relative to similarly situated firms. In aggregate, the total shortfall in Mr. Dondero's actual compensation versus reasonable competitive compensation is at least \$21.0M. This shortfall does not include any premium as a Founder, which could be considerable. Additionally, it is my opinion that the loans provided to Mr. Dondero should be considered potential deferred compensation as they were similar to loans given to other professionals at the firm. Lastly, the significant amount of capital in the business at the time of bankruptcy is at least partially attributable to Mr. Dondero as unrecognized payments as a prior equity holder, and indicates the rationale for having the potential for considerable deferred compensation.

* * *

I reserve the right to supplement this report and/or to supplement or modify my opinions in light of any additional facts or data that may come to my attention.

Dated: May 28, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

ale M. Joh

Alan Johnson Johnson Associates, Inc. 19 West 44th Street, Suite 511 New York, NY 10036 Phone: (212) 221-740

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Exhibit A: Work History and Education

Alan M. Johnson Johnson Associates, Inc. 19 West 44th Street, Suite 511 New York, NY 10036 (212) 221-7400

Professional Experience

• Entire career as executive compensation consultant

Years	Firm	Title or Equivalent	Duties
1980 – 1983	Hewitt Associates	Consultant	Executive Compensation Consultant
1983 – 1986	Sibson & Company	Principal	Executive Compensation Consultant
1986 – 1989	Frederic W. Cook & Co.	Partner/Shareholder	Executive Compensation Consultant
1989 – 1990	Handy Associates	Managing Director	Executive Compensation Consultant
1990 - 1992	GKR	Managing Director	Executive Compensation Consultant
1992 – Present	Johnson Associates, Inc.	Managing Director	Executive Compensation Consultant
Education			
1973 – 1975	U.S. Naval Academy		
1975 – 1977	University of Florida, B.A	. (History/Economics)	
1977 – 1978	University of Virginia, Gr	aduate Economics	
1978 – 1980	University of Chicago, M.	B.A. (Finance)	

Consulting focus:

• Since about 1990 the bulk of my consulting efforts have involved advising major financial and professional service firms. I consult on the design and magnitudes of compensation programs for senior executives on a regular basis. I am quoted extensively in the press on compensation issues related to major financial service firms.

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LAW FIRM:	CASE:	COURT:	
Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP	Mark Rohman and Sean Cunningham v. Capstone Advisory Group, LLC.	Arbitration	(April 2016)
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP	United States v. Greebel	Eastern District of NY	(December 2017)
Cohen Tauber Spievack & Wagner P.C.	Jeffry Brown v. Neuberger Berman Group LLC, and NB Alternatives Advisers LLC	Arbitration	(January 2018)
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP	Robert Emerson Mulholland v. UBS Financial Services Inc.	FINRA Dispute Resolution Arbitration	(December 2018)
Proskauer Rose LLP	Damian Dalla-Longa v. Magnetar Capital LLC	Arbitration	(September 2019)
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP	Isaly v. OrbiMed	Arbitration	(January 2020)
Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP	RTI Holding Company vs. Debtors	Delaware Bankruptcy Court	(December 2020)

Exhibit B: Alan M. Johnson Prior Expert Testimony for Previous Five Years

Exhibit C: Actual Compensation vs. Estimated Market Compensation Range

Mr. Dondero Actual Compensation (2013 - 2019)

Notes: Mr. Dondero's compensation reflects amounts disclosed in W-2 filings for 2013 to 2019

• Does not include equity distributions over the period; typically, not included in competitive assessments of compensation.

James Dondero Compensation									
Income	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total	Average
Highland Capital Management W-2 Income	\$1,911,538	\$3,282,693	\$2,875,058	\$772,904	\$566,370	\$566,370	\$568,542	\$10,543,475	\$1,506,211
Nexpoint Residential Trust W-2 Income						\$893,262		\$893,262	
NextPoint Advisors W-2 Income				\$1,628,736	\$3,118,250	\$2,870,278	\$1,953,455	\$9,570,718	\$2,392,679
Total W-2 Income (Source: W-2)	\$1,911,538	\$3,282,693	\$2,875,058	\$2,401,639	\$3,684,620	\$4,329,910	\$2,521,996	\$21,007,455	\$3,001,065

Estimated Market Compensation Range

Notes: Market annual total compensation range reflecting my direct interactions with asset management firms and over 30 years of industry experience

- We have factored in Mr. Dondero's out-sized role / contributions on both the investment management and firm-stewardship responsibilities where applicable.
- Greater than findings from public proxy analysis reflecting higher compensation to portfolio managers in the market / alternatives space.
- Represents finding from the 3 methodologies outlined for determining market compensation.
- Market compensation figures strictly represent Mr. Dondero's managerial responsibilities and does not include any premium as a Founder

Figures in 000s	2013	3 - 2019 Total Annual Marke	et Range
Market Match	Market Median	Market 75th Percentile	Market 90th Percentile / High-End
CEO / Portfolio Manager	\$3,000	\$4,250	\$6,000

Compensation Shortfall

Notes: In my opinion, reasonable competitive annual compensation for Mr. Dondero over the period is \$6.0M, positioning him toward the market high-end to reflect his out-sized role and contribution to the firm

Aggregate Reasonable Competitive Compensation	\$42,000,000
Less: Actual Total Compensation	\$21,007,455
Shortfall in Compensation	\$20,992,545

Exhibit D: Select Public Peer Comparators

Notes:

- Industry consolidation continues to shrink pool of publicly available compensation data for the asset management industry, even at much larger firms than Highland
- Group intended to represent a range of firms that are relevant but not perfectly similar
- Disclosure of Portfolio Manager positions limited as typically not included in publicly filed data (no compulsion to disclose as with executive officers)
- Highland data includes good faith estimate of consolidated entities assets under management during the period. Actual financials not assessed due to the non-disclosure of Highland Capital Management ("HCM") information. Data for "HCMFA" and "NPA" reviewed.

		As	sets Und	ler Manag	jement (\$	iB)				Re	evenue (\$	M)		
Peers	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Asset Management														
Cohen & Steers	\$72	\$55	\$62	\$60	\$53	\$53		\$411	\$381	\$378	\$350	\$329	\$314	\$298
Pzena Investment	\$41	\$33	\$39	\$30	\$26	\$28	\$25	\$151	\$154	\$141	\$108	\$117	\$113	\$96
Silvercrest	\$25	\$19	\$21	\$19	\$18	\$18	\$16	\$102	\$99	\$91	\$80	\$75	\$69	\$60
Diamond Hill	\$23	\$19	\$22	\$19	\$17	\$16	\$12	\$137	\$146	\$145	\$136	\$124	\$105	\$81
Manning & Napier	\$19	\$20	\$25	\$32	\$35	\$48	\$51	\$136	\$161	\$202	\$249	\$328	\$405	\$376
Westwood Holdings	\$15	\$17	\$24	\$21	\$21	\$20	\$19	\$84	\$122	\$134	\$123	\$131	\$113	\$92
Hennessy Advisors	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$7	\$6	\$6	\$4	\$43	\$55	\$53	\$51	\$45	\$35	\$24
Main Street Capital	\$4	\$3	\$3					\$173	\$214	\$235				
Consolidated Highland*		\$10.0	\$14.0	\$15.0	\$18.0	\$20.0	\$19.0							
Highland Hedge Fund*		\$1.9	\$1.0	\$0.9	\$1.3	\$1.0	\$0.7							
HCMFA & NP (only)	\$7.5	\$6.1	\$5.1	\$4.8	\$5.2	\$5.7	\$4.7	\$66	\$52	\$42	\$41	\$50	\$31	\$31

*Represents estimated for the consolidated three entities. Financial for Highland Capital Management ("HCM") not provided by the debtor

Exhibit E: Proxy Analysis Disclosed Public Peer CEO Compensation (2013 - 2019)

Notes:

- Reflects disclosed senior executive officer compensation in \$ thousands
- CEO not necessarily the highest paid employee at any given firm
- Senior investment professionals' pay often not disclosed and can be greater than CEO
- GAMCO not included; Mr. Gabelli receives 10% of aggregate pre-tax profit annually
- Indicates awards granted for performance each, not outstanding or fully vested compensation
- Where applicable, partial year salaries annualized. One-time awards annualized over appropriate vesting periods. Performance share values reflects target award values; does not reflect payouts from past cycles

Summary of Proxy Analysis

	Proxy	Analysis C	EO Total C	ompensatio	n (Asset Ma	nagement)		
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Average
25th Percentile	\$1,515	\$1,680	\$2,405	\$1,845	\$2,370	\$2,310	\$2,220	\$2,049
Median	\$2,600	\$2,490	\$2,600	\$2,080	\$3,380	\$3,080	\$2,670	\$2,700
75th Percentile	\$3,210	\$2,805	\$3,130	\$3,815	\$3,945	\$3,285	\$3,435	\$3,375
90th Percentile	\$4,510	\$3,760	\$3,840	\$4,690	\$4,125	\$3,720	\$3,990	\$4,091

Proxy Analysis by Year and Individual

			Chief Exe	ecutive Of	fficer - 20	19					
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$835	\$1,585	\$0	\$2,915	\$0	\$2,915	\$0	\$4,500
Manning & Napier	Mayer, M.	CEO	\$500	\$2,250	\$2,750	\$145	\$755	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$3,650
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	Pres & CEO	\$700	\$1,000	\$1,700	\$800	\$475	\$0	\$1,275	\$240	\$3,215
Main Street Capital	Hyzak, D.	CEO	\$625	\$650	\$1,275	\$0	\$1,395	\$0	\$1,395	\$0	\$2,670
Pzena Investment	Pzena, R.	Chairman, CEO, & Co-CIO	\$365	\$685	\$1,055	\$0	\$1,425	\$0	\$1,425	\$0	\$2,480
Hennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	Chairman & CEO	\$350	\$1,455	\$1,805	\$0	\$155	\$0	\$155	\$0	\$1,960
Westwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President & CEO	\$650	\$0	\$650	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$650
25th Percentile			\$435	\$670	\$1,165	\$0	\$315	\$0	\$530	\$0	\$2,220
50th Percentile			\$625	\$835	\$1,585	\$0	\$755	\$0	\$1,275	\$0	\$2,670
75th Percentile			\$675	\$1,230	\$1,755	\$75	\$1,410	\$0	\$1,410	\$0	\$3,435
90th Percentile			\$720	\$1,775	\$2,185	\$405	\$2,020	\$0	\$2,020	\$95	\$3,990

Exhibit E: Proxy Analysis Disclosed Public Peer CEO Compensation (2013 - 2019)

			Chier Ex	ecutive Of	ricer - 20	10					
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$650	\$1,400	\$0	\$2,355	\$0	\$2,355	\$0	\$3,75
Vestwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President & CEO	\$650	\$1,065	\$1,715	\$0	\$0	\$1,995	\$1,995	\$0	\$3,71
zena Investment	Pzena, R.	Chairman, CEO, & CIO	\$365	\$995	\$1,360	\$0	\$1,925	\$0	\$1,925	\$0	\$3,28
Main Street Capital	Hyzak, D.	CEO	\$555	\$1,400	\$1,955	\$0	\$1,275	\$0	\$1,275	\$0	\$3,23
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$700	\$1,600	\$2,300	\$500	\$40	\$0	\$540	\$240	\$3,08
lennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	CEO	\$350	\$2,420	\$2,770	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$2,99
Diamond Hill	Bingaman, C.	President & CEO	\$300	\$500	\$800	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$510	\$2,31
Manning & Napier	Coons, J.	Co-CEO & President	\$400	\$520	\$920	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$920
Manning & Napier	Goldberg, R.	Co-CEO & Director	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$0	\$155	\$0	\$155	\$0	\$905
						!				<u> </u>	
25th Percentile			\$365	\$520	\$920	\$0	\$40	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$2,31
50th Percentile			\$555	\$995	\$1,400	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$3,08
75th Percentile			\$700	\$1,400	\$1,955	\$0	\$1,275	\$0	\$1,925	\$0	\$3,28
90th Percentile			\$750	\$1,765	\$2,395	\$100	\$2,010	\$400	\$2,065	\$295	\$3,72
			Chief Ex	ecutive Of	ficer - 20	17					
Company	Executive	Position	Base	Cash	Total	Stock	Restricted	Perf	Total	One-Time	Tota
Vestwood Holdings	Casey, B.	CEO	Salary \$650	Bonus \$1,540	Cash \$2,190	Options \$0	Shares \$0	Shares \$1,995	Long Term \$1,995	(Annualized) \$0	Comp \$4,18
Cohen & Steers		CEO	\$750	\$735		\$0	\$2,615	\$0		\$0	\$4,10
Aain Street Capital	Steers, R. Foster, V.	Chairman, CEO	\$750	\$1,500	\$1,485 \$2,110	\$0 \$0	\$2,615	\$0 \$0	\$2,615 \$1,780	\$0 \$0	\$4,10
lennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$3,240	\$3,590	\$0	\$245	\$0	\$245	\$0	\$3,83
^o zena Investment	Pzena, R.	CEO, Co-CIO	\$365	\$2,560	\$2,925	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,92
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$700	\$1,500	\$2,200	\$0	\$40	\$0	\$40	\$240	\$2,48
Diamond Hill	Bingaman, C.	President & CEO	\$300	\$550	\$850	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,180	\$2,03
Manning & Napier	Stamey, C.	Co-CEO, Sales / Distribution	\$300	\$1,140	\$1,440	\$0	\$135	\$0	\$135	\$0	\$1,57
25th Percentile			\$340	\$1,040	\$1,475	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30	\$0	\$2,37
50th Percentile			\$490	\$1,500	\$2,150	\$0	\$90	\$0	\$190	\$0	\$3,38
75th Percentile			\$665	\$1,795	\$2,380	\$0	\$630	\$0	\$1,835	\$60	\$3,94
00th Percentile			\$715	\$2,765	\$3,125	\$0	\$2,030	\$600	\$2,180	\$520	\$4,12
			Chief Ex	ecutive Of	ficer - 20'	16					
			Base	Cash	Total	Stock	Restricted	Perf	Total	One-Time	Total
Company	Executive	Position	Salary	Bonus	Cash	Options	Shares	Shares	Long Term		Com
Vestwood Holdings	Casey, B.	CEO	\$650	\$1,350	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,955	\$3,955	\$0	\$5,95
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$675	\$1,425	\$0	\$2,425	\$0	\$2,425	\$0	\$3,85
lennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$3,075	\$3,425	\$0	\$350	\$0	\$350	\$0	\$3,77
Diamond Hill	Bingaman, C.	President & CEO	\$300	\$600	\$900	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,180	\$2,08
zena Investment	Pzena, R.	CEO, Co-CIO	\$365	\$1,600	\$1,965	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,96
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$700	\$725	\$1,425	\$0	\$55	\$0	\$55	\$240	\$1,72
Aanning & Napier	Manning, W.	CEO	\$1,400	\$0	\$1,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,40
5th Percentile			\$360	\$640	\$1,415	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,84
0th Percentile			\$650	\$725	\$1,425	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$55	\$0	\$2,08

\$4,690

\$3,035

\$2,190

0th Percentile

Exhibit E: Proxy Analysis Disclosed Public Peer CEO Compensation (2013 - 2019)

			Chief Ex	ecutive Of	ficer - 20	15					
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Westwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President, CEO	\$600	\$2,065	\$2,665	\$0	\$0	\$2,090	\$2,090	\$0	\$4,755
Hennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$2,515	\$2,865	\$0	\$370	\$0	\$370	\$0	\$3,230
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$485	\$1,235	\$0	\$1,790	\$0	\$1,790	\$0	\$3,025
Diamond Hill	Dillon, R.	CEO	\$360	\$640	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	\$2,600
Manning & Napier	Cunningham, P.	CEO	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,500
Pzena Investment	Pzena, R.	CEO, Co-CIO	\$380	\$605	\$980	\$0	\$0	\$1,330	\$1,330	\$0	\$2,310
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$700	\$725	\$1,425	\$0	\$240	\$0	\$240	\$0	\$1,665
25th Percentile			\$370	\$545	\$990	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$850	\$0	\$2,405
50th Percentile			\$500	\$640	\$1,235	\$0	\$0	\$1,330	\$1,600	\$0	\$2,600
75th Percentile			\$650	\$1,395	\$2,045	\$0	\$305	\$1,800	\$1,895	\$0	\$3,130
90th Percentile			\$720	\$2,245	\$2,745	\$0	\$940	\$2,035	\$2,035	\$0	\$3,840

			Chief Ex	ecutive Of	fficer - 20	14					
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Westwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President, CEO	\$600	\$1,995	\$2,595	\$0	\$0	\$2,060	\$2,060	\$0	\$4,650
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$460	\$1,210	\$0	\$1,660	\$0	\$1,660	\$0	\$2,870
Diamond Hill	Dillon, R.	CEO	\$360	\$640	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	\$2,60
Hennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$1,750	\$2,100	\$0	\$280	\$0	\$280	\$0	\$2,38
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$650	\$725	\$1,375	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$1,44
Manning & Napier	Cunningham, P.	CEO	\$500	\$495	\$995	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$995
25th Percentile			\$395	\$530	\$1,055	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$125	\$0	\$1,68
50th Percentile			\$550	\$685	\$1,295	\$0	\$35	\$0	\$940	\$0	\$2,49
75th Percentile			\$640	\$1,495	\$1,920	\$0	\$230	\$1,200	\$1,645	\$0	\$2,80
90th Percentile			\$700	\$1,875	\$2,350	\$0	\$970	\$1,830	\$1,860	\$0	\$3,76

Chief Executive Officer - 2013

Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Manning & Napier	Cunningham, P.	CEO	\$500	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$0	\$4,020	\$0	\$4,020	\$0	\$6,020
Westwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President, CEO	\$600	\$1,505	\$2,105	\$0	\$0	\$1,395	\$1,395	\$0	\$3,500
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$365	\$1,115	\$0	\$1,800	\$0	\$1,800	\$0	\$2,915
Diamond Hill	Dillon, R.	CEO	\$360	\$640	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	\$2,600
Hennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$1,170	\$1,520	\$0	\$90	\$0	\$90	\$0	\$1,610
Pzena Investment	Pzena, R.	CEO, Co-CIO	\$280	\$1,145	\$1,420	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,420
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$500	\$600	\$1,100	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$1,170
25th Percentile			\$355	\$620	\$1,110	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$80	\$0	\$1,515
50th Percentile			\$500	\$1,145	\$1,420	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$1,395	\$0	\$2,600
75th Percentile			\$550	\$1,335	\$1,760	\$0	\$945	\$700	\$1,700	\$0	\$3,210
90th Percentile			\$660	\$1,500	\$2,040	\$0	\$2,690	\$1,475	\$2,690	\$0	\$4,510

Exhibit F: Discussions of Investment Management Compensation in the Public Domain

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Documents Reviewed

Data Items Reviewed from Debtor

Bates Label Range: D-JDNL-017439 to D-JDNL-017441 •

Data Items Reviewed:

Bates Label Range: EXPERT 0000001 to EXPERT 0002316 •

Individual Documents - Starting Bates Label

- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000001 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000003 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000004 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000024 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000026 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000028 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000030 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000365 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000367 •
- Expert 1 – EXPERT 0000372
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000383 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000384 •
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- Expert 1 EXPERT 0001324 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0001578 •
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- Expert 1 EXPERT 0001581 ٠
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0001881 •
- Expert 1 – EXPERT 0001897
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- Expert 1 EXPERT 0001975 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0001998 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0002233 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0002234 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0002253 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0002260 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0002267 •
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0002285 ٠
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0002304 •

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Exhibit H

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (CA Bar No. 143717) (*admitted pro hac vice*) Ira D. Kharasch (CA Bar No. 109084) (*admitted pro hac vice*) John A. Morris (NY Bar No. 266326) (*admitted pro hac vice*) Gregory V. Demo (NY Bar No. 5371992) (*admitted pro hac vice*) Hayley R. Winograd (NY Bar No. 5612569) (*admitted pro hac vice*) 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067 Telephone: (310) 277-6910 Facsimile: (310) 201-0760

HAYWARD PLLC Melissa S. Hayward (Texas Bar No. 24044908) Zachery Z. Annable (Texas Bar No. 24053075) 10501 N. Central Expy, Ste. 106 Dallas, Texas 75231 Tel: (972) 755-7100 Fax: (972) 755-7110

Counsel for the Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession

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

In re:	§	Case No. 19-34054		
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ §	Chapter 11		
	ş	Chapter 11		
Debtor.	s §			
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§			
	§			
Plaintiff.	§			
ν.	§	Adversary No. 21-03003-sgj		
	§			
JAMES D. DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND	§			
THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§			
	§			
Defendants.	§			
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§			
	§			
Plaintiff.	§			
	§			
ν.	§			
	§	Adversary No.: 21-03005-sgj		
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES	§			
DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE	§			
DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§			
	ş			
Defendants.	§			

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff.	ş	
	§	
V.	§	
	ş	Adversary No.: 21-03006-sgj
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	§	
SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY	§	
DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY	ş	
INVESTMENT TRUST,	§	
	8	
Defendants.	8	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§	
	ş	
Plaintiff.	8	
	8	
v.	8	
	8	Adversary No.: 21-03007-sgj
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NEXPOINT	8 8	
REAL ESTATE PARTNERS, LLC), JAMES	8 8	
DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO AND THE	8	
	8	
DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	8	
	8	
Defendants.	Š	

HIGHLAND'S RESPONSES AND OBJECTIONS TO DEFENDANTS' JOINT DISCOVERY REQUESTS

Highland Capital Management, L.P., the reorganized debtor¹ ("<u>Highland</u>" or, as may be temporally required, the "<u>Debtor</u>") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "<u>Bankruptcy</u> <u>Case</u>") and plaintiff in the above-captioned adversary proceedings (the "<u>Adversary Proceedings</u>"), hereby responds to *Defendants' Joint Discovery Requests To Highland Capital Management, L.P.* (the "<u>Requests</u>")² served by defendants James Dondero ("<u>Mr. Dondero</u>"), Nancy Dondero, ("<u>Ms.</u>

¹ On February 22, 2021, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Order (i) Confirming the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization (as Modified) and (ii) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 1943] (the "<u>Confirmation Order</u>") which confirmed the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P., as modified (the "<u>Plan</u>"). The Plan went Effective (as defined in the Plan) on August 11, 2021, and Highland is the Reorganized Debtor (as defined in the Plan) since the Effective Date. See Notice of Occurrence of Effective Date of Confirmed Fifth Amended Plan of Highland Capital Management, L.P. [Docket No. 2700].

² Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Requests.

<u>Dondero</u>"), The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("<u>Dugaboy</u>"), NexPoint Advisors, L.P. ("<u>NexPoint</u>"), Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("<u>HCMS</u>"), and NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC ("<u>NREP</u>") (collectively, "<u>Defendants</u>"). Highland's responses and objections to the Requests (the "<u>Responses</u>") are made pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("<u>FRCP</u>") 26, 33, and 34 as made applicable in bankruptcy cases pursuant to Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 7026, 7033, and 7034.

GENERAL OBJECTIONS

Unless otherwise specified, the following general objections and caveats are applicable to each and every Response and are incorporated into each Response as though set forth in full:

1. The Responses contained herein are based upon information presently known and ascertained by the Highland and Highland reserves the right to amend, supplement, or modify these Responses during depositions or otherwise.

2. Highland objects to the Requests to the extent they seek information or documents that are protected from discovery by the attorney-client privilege, the attorney work product doctrine or any other privilege or immunity. The inadvertent disclosure or production of any document that is protected from discovery by any privilege or immunity shall not constitute a waiver of any such privilege or immunity. All references in these objections and responses to Highland's agreement to produce documents shall be construed to mean non-privileged documents.

3. Highland objects to the Requests to the extent they request information that is not reasonably or readily available to it, in its possession, custody or control, or is more readily available to the Defendants from another source or for which the burden of obtaining such information is not substantially greater for the Defendants than it is for Highland.

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4. Highland objects to the Requests to the extent they call for legal conclusions and/or analyses.

5. All specific responses to the Requests are provided without waiver of, and with express reservation of (a) all objections as to competency, relevancy, materiality, and admissibility of the responses and the subject matter thereof as evidence for any purpose in any further proceedings in this matter; (b) all privileges, including the attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine; (c) the right to object to the use of such responses, or the subject matter thereof, on any ground in any further proceeding in this action; and (d) the right to object on any ground at any time to a demand or request for further responses to these or any other discovery requests or other discovery proceedings.

6. Highland objects to the Requests to the extent they seek to expand on or conflict with Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and/or the Local Rules of the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas.

7. Highland's agreement to produce documents with respect to a specific Request shall not be construed as a representation that such documents actually exist or are within Plaintiff's possession, custody or control.

8. Notwithstanding Highland's production of certain documents that were lodged on the main docket or in one or more of the Adversary Proceedings, Highland has not reviewed all documents lodged therein and reserves the right to use, reply upon, or offer into evidence any such documents.

9. Unless indicated otherwise, Highland's search for responsive documents and communications covers the period December 1, 2018 to the present.

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10. These General Objections and Responses shall be deemed to be

incorporated by reference into the Specific Responses and Objections set forth below.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES TO DOCUMENT REQUESTS

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 1:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Debtor believes that the Alleged Agreement is a fiction created after the commencement of this Adversary Proceeding for the purpose of avoiding or at least delaying paying the obligations due under the notes."

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 1, including using search terms and

identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 2:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against James Dondero.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 2, including using search terms and

identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 3:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Declaratory Relief claims (Count 5 of the Amended Complaint) made against Dugaboy and Nancy Dondero.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 3, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 4:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Breach of Fiduciary Duty claims (Count 6 of the Amended Complaint) made against Dugaboy and Nancy Dondero.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 4, including using search terms and

identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 5:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Aiding and Abetting a Breach of Fiduciary Duty claims (Count 7 of the Amended Complaint) against James Dondero and Nancy Dondero.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 5, including using search terms and

identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 6:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against NPA.

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 6, including using search terms and

identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 7:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against HCMS.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 7, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 8:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against HCRE.

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections and this specific objection, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 8, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information. Highland reserves its right to supplement its Response to this Request in light of ongoing discovery.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 9:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against James Dondero.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 9, including using search terms and

identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 10:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to any damages that you are seeking pursuant to your Amended Complaints.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 10, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 11:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that, "At all relevant times, Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor."

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 11, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 12:

Produce all documents and communications related to the Alleged Agreement referenced in the Amended Complaints.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

In response to Request for Production No. 12, Highland states that it is not aware of any

documents responsive to this Request.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 13:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "the Debtor's books and records do not reflect the Alleged Agreement."

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 13, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 14:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Dugaboy was not authorized to enter into the Alleged Agreement on behalf of the Partnership or otherwise bind the Partnership (as "Partnership" is defined in the Limited Partnership Agreement.)"

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 14, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 15:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Mr. Dondero did not inform the Debtor's CFO or outside auditor's about the Alleged Agreement."

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 15, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 16:

Produce all communications between the Debtor and Debtor's outside auditor.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 16 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 16, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information concerning or relating to the Notes.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 17:

Produce all communications between the Debtor and Debtor's outside auditor related to any allegations in the Amended Complaints.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 17, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 18:

Produce all communications between Mr. Dondero and Debtor's CFO (as that term is used in the Amended Complaints) related to the Notes.

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 18, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 19:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Nancy Dondero also lacked the authority to enter into the Alleged Agreement or to otherwise bind the Debtor."

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 19, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 20:

Produce all communications between Nancy Dondero and James Dondero.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 20 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case to the extent it asks for "all" communications between Nancy Dondero and James Dondero. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 20, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information concerning or relating to the allegations in the Amended Complaint or the Notes or the Amended Answer.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 21:

Produce all communications between Nancy Dondero and James Dondero related to the allegations in the Amended Complaints.

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 21, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 22:

Produce all communications between Nancy Dondero and James Dondero related to James Dondero's compensation from the Debtor.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 22, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 23:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegations in the Amended Complaints that each of the Defendants entered into the "Alleged Agreement with actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud a present or future creditor."

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 23, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 24:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that the "Alleged Agreement was not subject to negotiation."

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 24, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 25:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "the value of the consideration received by the Debtor for the transfers was not reasonably equivalent value."

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 25, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 26:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the Notes.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 26.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 27:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the consideration received by the Debtor related to the Notes.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 27, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 28:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that James Dondero and Nancy Dondero "were aware that Dugaboy would have fiduciary duties to the Debtor if it acted to bind the Debtor."

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 28, including using search terms

and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 29:

Produce all documents and communications supporting any damages you are seeking related to the Amended Complaints.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 29 on the ground that it is duplicative of

Request for Production No. 10. Subject to the General Objections and this specific objection,

Highland incorporates by reference its Response to Request for Production No. 10.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 30:

Produce all documents and communications relating to the solvency and financial condition of the Debtor.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 30 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 30.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 31:

Produce all monthly balance sheets of the Debtor for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 31 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 31.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 32:

Produce all of the Debtor's internal monthly reporting packages for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 32 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 32.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 33:

Produce all of the Debtor's financial statements for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 33 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 33.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 34:

Produce all "loan summaries" of the Debtor for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 34 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 34.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 35:

Produce all of the Debtor's audited financial statements for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 35 on the ground that Highland has previously produced documents responsive to this Request and does not intend to produce all such documents again.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 36:

Produce all valuation reports, including all annual and/or periodic valuation reports, and all other documents reflecting the enterprise value and/or asset value of the following entities:

Trussway Holdings, LLC, Trussway Industries, LLC, MGM Holdings, and Cornerstone Healthcare for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 36 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce,

documents responsive to Request for Production No. 36.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 37:

Produce all valuation reports, including all annual and/or periodic valuation reports, and all other documents reflecting the enterprise value and/or asset value of all entities and assets owned, directly or indirectly, by the following entities and in which the Debtor has an interest: Highland Select Equity Fund, L.P., Highland Restoration Capital Partners, L.P., Highland CLO Funding, Ltd., Highland Multi Strategy Credit Fund, L.P., Highland Capital Management Korea Limited, and Cornerstone Healthcare.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 37 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). .

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 38:

Produce all documents showing the financial performance of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 38 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 39:

Produce all financial statements for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 39 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 40:

Produce all monthly balance sheets for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 40 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 41:

Produce all internal monthly reporting packages for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 41 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 42:

Produce all documents reflecting the assets under management for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 42 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 43:

Produce all documents reflecting the investment results and/or performance for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 43 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 44:

Produce all documents reflecting marketing materials for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 44 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 45:

Produce all documents related to any employment and/or shareholder or partnership agreement between Dondero, on the one hand, and any of the following entities on the other hand, for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 45 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 46:

Produce all documents related to any compensation (including, without limitation, base salary, annual bonus, long-term incentives, equity distributions, equity interests, perks, long-term awards, loans, forgiveness of debt, or otherwise) received by Dondero from any of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2010 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 46 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific

objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to

this Request to the extent they relate to (i) the Debtor.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 47:

Produce all documents related to any compensation (including, without limitation, base salary, annual bonus, long-term incentives, equity distributions, equity interests, perks, long-term awards, loans, forgiveness of debt, or otherwise) received by any Related Entity for Dondero or on Dondero's behalf, from any of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2010 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries,

both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 47 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 48:

Produce all documents reflecting and/or relating to any organizational charts for any of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 48 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the forgoing objection, Highland refers the

Defendants to documents filed on this main docket in the above-referenced bankruptcy case.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 49:

Produce all documents reflecting and/or relating to Dondero's employment, investment, and/or managerial role(s) in any of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 49 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 50:

Produce the Debtor's "books and records" referred to in paragraph 66(j) of the Amended Complaint filed against Defendant James Dondero.

RESPONSE:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and

produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 50.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 51:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing any action taken by any limited partner of the Debtor to (i) take part in the control (within the meaning of the Delaware Act) of the Partnership's business; (ii) transact any business in the Partnership's name; and/or (iii) sign any documents or otherwise bind the Partnership in accordance with the LPA.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 51 on the grounds that it is overly broad,

unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims

or defense. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 52:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the HCRE Notes.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a

reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 52.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 53:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the HCMS Notes.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a

reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 53.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 54:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the NPA Note.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a

reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 54.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 55:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the Dondero Notes.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a

reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 55.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 56:

Produce the loan documentation for all loans made by Debtor to any then-current executive, consultant, or employee of Debtor or any related Person.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 56 on the grounds that (a) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), and (b) the phrases "loan documentation," "consultant," and "any related Person" are vague and ambiguous. Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland states that loans made by Debtor to any then-current executive, employee, or related party are identified and described in Highland's audited financial statements previously produced to James Dondero.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 57:

Produce all documents reflecting the payment status of all loans identified in response to the above (No. 56) Request for Production, and if forgiven, all documents reflecting the conditions for forgiveness.

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 57 on the grounds that (a) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defenses, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), and (b) the phrases "loan documentation," "consultant," and "any related Person" in Request for Production No. 56 are vague and ambiguous. Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland states that loans made by Debtor to any then-current executive, employee, or related party are identified and described in Highland's audited financial statements previously produced to James Dondero.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 58:

Produce all documents related to any audits of the Debtor from 2013 forward, including, but not limited to, any management letters, audit notes, and audit files.

<u>RESPONSE</u>:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 58 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland and PricewaterhouseCoopers previously produced documents responsive to Request for Production No. 58.

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 59:

Produce all documents related to the sale or potential sale of any portfolio companies of the Debtor or interests in any portfolio companies owned by the Debtor, including, but not limited to, MGM, Trussway, and Cornerstone.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 59 on the grounds that (a) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defenses, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), and (b) the phrase "potential sale" is vague and ambiguous. Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland states that it has no documents responsive to Request for Production No. 59.

RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 1:

Admit that Highland Capital Management, L.P. entered into the Fourth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (the "LPA"), on or about December 24, 2015.

RESPONSE:

Deny. Highland Capital Management, L.P. did not enter into, and is not a party to, the

LPA.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 2:

Admit that the LPA provided that the Majority Interest of Highland Capital Management, L.P. could approve compensation for the General Partner and its Affiliates (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

RESPONSE:

Deny. Request for Admission No. 2 inaccurately summarizes Section 3.10 of the LPA,

which speaks for itself.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 3:

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner in 2017 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

RESPONSE:

Admit.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 4:

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner in 2018 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

RESPONSE:

Admit.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 5:

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner in 2019 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

Admit.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 6:

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner in 2020 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

RESPONSE:

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner from January 1 through January 9, 2020, and otherwise deny Request for Admission No. 6 on the basis of the corporate governance settlement that Mr. Dondero entered into and that was approved by the Court. See Docket Nos. 338 and 339.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 7:

Admit that the Dugaboy Family Trust held a Majority Interest in Highland Capital Management, L.P. in 2017 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

RESPONSE:

Deny. "Dugaboy Family Trust" is neither a defined term nor a party to the LPA.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 8:

Admit that the Dugaboy Family Trust held a Majority Interest in Highland Capital Management, L.P. in 2018 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

RESPONSE:

Deny. "Dugaboy Family Trust" is neither a defined term nor a party to the LPA.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 9:

Admit that the Dugaboy Family Trust held a Majority Interest in Highland Capital Management, L.P. in 2019 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

RESPONSE:

Deny. "Dugaboy Family Trust" is neither a defined term nor a party to the LPA.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 10:

Admit that the Dugaboy Family Trust held a Majority Interest in Highland Capital Management, L.P. in 2020 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

Deny. "Dugaboy Family Trust" is neither a defined term nor a party to the LPA.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 11:

Admit that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee (as defined in the LPA) in 2017.

RESPONSE:

HCMLP objects to Request for Admission No. 11 on the ground that "Dugaboy Family Trust" is not defined in the LPA. HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matter asserted in Request for Admission No. 11. HCMLP acknowledges that the Defendants apparently contend that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee in 2017.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 12:

Admit that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee (as defined in the LPA) in 2018.

RESPONSE:

HCMLP objects to Request for Admission No. 12 on the ground that "Dugaboy Family Trust" is not defined in the LPA. HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matter asserted in Request for Admission No. 12. HCMLP acknowledges that the Defendants apparently contend that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee in 2018.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 13:

Admit that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee (as defined in the LPA) in 2019.

RESPONSE:

HCMLP objects to Request for Admission No. 13 on the ground that "Dugaboy Family Trust" is not defined in the LPA. HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matter asserted in Request for Admission No. 13. HCMLP acknowledges that the Defendants apparently contend that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee in 2019.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 14:

Admit that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee (as defined in the LPA) in 2020.

HCMLP objects to Request for Admission No. 14 on the ground that "Dugaboy Family Trust" is not defined in the LPA. HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matter asserted in Request for Admission No. 14. HCMLP acknowledges that the Defendants apparently contend that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee in 2020.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 15:

Admit that James Dondero was the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy in 2017.

RESPONSE:

HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in Request for Admission No. 15. HCMLP acknowledges that Mr. Dondero contends that he is the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy and that HCMLP has relied on such contentions in other aspects of the Bankruptcy Case.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 16:

Admit that James Dondero was the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy in 2018.

RESPONSE:

HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in Request for Admission No. 16. HCMLP acknowledges that Mr. Dondero contends that he is the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy and that HCMLP has relied on such contentions in other aspects of the Bankruptcy Case.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 17:

Admit that James Dondero was the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy in 2019.

RESPONSE:

HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in Request for Admission No. 17. HCMLP acknowledges that Mr. Dondero contends that he is the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy and that HCMLP has relied on such contentions in other aspects of the Bankruptcy Case.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 18:

Admit that James Dondero was the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy in 2020.

HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in Request for Admission No. 18. HCMLP acknowledges that Mr. Dondero contends that he is the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy and that HCMLP has relied on such contentions in other aspects of the Bankruptcy Case.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 19:

Admit that the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) exceeded its liabilities as of December 31, 2017.

RESPONSE:

Deny because the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) did not exceed its liabilities as of December 31, 2017.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 20:

Admit that the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) exceeded its liabilities in January 2018.

RESPONSE:

Deny because the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) did not exceed its liabilities as of December 31, 2018.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 21:

Admit that the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) exceeded its liabilities as of December 31, 2018.

RESPONSE:

Deny because the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) did not exceed its liabilities as of December 31, 2018.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 22:

Admit that the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) exceeded its liabilities as of December 31, 2019.

RESPONSE:

Deny because the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) did not exceed its liabilities as of December 31, 2019.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 23:

Admit that within Highland each of MGM, Cornerstone and Trussway were referred to as "Portfolio Companies."

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Request for Admission No. 24 on the ground that the phrase "within

Highland" is vague and ambiguous.

OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES TO INTERROGATORIES

INTERROGATORY NO. 1:

Identify all damages that you are seeking against each of the Defendants, including, how those damages are calculated.

RESPONSE:

Against each maker of each Notes, HCMLP seeks damages in an amount equal to (a) all unpaid principal under each Note, (b) all accrued and unpaid interest under each Note, and (c) all actual expenses of collection, including court costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees in connection with each of the Adversary Proceedings. HCMLP incorporates by reference its prior written responses to discovery and refers the defendants to the Notes and the invoices of Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, LLP other documents being produced in this adversary proceeding.

Against Nancy Dondero and Dugaboy, HCMLP seeks damages in an amount equal to (a) all unpaid principal under each Note, and (b) all accrued and unpaid interest under each Note.

Against James Dondero for aiding and abetting Nancy Dondero's and Dugaboy's breach of fiduciary duty, HCMLP seeks damages in an amount equal to (a) all unpaid principal under each Note, and (b) all accrued and unpaid interest under each Note.

Damages will continue to increase as interest continues to accrue and Highland continues to incur additional costs of collection.

INTERROGATORY NO. 2:

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that Dugaboy owed a fiduciary duty to the Debtor.

RESPONSE:

Assuming that a court of competent jurisdiction finds that Dugaboy entered into an agreement on behalf of HCMLP pursuant to which HCMLP agreed to forgive collection on all or any of the Notes, then Dugaboy will have owed a fiduciary duty to the Debtor because, among

other things, (a) Dugaboy would have been acting on the Debtor's behalf, (b) Dugaboy would have bound the Debtor, and (c) Dugaboy would have been required to act reasonably under the circumstances.

INTERROGATORY NO. 3:

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that Nancy Dondero owed a fiduciary duty to the Debtor.

RESPONSE:

HCMLP incorporates by reference its response to Interrogatory No. 3 and further notes that Ms. Dondero would have caused Dugaboy to enter into the Alleged Agreement.

INTERROGATORY NO. 4:

Identify all acts or omissions by each of the Defendants that breached any alleged fiduciary duties owed to the Debtor.

RESPONSE:

Assuming that a court of competent jurisdiction finds that Dugaboy entered into an agreement pursuant to which HCMLP agreed to forgive collection on the Notes, then Dugaboy and Nancy would have breached their fiduciary duties by acting unreasonably by (a) agreeing to forgive Notes with an aggregate principal amount in excess of \$70 million for \$1 in value, (b) agreeing to forgive Notes with an aggregate principal amount in excess of \$70 million at a time when they had no obligation to do so and received woefully inadequate consideration in return, and (c) otherwise acting unreasonably under the circumstances, including failing to perform reasonable diligence, failing to document and otherwise disclose the "agreement" to the Debtor's management and auditors, and by failing to disclose the "agreement" to the Bankruptcy Court at any time.

INTERROGATORY NO. 5:

Identify all acts or omissions by each of the Defendants that aided and abetted the breach of any alleged fiduciary duties owed to the Debtor.

RESPONSE:

Highland incorporates by reference its response to Interrogatory No. 5 and further states that James Dondero would have further aided and abetted in the breach of fiduciary duties by using undue influence to persuade Ms. Dondero to enter into the Alleged Agreement on behalf of Dugaboy.

INTERROGATORY NO. 6:

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that "At all relevant times, Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor."

RESPONSE:

The evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor is extensive and HCMLP objects to Interrogatory No. 6 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and has been admitted to at various points in the Bankruptcy Case. Subject to the General Objections, the evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor through at least January 9, 2020, includes his admissions, his control of Strand Advisors, Inc., his role as President of HCMLP, his authorization of the commencement of the Bankruptcy Case on behalf of HCMLP, and his agreement to the corporate governance settlement as embodied in Docket Nos. 338 and 339.

INTERROGATORY NO. 7:

Provide the factual basis for your allegations in the Amended Complaint that James Dondero controlled NPA.

RESPONSE:

The evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled NPA is extensive and HCMLP objects to Interrogatory No. 7 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and has been admitted to at various points in the Bankruptcy Case. Subject to the forgoing objection, the evidence that Mr. Dondero controls NPA includes, among other things, his admissions, the admissions of DC Sauter and Jason Post at various points in this case, and prior judicial findings, holdings, rulings, and orders.

INTERROGATORY NO. 8:

Provide the factual basis for your allegations in the Amended Complaint that James Dondero controlled HCRE.

RESPONSE:

The evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled HCRE is extensive and HCMLP objects to Interrogatory No. 8 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and has been admitted to at various points in the Bankruptcy Case. Subject to the forgoing objection, the evidence that Mr. Dondero controls HCRE includes, among other things, his own admissions, his direct or indirect ownership interest in HCRE, and the positions he holds and has with respect to HCRE..

INTERROGATORY NO. 9:

Provide the factual basis for your allegations in the Amended Complaint that James Dondero controlled HCMS.

RESPONSE:

The evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled HCMS is extensive and HCMLP objects to Interrogatory No. 9 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and has been admitted to at various points in the Bankruptcy Case. Subject to the forgoing objection, the evidence that Mr. Dondero controls HCMS includes, among other things, his own admissions, his direct or indirect ownership interest in HCMS, and the positions he holds and has with respect to HCMS.

INTERROGATORY NO. 10:

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that "the Alleged Agreement is a fiction."

RESPONSE:

Highland incorporates by reference and refers the Defendants to (a) the purported terms of the Alleged Agreement, (b) the purported purpose of the Alleged Agreement, (c) Mr. Dondero's prior sworn testimony in Adv. Pro. 21-03003; (d) documents identified on Docket Nos. 31 and 35, respectively, in Adv. Pro. 21-3004; (e) Mr. Dondero's Rule 26 disclosures in Adv. Pro. 21-03003; (f) the deposition testimony of PricewaterhouseCoopers and the exhibits marked during that deposition; (g) the lack of any documentation memorializing the terms of the Alleged Agreement, and (h) the lack of disclosure of the alleged "agreement" to the Bankruptcy Court .at any time prior to confirmation, including in connection with that objection to the Debtor's Plan.

INTERROGATORY NO. 11:

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Mr. Dondero entered into the Alleged Agreement with actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud a present or future creditor."

RESPONSE:

Highland contends that the evidence will prove that the Alleged Agreement is a fiction but if a court of competent jurisdiction finds otherwise, that the evidence will prove that Mr. Dondero entered into the Alleged Agreement when he knew that certain creditors, including the Redeemer Committee and Joshua Terry, were on the verge of obtaining substantial judgments against Highland and as he had at various times in the face of adverse litigation, sought to fraudulently transfer assets to limit (if not eliminate) judgment creditors' ability to collect.

INTERROGATORY NO. 12:

Identify the "value of the consideration received by the Debtor for the transfers," as that term is used in the Amended Complaint, and provide the basis for how that value was calculated.

Highland made the payments reflected in each Note in exchange for a promise by each maker that payment would be made on the terms set forth therein, including the payment of all principal and interest and all costs of collection, including attorneys' fees.

INTERROGATORY NO. 13:

Identify any portfolio companies that Debtor owns (wholly or partially).

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Interrogatory No. 13 on the grounds that (a) "portfolio companies" is

undefined, and (b) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome and is not relevant to any party's claim

or defense nor is it proportional to the needs of this case.

INTERROGATORY NO. 14:

Identify any sale or potential sale of any portfolio companies (or a portion of such portfolio companies) owned (wholly or partially) by the Debtor, including, but not limited to, Trussway, MGM and Cornerstone, including the date of the sale, the buyer, and the amount paid.

RESPONSE:

Highland objects to Interrogatory No. 14 on the grounds that (a) "portfolio companies" is undefined, (b) the phrase "potential sale" is vague and ambiguous, (c) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome and is not relevant to any party's claim or defense nor is it proportional to the needs of this case, and (d) "potential sales" are not a term of the Alleged Agreement and otherwise constitute proprietary and confidential information. Subject to the forgoing objections, Highland has not sold Trussway, MGM or Cornerstone as of this time. Dated: September 27, 2021

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-and-

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