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

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HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,

Defendants.

Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005-sgj

Case No. 3:21-cv-00880-C



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HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$ \$
Plaintiff,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03004-sgj
VS.	§ § Case No. 3:21-cv-00881-X
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.,	\$ \$ \$ \$
Defendant.	9 §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	\$ \$
Plaintiff,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj §
VS.	§ Case No. 3:21-cv-01010-E §
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$
Defendants.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §
Plaintiff,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006-sgj
VS.	§ § Case No. 3:21-cv-01378-N
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.	§ § Case No. 3:21-cv-01379-X 8
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, Defendants.	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE THE NOTE CASES

Defendants¹ hereby file this Motion to Consolidate five related cases (the "Note Cases") involving promissory notes reflecting loans made by Plaintiff-Debtor Highland Capital Management, L.P., requesting the Court to consolidate the Note Cases into Case No. 3:21-cv-00881, to be heard by the Honorable Judge Starr for all purposes other than trial, and additionally to consolidate all of the cases other than Case No. 3:21-cv-00881-X for trial. In support, Defendants show as follows:

I. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

 This Court has jurisdiction over the Motion pursuant to Sections 1331 and 1367 of Title 11 of the United States Code.

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

II. <u>RELIEF</u>

3. Defendants request that this Court issue the proposed form order attached as **Exhibit A** (the "Proposed Order") hereto.

4. For reasons set forth more fully in Defendants' Memorandum of Law in Support of their Motion to Consolidate the Note Cases (the "Memorandum in Support"), Defendants request that this Court consolidate the Note Cases under Case No. 3:21-cv-00881, to be heard by the Honorable Judge Starr, who already presides over two of the five above-captioned Note Cases, and several other cases arising out of the Case No. 19-34054-sgj11, pending in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas (the "Highland Bankruptcy").

¹ As used herein, the term "Defendants" includes all named Defendants in the above-captioned proceedings, unless otherwise specified.

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5. In accordance with Rule 7.1 of the Local Civil Rules of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Defendants are filing contemporaneously herewith and in support of their Motion: (1) the Memorandum in Support, and (2) their Appendix in Support of Defendants' Motion to Consolidate the Note Cases (the "Appendix").

6. Based on the arguments presented in the Memorandum in Support and the exhibits included within the Appendix, Defendants are entitled to the relief requested herein and as set forth in the Proposed Order.

7. Notice of this Motion has been provided to all parties.

WHEREFORE, Defendants respectfully request this Court enter the Proposed Order in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit A granting the relief requested herein, and grant Defendants such other and further relief as the Court may deem proper.

Dated: December 10, 2021

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**

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/s/Clay M. Taylor

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Douglas S. Draper (La. Bar No. 5073) Leslie A. Collins (La. Bar No. 14891) Greta M. Brouphy (La. Bar No. 26216) HELLER, DRAPER & HORN, L.L.C. 650 Poydras Street, Suite 2500 New Orleans, LA 70130 (504) 299-3300 telephone (504) 299-3309 facsimile Email: ddraper@hellerdraper.com Email: lcollins@hellerdraper.com Email: gbrouphy@hellerdraper.com ATTORNEYS FOR THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST Case 21-03004-sgj Doc 144 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 02/25/22 16:50:28 Page 6 of 6 Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Document 16 Filed 12/11/21 Page 6 of 6 PageID 457

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

<u>CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE</u>

The undersigned hereby certifies that on December 7, 2021, counsel for Defendants conferenced with Plaintiff-Debtor's counsel regarding the relief requested herein as detailed more fully in the accompanying Declaration of Deborah Deitsch-Perez. The parties were unable to reach an agreement regarding the issues, and Debtor filed its own (improper) motion to consolidate solely in the third-lowest District Court case filed, with no filing in the first-filed (or any other of) the Note Cases. Defendants therefore understand this Motion is opposed.

<u>/s/Deborah Deitsch-Perez</u> Deborah Deitsch-Perez