Holland N. O'Neil (TX 14864700) Thomas C. Scannell (TX 24070559)

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

2021 McKinney Avenue, Suite 1600

Dallas, TX 75201

Telephone: (214) 999-3000 Facsimile: (214) 999-4667 honeil@foley.com

tscannell@foley.com

Timothy C. Mohan (admitted *pro hac vice*)

**FOLEY & LARDNER LLP** 1144 15th Street, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202 Telephone: (720) 437-2000

Facsimile: (720) 437-2200 tmohan@foley.com

Nora J. McGuffey (TX 24121000) Quynh-Nhu Truong (TX 24137253)

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 2000 Houston, TX 77002

Telephone: (713) 276-5500 Facsimile: (713) 276-5555 nora.mcguffey@foley.com atruong@foley.com

## PROPOSED COUNSEL TO DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION

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

In re:	§ Chapter 11
Higher Ground Education, Inc., et al., 1	§ Case No.: 25-80121-11 (MVL)
Debtors.	§ (Jointly Administered)

NOTICE OF FILING OF PROPOSED FINAL ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO (A) PAY PREPETITION WAGES, SALARIES, OTHER COMPENSATION, AND REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES, (B) CONTINUE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS, AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on June 18, 2025, Higher Ground Education, Inc. ("**HGE**") and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "**Debtors**"), filed Debtors' Emergency Motion for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing Debtors to (A) Pay Prepetition Wages, Salaries, Other Compensation, and Reimbursable Expenses, (B) Continue Employee Benefits Programs, and (II) Grant Related Relief [Docket No. 12] (the "**Wages Motion**").

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that on June 20, 2025, the Court entered the *Order* (*I*) Authorizing Debtors to (*A*) Pay Prepetition Wages, Salaries, Other Compensation, and Reimbursable Expenses, (*B*) Continue Employee Benefits Programs, and (*II*) Grant Related Relief [Docket No. 61] (the "**Interim Order**").

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4938-9566-3958.1

The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal identification number, are: Higher Ground Education Inc. (7265); Guidepost A LLC (8540); Prepared Montessorian LLC (6181); Terra Firma Services LLC (6999); Guidepost Birmingham LLC (2397); Guidepost Bradley Hills LLC (2058); Guidepost Branchburg LLC (0494); Guidepost Carmel LLC (4060); Guidepost FIC B LLC (8609); Guidepost FIC C LLC (1518); Guidepost Goodyear LLC (1363); Guidepost Las Colinas LLC (9767); Guidepost Leawood LLC (3453); Guidepost Muirfield Village LLC (1889); Guidepost Richardson LLC (7111); Guidepost South Riding LLC (2403); Guidepost St Robert LLC (5136); Guidepost The Woodlands LLC (6101); Guidepost Walled Lake LLC (9118); HGE FIC D LLC (6499); HGE FIC E LLC (0056); HGE FIC F LLC (8861); HGE FIC G LLC (5500); HGE FIC H LLC (8817); HGE FIC I LLC (1138); HGE FIC K LLC (8558); HGE FIC L LLC (2052); HGE FIC M LLC (8912); HGE FIC N LLC (6774); HGE FIC O LLC (4678); HGE FIC P LLC (1477); HGE FIC Q LLC (3122); HGE FIC R LLC (9661); LePort Emeryville LLC (7324); AltSchool II LLC (0403). The Debtors' mailing address is 1321 Upland Dr. PMB 20442, Houston, Texas 77043.

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**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that annexed hereto as **Exhibit A** is the Debtors' proposed final Order (the "**Proposed Final Order**").

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that annexed hereto as **Exhibit B** is a redline of the changes between the Proposed Final Order and the Interim Order.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the form of order annexed hereto may be revised or amended prior to the final hearing on the Wages Motion.

DATED: July 18, 2025 Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Holland N. O'Neil

Holland N. O'Neil (TX 14864700) Thomas C. Scannell (TX 24070559)

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

2021 McKinney Avenue, Suite 1600

Dallas, TX 75201

Telephone: (214) 999-3000 Facsimile: (214) 999-4667

 $\frac{honeil@foley.com}{tscannell@foley.com}$ 

-and-

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1144 15th Street, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202

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1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 2000

Houston, TX 77002

Telephone: (713) 276-5500 Facsimile: (713) 276-5555 nora.mcguffey@foley.com

qtruong@foley.com

PROPOSED COUNSEL TO DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on July 18, 2025, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served electronically by the Court's PACER system.

/s/ Nora J. McGuffey
Nora J. McGuffey

# Exhibit A

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

In re:	§ §	Chapter 11
Higher Ground Education, Inc., et al., 1	§ §	Case No.: 25-80121-11 (MVL)
Debtor.	- § - §	(Jointly Administered)

FINAL ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO (A) PAY PREPETITION WAGES, SALARIES, OTHER COMPENSATION, AND REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES, (B) CONTINUE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS, AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal identification number, are: Higher Ground Education Inc. (7265); Guidepost A LLC (8540); Prepared Montessorian LLC (6181); Terra Firma Services LLC (6999); Guidepost Birmingham LLC (2397); Guidepost Bradley Hills LLC (2058); Guidepost Branchburg LLC (0494); Guidepost Carmel LLC (4060); Guidepost FIC B LLC (8609); Guidepost FIC C LLC (1518); Guidepost Goodyear LLC (1363); Guidepost Las Colinas LLC (9767); Guidepost Leawood LLC (3453); Guidepost Muirfield Village LLC (1889); Guidepost Richardson LLC (7111); Guidepost South Riding LLC (2403); Guidepost St Robert LLC (5136); Guidepost The Woodlands LLC (6101); Guidepost Walled Lake LLC (9118); HGE FIC D LLC (6499); HGE FIC E LLC (0056); HGE FIC F LLC (8861); HGE FIC G LLC (5500); HGE FIC H LLC (8817); HGE FIC I LLC (1138); HGE FIC K LLC (8558); HGE FIC LLC (2052); HGE FIC M LLC (8912); HGE FIC N LLC (6774); HGE FIC O LLC (4678); HGE FIC P LLC (1477); HGE FIC Q LLC (3122); HGE FIC R LLC (9661); LePort Emeryville LLC (7324); AltSchool II LLC (0403). The Debtors' mailing address is 1321 Upland Dr. PMB 20442, Houston, Texas 77043.

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Upon the motion (the "Motion")<sup>2</sup> filed by Higher Ground Education, Inc. and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "**Debtors**") in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases") for entry of an order (this "Final Order"), (a) authorizing the Debtors: (i) to pay undisputed prepetition wages, salaries, other compensation, and reimbursable expenses and (ii) to continue employee benefits programs, in each case in the ordinary course of business, including payment of certain undisputed prepetition obligations related thereto; and (b) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon the First Day Declaration; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtors' notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing before this Court (the "Hearing"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is **HEREBY ORDERED THAT**:

- 1. The Motion is granted on a final as set forth herein.
- 2. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to continue to provide, modify, change, or discontinue the Workforce Programs and to pay any claims or obligations on account

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

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of the Workforce Programs in the ordinary course and in accordance with the Debtors' prepetition policies and prepetition practices and the terms of this Final Order; *provided*, *however*, that the Debtors' Employee Incentive Programs are not approved by this Final Order.

- 3. For the avoidance of doubt, except as otherwise expressly set forth herein, nothing in this Final Order should be construed as authorizing the Debtors to (a) pay any amounts to insiders (as defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code) on account of any bonus programs, or (b) make any payment on account of the Workforce Programs that are outside the ordinary course of business without prior Court approval.
- 4. Nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the payment of any prepetition amounts above the statutory cap imposed by section 507(a)(4) and 507(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to the prepetition amounts owed on account of the Workforce Program, except upon further order of this Court; *provided*, nothing shall prohibit the Debtors from allowing their employees to utilize PTO in the ordinary course of business to the extent required by applicable state law. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the payment by the Debtors of cash to terminated employees on account of vacation days and/or PTO liabilities, as applicable.
- 5. The automatic stay of section 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, to the extent applicable, is hereby lifted to permit: (a) Employees to proceed with their claims under the Workers' Compensation Program in the appropriate judicial or administrative forum; (b) the Debtors to continue the Workers' Compensation Program and pay all prepetition amounts relating to the Workers' Compensation Program in the ordinary course; (c) insurers and third-party administrators to handle, administer, defend, settle, and/or pay workers' compensation claims and direct action claims; and (d) insurers and third-party administrators providing coverage for any

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workers' compensation claims or direct action claims to draw on any and all collateral provided by or on behalf of the Debtors therefor without further order of the Bankruptcy Court if and when the Debtors fail to pay and/or reimburse any insurers and third-party administrators for any amounts in relation thereto. This modification of the automatic stay pertains solely to claims under the Workers' Compensation Program and any such claims must be pursued in accordance with the applicable Workers' Compensation Program, including with regard to any policy limits or caps.

- 6. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Motion or this Final Order, any payment to be made, obligation incurred, or relief or authorization granted hereunder shall not be inconsistent with, and shall be subject to, and in compliance with, the requirements imposed on the Debtors under the terms of each interim and final order entered by the Court in respect of approving the DIP Motion filed substantially contemporaneously with the Motion (the "DIP Orders") (and any permitted variances thereto), including compliance with any budget or cash flow forecast in connection therewith and any other terms and conditions thereof. Nothing herein is intended to modify, alter, or waive, in any way, any terms, provisions, requirements, or restrictions of the DIP Orders or Approved Budget. In the event of any inconsistency between the terms of this Final Order and the terms of the DIP Orders, the terms of the DIP Orders shall govern.
- 7. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Final Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, nothing in this Final Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against a Debtor entity under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Final Order or the Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or

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other priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any prepetition agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (h) a concession by the Debtors that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the Motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or seek avoidance of all such liens.

- 8. The banks and financial institutions on which checks were drawn or electronic payment requests made in payment of the prepetition obligations approved herein are authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay all such checks and electronic payment requests when presented for payment, and all such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the Debtors' designation of any particular check or electronic payment request as approved by this Final Order.
- 9. The Debtors are authorized to issue postpetition checks, or to effect postpetition fund transfer requests, in replacement of any checks or fund transfer requests that are dishonored as a consequence of these Chapter 11 Cases with respect to prepetition amounts owed in connection with the relief granted herein.
  - 10. The requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b) have been satisfied.
- 11. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of such Motion and the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and the Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.
- 12. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Final Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

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- 13. The Debtors are authorized to take all reasonable actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Final Order in accordance with the Motion.
- 14. This Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Final Order.

###END OF ORDER###

#### Submitted by:

Holland N. O'Neil (TX 14864700) FOLEY & LARDNER LLP 2021 McKinney Avenue, Suite 1600

Dallas, TX 75201

Telephone: (214) 999-3000

Facsimile: (214) 999-4667 honeil@foley.com

-and-

Timothy C. Mohan (admitted pro hac vice)

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

1144 15th Street, Suite 2200

Denver, CO 80202

Telephone: (720) 437-2000 Facsimile: (720) 437-2200 tmohan@foley.com

-and-

Nora J. McGuffey (TX 24121000) Ouynh-Nhu Truong (TX 24137253)

**FOLEY & LARDNER LLP** 

1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 2000

Houston, TX 77002

Telephone: (713) 276-5500 Facsimile: (713) 276-5555 nora.mcguffey@foley.com qtruong@foley.com

PROPOSED COUNSEL TO DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION

# **Exhibit B**

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

In re:	§ §	Chapter 11
Higher Ground Education, Inc., et al.,1	§ §	Case No.: 25-80121-11 (MVL)
Debtor.	§ §	(Jointly Administered)

FINAL ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO (A) PAY PREPETITION WAGES, SALARIES, OTHER COMPENSATION, AND REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES, (B) CONTINUE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS, AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal identification number, are: Higher Ground Education Inc. (7265); Guidepost A LLC (8540); Prepared Montessorian LLC (6181); Terra Firma Services LLC (6999); Guidepost Birmingham LLC (2397); Guidepost Bradley Hills LLC (2058); Guidepost Branchburg LLC (0494); Guidepost Carmel LLC (4060); Guidepost FIC B LLC (8609); Guidepost FIC C LLC (1518); Guidepost Goodyear LLC (1363); Guidepost Las Colinas LLC (9767); Guidepost Leawood LLC (3453); Guidepost Muirfield Village LLC (1889); Guidepost Richardson LLC (7111); Guidepost South Riding LLC (2403); Guidepost St Robert LLC (5136); Guidepost The Woodlands LLC (6101); Guidepost Walled Lake LLC (9118); HGE FIC D LLC (6499); HGE FIC E LLC (0056); HGE FIC F LLC (8861); HGE FIC G LLC (5500); HGE FIC H LLC (8817); HGE FIC I LLC (1138); HGE FIC K LLC (8558); HGE FIC L LLC (2052); HGE FIC M LLC (8912); HGE FIC N LLC (6774); HGE FIC O LLC (4678); HGE FIC P LLC (1477); HGE FIC Q LLC (3122); HGE FIC R LLC (9661); LePort Emeryville LLC (7324); AltSchool II LLC (0403). The Debtors' mailing address is 1321 Upland Dr. PMB 20442, Houston, Texas 77043.

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Upon the motion (the "Motion")<sup>2</sup> filed by Higher Ground Education, Inc. and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "**Debtors**") in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases") for entry of an order (this "Final Order"), (a) authorizing the Debtors: (i) to pay undisputed prepetition wages, salaries, other compensation, and reimbursable expenses and (ii) to continue employee benefits programs, in each case in the ordinary course of business, including payment of certain undisputed prepetition obligations related thereto; and (b) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon the First Day Declaration; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtors' notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing before this Court (the "Hearing"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is **HEREBY ORDERED THAT:** 

1. The Motion is granted on a final as set forth herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

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- 2. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to continue to provide, modify, change, or discontinue the Workforce Programs and to pay any claims or obligations on account of the Workforce Programs in the ordinary course and in accordance with the Debtors' prepetition policies and prepetition practices and the terms of this <a href="Final Order: provided">Final Order: provided</a>, however, that the Debtors' Employee Incentive Programs are not approved by this <a href="Final Order-and-the-relief-related thereto-shall-be-considered at the final hearing to-be-held-on-July 21, 2025-at 9:30 a.m. (prevailing Central Time) before this Court...
- 3. For the avoidance of doubt, except as otherwise expressly set forth herein, nothing in this <u>Final</u> Order should be construed as authorizing the Debtors to (a) pay any amounts to insiders (as defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code) on account of any bonus programs, or (b) make any payment on account of the Workforce Programs that are outside the ordinary course of business without prior Court approval.
- 4. Nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the payment of any prepetition amounts above the statutory cap imposed by section 507(a)(4) and 507(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to the prepetition amounts owed on account of the Workforce Program, except upon further order of this Court; *provided*, nothing shall prohibit the Debtors from allowing their employees to utilize PTO in the ordinary course of business to the extent required by applicable state law. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the payment by the Debtors of cash to terminated employees on account of vacation days and/or PTO liabilities, as applicable.
- 5. The automatic stay of section 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, to the extent applicable, is hereby lifted to permit: (a) Employees to proceed with their claims under the Workers' Compensation Program in the appropriate judicial or administrative forum; (b) the

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Debtors to continue the Workers' Compensation Program and pay all prepetition amounts relating to the Workers' Compensation Program in the ordinary course; (c) insurers and third-party administrators to handle, administer, defend, settle, and/or pay workers' compensation claims and direct action claims; and (d) insurers and third-party administrators providing coverage for any workers' compensation claims or direct action claims to draw on any and all collateral provided by or on behalf of the Debtors therefor without further order of the Bankruptcy Court if and when the Debtors fail to pay and/or reimburse any insurers and third-party administrators for any amounts in relation thereto. This modification of the automatic stay pertains solely to claims under the Workers' Compensation Program and any such claims must be pursued in accordance with the applicable Workers' Compensation Program, including with regard to any policy limits or caps.

6. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Motion or this Final Order, any payment to be made, obligation incurred, or relief or authorization granted hereunder shall not be inconsistent with, and shall be subject to, and in compliance with, the requirements imposed on the Debtors under the terms of each interim and final order entered by the Court in respect of approving the DIP Motion filed substantially contemporaneously with the Motion (the "DIP Orders") (and any permitted variances thereto), including compliance with any budget or cash flow forecast in connection therewith and any other terms and conditions thereof. Nothing herein is intended to modify, alter, or waive, in any way, any terms, provisions, requirements, or restrictions of the DIP Orders or Approved Budget. In the event of any inconsistency between the terms of this Final Order and the terms of the DIP Orders, the terms of the DIP Orders shall govern.

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- 7. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Final Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, nothing in this Final Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against a Debtor entity under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Final Order or the Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any prepetition agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (h) a concession by the Debtors that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the Motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or seek avoidance of all such liens.
- 8. The banks and financial institutions on which checks were drawn or electronic payment requests made in payment of the prepetition obligations approved herein are authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay all such checks and electronic payment requests when presented for payment, and all such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the Debtors' designation of any particular check or electronic payment request as approved by this Final Order.

- 9. The Debtors are authorized to issue postpetition checks, or to effect postpetition fund transfer requests, in replacement of any checks or fund transfer requests that are dishonored as a consequence of these Chapter 11 Cases with respect to prepetition amounts owed in connection with the relief granted herein.
  - 10. The requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b) have been satisfied.
- 11. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of such Motion and the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and the Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.
- 12. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this <u>Final</u> Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.
- 13. The Debtors are authorized to take all reasonable actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this <u>Final</u> Order in accordance with the Motion.
- 14. This Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Final Order.
- Incentive Programs shall be held on July 21, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. (prevailing Central Time) before this Court (the "Final Hearing"). The Debtors shall promptly mail copies of this Order, which shall constitute adequate notice of the final hearing, to the parties having been given notice of the interim hearing, to any other party that has filed a request for notices with this Court, and any statutory committee, if appointed. Any party in interest objecting to the Debtors' Employee Incentive Plan shall serve and file written objections, which shall be filed no later than July 14, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Central Time). In the event of no objections to entry of

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the final order on the Motion are timely filed and served, this Court may enter such final order without need for the Final Hearing.

###END OF ORDER###

#### Submitted by:

Holland N. O'Neil (TX 14864700)

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

2021 McKinney Avenue, Suite 1600

Dallas, TX 75201

Telephone: (214) 999-3000

Faccinilar (214) 200 4667

Facsimile: (214) 999-4667 honeil@foley.com

-and-

Timothy C. Mohan (admitted pro hac vice forthcoming)

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP 1144 15th Street, Suite 2200 Denver, CO 80202

Telephone: (720) 437-2000 Facsimile: (720) 437-2200 tmohan@foley.com

-and-

Nora J. McGuffey (TX 24121000) Quynh-Nhu Truong (TX 24137253) FOLEY & LARDNER LLP 1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 2000 Houston, TX 77002 Telephone: (713) 276-5500 Facsimile: (713) 276-5555

nora.mcguffey@foley.com

qtruong@foley.com

PROPOSED COUNSEL TO DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION

Summary report: Litera Compare for Word 11.7.0.54 Document comparison done on 7/17/2025 3:56:46 PM				
Style name: Default Style				
Intelligent Table Comparison: Active				
<b>Original DMS:</b> nd://4908-3973-8710/1/HGE (Am. Final Order) Wages				
Motion.docx				
Modified DMS: nd://4908-3973-8710/2/HGE (Am. Final Order) Wages				
Motion.docx				
Changes:				
Add	23			
<del>Delete</del>	5			
Move From	0			
Move To	0			
Table Insert	0			
Table Delete	0			
Table moves to	0			
Table moves from	0			
Embedded Graphics (Visio, ChemDraw, Images etc.)	0			
Embedded Excel	0			
Format changes	0			
Total Changes:	28			