

COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS, MARULLO & MATHERNE LLC

Kaye N. Courington
 616 Girod Street
 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
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Special Asbestos Counsel for Debtor

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
 EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
 RICHMOND DIVISION**

In re:	:	Chapter 11
	:	
HOPEMAN BROTHERS, INC.,	:	Case No. 24-32428 (KLP)
	:	
Debtor.	:	
	:	
	:	

SEVENTH MONTHLY FEE STATEMENT OF COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS, MARULLO & MATHERNE, LLC AS SPECIAL ASBESTOS COUNSEL FOR THE DEBTOR FOR ALLOWANCE OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH AND INCLUDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025

Name of Applicant:	Courington, Kiefer, Sommers, Marullo & Matherne, LLC
Name of Client:	Hopeman Brothers, Inc. Debtor and Debtor in Possession
Date of retention order entered:	September 11, 2024, effective as of June 30, 2024 [Docket No. 187]
Time Period Covered:	February 1, 2025 through and including February 28, 2025
Total Fees Requested:	\$936.00 (80% of \$1,170.00)
Total Expenses Requested:	\$4,041.10
Type of Fee Statement:	Monthly ¹

¹ Notice of this Monthly Fee Statement shall be served in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order (as defined herein) and objections to payment of the amounts described in this Monthly Fee Statement shall be addressed in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order.



Pursuant to sections 330, and 331 of title 11 of the United States Code, (the “Bankruptcy Code”), Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”), Rule 2016-1 of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedures of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (the “Local Bankruptcy Rules”), and the *Order (I) Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals and (II) Granting Related Relief* entered September 9, 2024 [Docket No. 187] (the “Interim Compensation Order”), the law firm of Courington, Kiefer, Sommers, Marullo & Matherne, LLC (“CKSMM”), special asbestos counsel for Hopeman Brothers, Inc., as debtor and debtor in possession (the “Debtor”), hereby submits this monthly fee statement (the “Monthly Fee Statement”) for the allowance of compensation for the reasonable and necessary legal services rendered by CKSMM for the period from February 1, 2025 through and including February 28, 2025 (the “Fee Period”) and reimbursement of the actual and necessary expenses that CKSMM incurred during the Fee Period. By this Monthly Fee Statement, CKSMM seeks allowance of compensation for services rendered in the amount of \$1,170.00 and payment in the amount of \$936.00 (which equals 80% of the compensation sought herein). CKSMM also seeks allowance and reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses in the amount of \$4,041.00.

Itemization of Services Rendered and Disbursements Incurred

1. In support of this Monthly Fee Statement, CKSMM has attached the following:
 - **Exhibit A** is a summary schedule of hours and fees covered by this Monthly Fee Statement, categorized by project code.
 - **Exhibit B** is a summary schedule of the time expended by all CKSMM professionals and paraprofessionals engaged in the representation of the Debtor during the Fee Period.
 - **Exhibit C** is a summary of the expenses incurred by CKSMM during the Fee Period.

- **Exhibit D** is a detailed invoice for the hours expended and fees incurred by CKSMM professionals and paraprofessionals during the Fee Period.

Representations

2. Although every effort has been made to include all fees and expenses incurred in the Fee Period, some fees and expenses might not be included in this Monthly Fee Statement due to delays caused by accounting and processing during the Fee Period. CKSMM reserves the right to make further application to this Court for allowance of such fees and expenses not included herein. Subsequent fee statements and applications will be filed in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, Local Bankruptcy Rules, and Interim Compensation Order.

Notice

3. Notice of this Monthly Fee Statement has been provided to all necessary parties in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order.

WHEREFORE, CKSMM respectfully requests payment of its reasonable and necessary fees and expenses incurred during the Fee Period in the total amount of \$4,977, consisting of (i) \$936.00, which is 80% of the fees incurred by the Debtor for reasonable and necessary professional services rendered by CKSMM during the Fee Period, and (ii) \$4,041.10 for actual and necessary costs and expenses.

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Dated: March 31, 2025

/s/ Kaye N. Courington

Kaye N. Courington
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MATHERNE LLC**
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Special Asbestos Counsel for Debtor and Debtor in Possession

ELECTRONICALLY FILED BY:

/s/ Henry P. (Toby) Long, III
Henry P. (Toby) Long, III (VSB NO. 75134)
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Riverfront Plaza, East Tower
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Telephone: (804) 788-8200
Email: hlong@huntonak.com

EXHIBIT A

Statement of Fees by Subject Matter during the Fee Period

Matter Code	Matter Description	Hours	Fees Requested
B110	Case Administration	0.10	\$22.50
B150	Meetings of and Communications	0.30	\$67.50
B190	Other Contested Matter	4.80	\$1,080.00
Total		5.20	\$1,170.00

EXHIBIT B

Professionals Rendering Services during the Fee Period

The CKSMM attorneys who rendered professional services in these cases during the Fee Period include:

Professional	Position	Year Admitted	Expertise	Hourly Billing Rate	Total Hours Billed	Total Compensation
Kaye N Courington	Partner	1988	Asbestos Defense Counsel	\$225.00	1.10	\$247.50
Mathilde V Semmes	Partner	2014	Asbestos Defense Counsel	\$225.00	4.10	\$922.50
Totals					5.20	\$1,170.00

CKSMM paraprofessionals who rendered professional services in these cases during the Fee Period include:

Paraprofessional	Position	Department	Hourly Billing Rate	Total Hours Billed	Total Compensation
Totals				0.00	\$0.00

EXHIBIT C

Summary of Expenses Incurred during the Fee Period

Type	Expenses
Court Fees	\$7.00
Deposition Transcripts	\$4,034.10
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$4,041.10

EXHIBIT D

Detailed Invoice of Fees and Expenses Incurred During the Fee Period



616 GIROD STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

TELEPHONE (504) 524-5510
FACSIMILE (504) 524-7887

FEDERAL TAX ID# 36-4695739

March 14, 2025

Hopeman Brothers, Inc
Attn: Chris Lascell
6 Auburn Court
Brookline, MA 02446-6380

Invoice No.: 48350
Billed through: February 28, 2025
Account No.: 201670 003867

RE: HBI Bankruptcy

Balance forward from previous invoice	\$22,903.67
Less payments received since previous invoice	\$0.00
Net balance forward	\$22,903.67

<u>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</u>		<u>Hours</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Amount</u>
02/24/25	KNC B110 Prepare correspondence to Catherine Rankin re: law firms that defended Hopeman Brothers	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
02/14/25	KNC B150 Attend zoom bankruptcy court hearing at bankruptcy counsel's request	0.30	\$225.00	\$67.50
02/18/25	KNC B190 Review Petition for Damages in Hyson M. Leblanc matter	0.30	\$225.00	\$67.50
02/28/25	KNC B190 Prepare correspondence to Joseph Rovira re: details surrounding named parties in prepetition litigation	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
02/05/25	KNC B190 Prepare correspondence to Romar Knapp re: status of death bed deposition of Wendell Navarre	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
02/05/25	KNC B190 Analyze correspondence from Romar Knapp re: Notice of deathbed Deposition of Wendell Navarre	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
02/03/25	KNC B190 Prepare correspondence to Romar Knapp re: Notice of deathbed Deposition of Wendell Navarre	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
02/24/25	MVS B190 Analyze correspondence from plaintiff's counsel re: status of Hyson Leblanc perpetuation deposition	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
02/24/25	MVS B190 Prepare outline in preparation for perpetuation deposition of Hyson Leblanc	0.80	\$225.00	\$180.00

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02/24/25	MVS B190	Analyze 9/24/24 (26 pgs), 6/17/95 (218pgs) depositions in preparation for perpetuation deposition of plaintiff, Hyson Leblanc	2.50	\$225.00	\$562.50
02/24/25	MVS B190	Analyze petition, Avondale records and medical records in preparation of perpetuation deposition of plaintiff, Hyson Leblanc,	0.70	\$225.00	\$157.50
			5.20		\$1,170.00

EXPENSES

02/05/25	E112	Court costs associated with obtaining Petition for Damages in the Wendell Navarre case 2025-00624 to analyze for upcoming deposition of Wendell Navarre, exclusion in the Bankruptcy Stay. Clerk of Court, Civil District Court			\$7.00
02/18/25	E115	Obtain deposition transcript regarding Frank Larousse taken on 12/17/2024. Attended on behalf of Wayne. Per Stay, we are required to attend perpetuation depositions. Paszkiewicz Court Reporting			\$1,179.95
02/18/25	E115	Connection fee for the deposition regarding Frank Larousse taken on 12/17/2024. Attended on behalf of Wayne. Per Stay, we are required to attend perpetuation depositions. Paszkiewicz Court Reporting			\$176.25
02/27/25	E115	Connection fee for the deposition regarding Traylor Morgan taken on 12/30/2024, Per Stay, we are required to attend perpetuation depositions. Paszkiewicz Court Reporting			\$136.70
02/27/25	E115	Obtain deposition transcript regarding Traylor Morgan Volume II taken on 1/07/2025, Per Stay, we are required to attend perpetuation depositions. Paszkiewicz Court Reporting			\$1,367.75
02/27/25	E115	Connection fee for the deposition regarding Traylor Morgan Volume II taken on 1/07/2025, Per Stay, we are required to attend perpetuation depositions. Paszkiewicz Court Reporting			\$127.95
02/27/25	E115	Obtain deposition transcript regarding Traylor Morgan Volume III taken on 1/14/2025, Per Stay, we are required to attend perpetuation depositions. Paszkiewicz Court Reporting			\$937.15
02/27/25	E115	Connection fee for the deposition regarding Traylor Morgan Volume III taken on 1/14/2025, Per Stay, we are required to attend perpetuation depositions. Paszkiewicz Court Reporting			\$108.35

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\$4,041.10

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RECAP

KNC	Courington, Kaye N.	1.10 hrs @	\$225.00 /hr	\$247.50
MVS	Semmes, Mathilde V	4.10 hrs @	\$225.00 /hr	\$922.50
Fee Recap Totals		5.20 hrs		\$1,170.00

TASK CODE RECAP

B110	Case Administration	1.10 hrs	\$22.50
B150	Meetings of/and Communications	0.30 hrs	\$67.50
B190	Other Contested Matters	4.80 hrs	\$1,080.00
Task Code Total		5.20 hrs	\$1,170.00

EXPENSE RECAP

E112	Court Fees	\$7.00
E115	Deposition Transcripts	\$4,034.10
Expense Recap Total		\$4,041.10

BILLING SUMMARY:

TOTAL FEES	\$1,170.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,041.10
TOTAL CHARGES FOR THIS BILL	<u>\$5,211.10</u>
NET BALANCE FORWARD	\$22,903.67
TOTAL NOW DUE	<u>\$28,114.77</u>