## **Entered on Docket**

EDWARD J. EMMONS, CLERK U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Docket #2281 Date Filed: 09/04/2025

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4901-6756-8390.1

The following constitutes the order of the Court. Signed: September 4, 2025

William J. Lafferty, III U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA OAKLAND DIVISION

Chapter 11

OAKLAND, a California corporation sole,

Case No. 23-40523 WJL

ORDER GRANTING INTERIM FEE APPLICATIONS OF FOLEY & LARDNER LLP; ALVAREZ & MARSAL NORTH AMERICA, LLC; BREALL & BREALL LLP; LOWENSTEIN SANDLER LLP; KELLER BENVENUTTI KIM LLP; BURNS BAIR LLP; STOUT RISIUS ROSS, LLC; BERKELEY RESEARCH GROUP; SONTCHI, LLC; RANDALL NEWSOME ADR AND CONSULTING LLC; GALLAGHER LAW GROUP; DAVID M. KLAUDER AND BIELLI & KLAUDER, LLC; AND KURTZMAN CARSON CONSULTANTS, LLC DBA VERITA GLOBAL

[Re Docket Nos. 2062, 2063, 2068, 2071, 2074, 2077, 2078, 2080, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, and 20861

Judge: Hon. William J. Lafferty

August 13, 2025 Date: Time: 10:30 a.m.

United States Bankruptcy Court Place:

1300 Clay Street

Courtroom 220 Oakland, CA 94612

Case: 23-40523 Doc# 2281 Filed: 09/04/25

Entered: 09/0

This matter came before this Court for hearing on April 30, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., on:

- (i) the Sixth Interim Fee Application of Foley & Lardner LLP, as General Bankruptcy Counsel to the Debtor, for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period of January 1, 2025, Through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2078] (the "Foley Application"), filed by Foley & Lardner LLP ("Foley"), as general bankruptcy counsel to The Roman Catholic Bishop of Oakland, a California corporation sole, and the debtor and debtor in possession (the "Debtor" or "RCBO") in the above-captioned chapter 11 bankruptcy case (the "Chapter 11 Case" or the "Bankruptcy Case");
- (ii) the Sixth Interim Fee Application of Alvarez & Marsal North America, LLC for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period of January 1, 2025, Through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2080] (the "A&M Application"), filed by Alvarez & Marsal North America, LLC ("A&M") as restructuring advisor to the Debtor;
- (iii) the Fifth Interim Fee Application of Breall & Breall LLP, as Special Counsel for the Debtor, for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period of January 1, 2025, Through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2063] (the "Breall Application"), filed by Breall & Breall, LLP ("Breall & Breall") as special insurance counsel for the Debtor;
- (iv) the Sixth Interim Fee Application of Lowenstein Sandler LLP as Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period From January 1, 2025 Through and Including April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2086] (the "Lowenstein Application"), filed by Lowenstein Sandler LLP ("Lowenstein"), as general bankruptcy counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee");
- (v) the Sixth Interim Fee Application of Keller Benvenutti Kim LLP as Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period of January 1, 2025, through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2068] (the "KBK Application") filed by Keller Benvenutti Kim LLP ("KBK"), as local counsel to the Committee;
- (vi) the Fifth Interim Fee Application of Burns Bair LLP as Special Insurance Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period of January 1, 2025 through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2074] (the "Burns Bair Application"), filed by Burns Bair LLP ("Burns Bair"), as special insurance counsel to the Committee;
- (vii) the Fifth Interim Fee Application of Stout Risius Ross, LLC for Allowance for the Period from January 1, 2025, Through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2071] (the "Stout Application"), filed by Stout Risius Ross, LLC ("Stout"), as valuation consultant to the Committee;
- (viii) the Fifth Interim Application of Berkeley Research Group, LLC for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses as Financial Advisor to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors During the Period from January 1, 2025 through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2077] (the "BRG Application"), filed by Berkeley Research Group, LLC ("BRG"), as financial advisor to the Committee;
- (ix) the Fourth Interim Fee Application of Sontchi, LLC, as Mediator, for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Expenses for the Period of January 1, 2025 Through April

- 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2082] (the "Sontchi Application"), filed by Sontchi, LLC ("Sontchi"), as Court appointed mediator;
- (x) the Third Interim Fee Application of Randall Newsome ADR and Consulting LLC and Randall J. Newsome, as Mediator, for Allowance and Payment of Compensation for the Period of January 1, 2025 Through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2084] (the "Newsome Application"), filed by Randall Newsome ADR and Consulting LLC ("Newsome"), as Court appointed mediator;
- (xi) the Second Interim Fee Application of the Gallagher Law Group, as Mediator, for Allowance and Payment of Compensation for the Period of January 1, 2025 Through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2083] (the "Gallagher Application"), filed by The Gallagher Law Group ("Gallagher"), as Court appointed mediator;
- (xii) the Second Interim Fee Application of David M. Klauder, in His Capacity as Fee Examiner, and Bielli & Klauder, LLC, as Counsel to the Fee Examiner, For Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period From January 1, 2025 Through April 30, 2025[Docket No. 2062] (the "Bielli & Klauder Application"), filed by Bielli & Klauder, LLC ("Bielli & Klauder"), as Court appointed mediator; and,
- (xiii) the First Interim Fee Application of Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC dba Verita Global as Administrative Advisor for the Debtor for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period from November 1, 2024 Through April 30, 2025 [Docket No. 2085] (the "Verita Application"), filed by Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC dba Verita Global ("Verita"), as Administrative Advisor for the Debtor.

The Foley Application, A&M Application, Breall Application, Lowenstein Application, KBK Application, Burns Bair Application, Stout Application, BRG Application, the Sontchi Application, the Newsome Application, the Gallagher Application, the Bielli & Klauder Application, and the Verita Application are collectively referred to herein as the "Applications," and Foley, A&M, Breall & Breall, Lowenstein, KBK, Burns Bair, Stout, BRG, Sontchi, Newsome, Gallagher, Bielli & Klauder, and Verita as the "Applicants."

The Court has reviewed and considered the Applications, the declarations in support of each of the Applications, the notice of hearing on the Applications, the *Fee Examiner's Consolidated Final Report Pertaining to the Interim Fee Applications of Certain Retained Professionals* [Docket No. 2197] (the "Fee Examiner Report") filed by David M. Klauder (the "Fee Examiner") in response to the Applications, and all other papers filed in opposition to or support of the Applications, and the statements of the Fee Examiner and counsel at the hearing on the Applications.

As set forth in the Fee Examiner Report, certain of the Applicants agreed to voluntary reductions in order to resolve the potential objections raised by the Fee Examiner, in the amounts of (i) \$17,691.65

in fees for Foley, (ii) \$11,475.95 in fees and \$139.23 in expenses for Lowenstein, (iii) \$5,500.00 in fees for Burns Bair, and (iv) \$5,000.00 in fees for BRG (collectively the "Voluntary Reductions").

The Court finding that it has jurisdiction over this matter under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, that this is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334(b), and that venue is proper before this Court under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and the good cause appearing; now, therefore,

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

- 1) The Applications are GRANTED as set forth in this Order.
- 2) Each of the Applicants is allowed interim compensation and reimbursement of fees on the Applications as follows:
  - (a) Foley & Lardner LLP: The Foley Application requests fees in the amount of \$2,442,215.50, and expenses in the amount of \$20,827.46, for a total requested amount of \$2,463,042.96 (the "Foley Requested Amount"). Foley is hereby allowed compensation for fees and reimbursement of expenses on the Foley Application in the Foley Requested Amount, less the Voluntary Reduction of \$17,691.65 in fees, for a total allowed amount of \$2,445,351.31 (the "Foley Allowed Amount"), consisting of allowed fees of \$2,424,523.85 and allowed expenses of \$20,827.46, on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
  - (b) Alvarez & Marsal North America, LLC: The A&M Application requests fees in the amount of \$71,110.00, and expenses in the amount of \$331.50, for a total requested amount of \$71,441.50 (the "A&M Requested Amount"). A&M is hereby allowed compensation for fees on the Stout Application in the A&M Requested Amount of \$71,441.50 (the "A&M Allowed Amount"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. \$331.
  - (c) <u>Breall & Breall LLP</u>: The Breall Application requests fees in the amount of \$26,575.00, and no expenses, for a total requested amount of \$26,575.00 (the "<u>Breall Requested Amount</u>"). Breall & Breall is hereby allowed compensation for fees on the Breall Application in the Breall Requested Amount, for a total allowed amount of

\$26,575.00 (the "Breall Allowed Amount"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. \$331.

- (d) <u>Lowenstein Sandler LLP</u>: The Lowenstein Application requests fees in the amount of \$2,534,921.00, and expenses in the amount of \$56,907.33, for a total requested amount of \$2,591,828.33 (the "<u>Lowenstein Requested Amount</u>"). Lowenstein is hereby allowed compensation for fees and reimbursement of expenses on the Lowenstein Application in the Lowenstein Requested Amount, less the Voluntary Reduction of \$11,475.95 in fees, and \$139.23 in expenses, for a total allowed amount of **\$2,580,213.15** (the "<u>Lowenstein Allowed Amount</u>"), consisting of allowed fees of \$2,523,445.05 and allowed expenses of \$56,768.10, on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
- (e) <u>Keller Benvenutti Kim LLP</u>: The KBK Application requests fees in the amount of \$96,192.50, and expenses in the amount of \$6,205.24, for a total requested amount of \$102,397.74 (the "<u>KBK Requested Amount</u>"). KBK is hereby allowed compensation for fees and reimbursement of expenses on the KBK Application in the KBK Requested Amount of \$102,397.74 (the "<u>KBK Allowed Amount</u>"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
- (f) <u>Burns Bair LLP</u>: The Burns Bair Application requests fees in the amount of \$338,125.00, and expenses in the amount of \$14,701.12, for a total requested amount of \$352,826.12 (the "<u>Burns Bair Requested Amount</u>"). Burns Bair is hereby allowed compensation for fees and reimbursement of expenses on the Burns Bair Application in the Burns Bair Requested Amount, less the Voluntary Reduction of \$5,500.00 in fees, for a total allowed amount of \$347,326.12 (the "<u>Burns Bair Allowed Amount</u>"), consisting of allowed fees of \$332,625.00 and allowed expenses of \$14,701.12, on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
- (g) <u>Stout Risius Ross, LLC</u>: The Stout Application requests fees in the amount of \$54,131.00, and no expenses, for a total requested amount of \$54,131.00 (the "<u>Stout Requested Amount</u>"). Stout is hereby allowed compensation for fees on the Stout

Application in the Stout Requested Amount, for a total allowed amount of \$54,131.00 (the "Stout Allowed Amount"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.

- (h) <u>Berkeley Research Group, LLC</u>: The BRG Application requests fees in the amount of \$414,520.50, and no expenses, for a total requested amount of \$414,520.50 (the "<u>BRG Requested Amount</u>"). BRG is hereby allowed compensation for fees and reimbursement of expenses on the BRG Application in the BRG Requested Amount, less the Voluntary Reduction of \$5,000.00 in fees, for a total allowed amount of **\$409,520.50** (the "<u>BRG Allowed Amount</u>"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
- (i) <u>Sontchi, LLC</u>: The Sontchi Application requests fees in the amount of \$63,437.50, and expenses in the amount of \$4,422.47, for a total requested amount of \$67,859.97 (the "<u>Sontchi Requested Amount</u>"). Sontchi is hereby allowed compensation for fees and reimbursement of expenses on the Sontchi Application in the Sontchi Requested Amount of **\$67,859.97** (the "<u>Sontchi Allowed Amount</u>"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
- (j) Randall Newsome ADR and Consulting LLC: The Newsome Application requests fees in the amount of \$49,600.00, and expenses in the amount of \$1,332.60, for a total requested amount of \$50,932.60 (the "Newsome Requested Amount"). Newsome is hereby allowed compensation for fees and reimbursement of expenses on the Newsome Application in the Newsome Requested Amount of \$50,932.60 (the "Newsome Allowed Amount"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
- (k) <u>The Gallagher Law Group</u>: The Gallagher Application requests fees in the amount of \$179,000.00, and expenses in the amount of \$2,098.38, for a total requested amount of \$181,098.38 (the "<u>Gallagher Requested Amount</u>"). Gallagher is hereby allowed compensation for fees and reimbursement of expenses on the Gallagher Application in the Gallagher Requested Amount of **\$181,098.38** (the "<u>Gallagher Allowed Amount</u>"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.

- (l) <u>David M. Klauder and Bielli & Klauder, LLC</u>: The Bielli & Klauder Application requests fees in the amount of \$100,000.00, and no expenses, for a total requested amount of \$100,000.00 (the "<u>Bielli & Klauder Requested Amount</u>"). Bielli & Klauder is hereby allowed compensation for fees on the Bielli & Klauder Application in the Bielli & Klauder Requested Amount, for a total allowed amount of **\$100,000.00** (the "<u>Bielli & Klauder Allowed Amount</u>"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
- (m) <u>Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC dba Verita Global</u>: The Verita Application requests fees in the amount of \$7,021.42, and no expenses, for a total requested amount of \$7,021.42 (the "<u>Verita Requested Amount</u>"). Verita is hereby allowed compensation for fees on the Verita Application in the Verita Requested Amount, for a total allowed amount of **\$7,021.42** (the "<u>Verita Allowed Amount</u>"), on an interim basis pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §331.
- 3) Payment of the amounts allowed herein is subject to the Court's *Order Authorizing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* [Docket No. 170], as amended by the *Agreed Order Amending Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* [Docket No. 2101].
- 4) This Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, or enforcement of this Order.

\*\*\* END OF ORDER \*\*\*

ORDER APPROVING INTERIM FEE APPLICATIONS

## **COURT SERVICE LIST**

All ECF Recipients.

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ORDER APPROVING INTERIM FEE APPLICATIONS

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