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United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

ENTERED

July 29, 2022 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

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In re:

STAGE STORES, INC., et al.,¹

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 20-32564 (DRJ) (Jointly Administered)

Re: Docket No. 1157

ORDER (A) APPROVING OMNIBUS CLAIMS OBJECTION PROCEDURES AND FILING OF SUBSTANTIVE OMNIBUS CLAIMS OBJECTIONS, (B) WAIVING THE REQUIREMENT OF BANKRUPTCY RULE 3007(E)(6), <u>AND (C) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF</u>

Upon the motion (the "<u>Motion</u>")² of the Plan Administrator on behalf of the above-captioned debtors (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") for entry of an order (this "<u>Order</u>"), (a) approving the Objection Procedures attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u>, (b) authorizing the Plan Administrator to assert substantive objections to claims in an omnibus format pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3007(c) and Local Rule 3007-1, (c) waiving the requirement in Bankruptcy Rule 3007(e)(6) that Omnibus Objections contain objections to no more than 100 claims, and (d) granting related relief, as more fully set forth in the Motion; and this Court having found that it has 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 that this Court may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; 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

² Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.



¹ The Debtors, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Stage Stores, Inc. (6900) and Specialty Retailers, Inc. (1900).

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other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the 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 having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion 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 hereby GRANTED as set forth herein

2. The Plan Administrator may file Omnibus Objections that include objections to claims on any basis provided for in Bankruptcy Rule 3007(d), Bankruptcy Local Rule 3007-1, and/or the Additional Grounds.

3. The Plan Administrator may object to more than 100 claims in a single Omnibus Objection on any of the bases set forth in Bankruptcy Rule 3007(d) or the Additional Grounds.

4. The Plan Administrator shall be authorized to file and prosecute any Omnibus Objections in accordance with the Objection Procedures attached hereto as <u>Exhibit</u> <u>1</u>, which are hereby approved, and the other procedural safeguards set forth in Bankruptcy Rule 3007(e) and Bankruptcy Local Rule 3007-1.

5. The form of Objection Notice attached hereto as **<u>Exhibit 2</u>** is hereby approved.

6. Nothing in this Order shall affect the Plan Administrator's authority to pay claims to the extent authorized by a separate order of the Court.

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7. Nothing in this Order shall obligate the Plan Administrator to settle or pursue settlement of any particular claim. Settlements of claims may be negotiated and compromised by the Plan Administrator in his sole discretion (subject to applicable law).

 For the avoidance of doubt, the Plan Administrator may include scheduled claims in Omnibus Objections.

9. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, nothing in this Order, the Motion, or the Objection Procedures shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the validity of any prepetition claim against a Debtor entity; (b) a waiver of any right of the Plan Administrator to dispute any prepetition claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any prepetition claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Motion or any order granting the relief requested by this Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim; (e) 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; (f) a waiver or limitation of the Plan Administrator's or Debtors' rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (g) a concession by the Plan Administrator that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in this 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.

10. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of such Motion and the requirements of Bankruptcy Rules and the Bankruptcy Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.

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11. The terms and conditions of this Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

12. The Plan Administrator is authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Motion.

13. This Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

Signed: July 29, 2022.

DAVID R. JONES UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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<u>Exhibit 1</u>

Objection Procedures

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

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In re:

STAGE STORES, INC., et al.,¹

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 20-32564 (DRJ) (Jointly Administered)

PROCEDURES FOR FILING OMNIBUS CLAIMS OBJECTIONS

1. <u>Grounds for Omnibus Objections</u>. In addition to those grounds expressly set forth

in Bankruptcy Rule 3007(d), the Plan Administrator may file omnibus objections (each, an

"Omnibus Objection") to claims on the grounds that such claims, in part or in whole:

- a. are inconsistent with the Debtors' book and records;
- b. fail to specify the asserted claim amount (or only list the claim amount as "unliquidated");
- c. seek recovery of amounts for which the Debtors are not liable;
- d. are incorrectly or improperly classified;
- e. have been formally withdrawn by the claimant through the filing of a pleading or through the entry of a Court order indicating withdrawal of the claim;
- f. are filed against non-Debtors or are filed against multiple Debtors;
- g. fail to specify a Debtor against whom the claim is asserted;
- h. are disallowed pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code; or
- i. fail to sufficiently specify the basis for the claim or provide sufficient supporting documentation.

¹ The Debtors, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Stage Stores, Inc. (6900) and Specialty Retailers, Inc. (1900).

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2. <u>Form of Omnibus Objection</u>. Each Omnibus Objection will be numbered consecutively, regardless of basis.

3. <u>Supporting Documentation</u>. Omnibus Objections shall include an affidavit or declaration that provides a factual basis for the objection to the claims, including from a party with knowledge of the Debtors' books and records and the manner in which they are maintained that states that the affiant or the declarant has reviewed the claims included therein and applicable supporting information and documentation provided therewith, made reasonable efforts to research the claim on the Debtors' books and records, and determined that the books and records do not reflect the debt or the amount of debt that is alleged in the claim.

4. <u>Claims Exhibits</u>. An exhibit listing the claims that are subject to the particular Omnibus Objection will be attached thereto. Each exhibit will include only the claims to which there is a common basis for the objection. Claims for which there is more than one basis for the objection will be referenced on each exhibit applicable thereto. Including a Proof of Claim on one exhibit to an Omnibus Objection will not constitute a waiver of the Plan Administrator's right to object to the Proof of Claim on an additional basis or bases. The exhibits will include, without limitation, the following information alphabetized by claimant:

- a. the claims that are the subject of the Omnibus Objection and, if applicable, the proof of claim number related thereto from the claims register;
- b. the asserted amount of the claim;
- c. the grounds for the objection;
- d. a cross-reference to the section of the Omnibus Objection discussing such claim (if applicable); and
- e. other information, as applicable, including: (i) the proposed classification of claims the Plan Administrator seeks to reclassify; (ii) the reduced claim amounts of claims the Plan Administrator seeks to reduce; or (iii) the surviving claims of claimants affected by the Omnibus Objection.

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5. <u>Objection Notice.</u> Each Omnibus Objection will be accompanied by an objection notice, substantially in the form annexed to the Order as <u>Exhibit 2</u> (the "<u>Objection Notice</u>"), which will:

- a. describe the basic nature of the objection;
- b. inform creditors that their rights may be affected by the objection;
- c. describe the procedures for filing a written response (each, a "<u>Response</u>") to the objection, including all relevant dates and deadlines related thereto;
- d. identify the hearing date, if applicable, and related information; and
- e. describe how copies of proofs of claim, the Omnibus Objection, and other pleadings filed in the chapter 11 cases may be obtained.

6. <u>Notice and Service</u>. Each Omnibus Objection will be filed with the Court and served electronically using the Court's electronic filing system. Each Omnibus Objection (along with a copy of the Objection Notice) will be mailed to each claimholder that is subject to such objection.

7. <u>Omnibus Claims Objection Hearings</u>. Each Omnibus Objection shall be set for hearing no less than 30 days after service of the Omnibus Objection (each, a "<u>Hearing</u>"), unless as otherwise ordered by the Court. In the Plan Administrator's sole discretion, and after notice to the affected claimant, the Plan Administrator may (without further order of the Court) adjourn the Hearing on the Omnibus Objection to a subsequent hearing date by filing a notice with the Court. For claims subject to an Omnibus Objection and with respect to which <u>either</u> (i) no Response is filed in accordance with the proposed response procedures <u>or</u> (ii) a Response is filed in accordance with the proposed response procedures but such Response is resolved prior to the Hearing, the Plan Administrator may file either a certificate of no objection ("<u>CNO</u>") or certification of counsel ("<u>CoC</u>"), as applicable, requesting that the Court grant the Omnibus Objection with respect to such undisputed claims without a hearing. Contested claims for which a Response is filed in accordance

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with the proposed response procedures, but such Response is not resolved prior to the Hearing and an appearance is made at the Hearing, may be heard at the Hearing or adjourned to a subsequent hearing date in the Plan Administrator's sole discretion. If a subsequent hearing is determined to be necessary, the Plan Administrator shall file with the Court and serve on the affected claimants a notice of the hearing (the date of which shall be determined in consultation with the affected claimant(s)) or announce such adjournment on the record. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall prejudice the Plan Administrator's rights to seek entry of an order sustaining the Omnibus Objection as to any or all Claims contained therein, as applicable, pursuant to Section "N" of the Complex Rules.

8. <u>Contested Matters</u>. Each claim subject to an Omnibus Objection and the Response thereto shall constitute a separate contested matter as contemplated by Bankruptcy Rule 9014, and any order entered by the Court will be deemed a separate order with respect to such claim. The Plan Administrator may, in his discretion and in accordance with other orders of this Court, and the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules, settle the priority, amount, and validity of such contested claims without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Court.

Responses to Omnibus Objections

9. <u>Parties Required to File a Response</u>. Any party who disagrees with an objection is required to file a Response in accordance with the procedures set forth herein and to appear at the Hearing. If a claimant whose claim is subject to an Omnibus Objection does not file and serve a Response in compliance with the procedures below or fails to appear at the Hearing, the Court may grant the objection with respect to such claim without further notice to the claimant.

- 10. Response Contents. Each Response must contain the following (at a minimum):
 - a. a caption stating the name of the Court, the names of the Debtors, the case number, and the Omnibus Objection to which the Response is directed, and, if applicable, the Proof of Claim number(s) related thereto from the Claims Register;
 - b. a concise statement setting forth the reasons why the Court should not grant the objection with respect to such claim, including the factual and legal bases upon which the claimant will rely in opposing the Omnibus Objection;
 - c. a copy of any other documentation or other evidence of the claim, to the extent not already included with the claim, upon which the claimant will rely in opposing the objection; *provided* that the claimant need not disclose confidential, proprietary, or otherwise protected information in the Response; and, *provided*, *further*, that the claimant shall disclose to counsel for the Plan Administrator all information and provide copies of all documents that the claimant believes to be confidential, proprietary, or otherwise protected and upon which the claimant intends to rely in support of its claim, subject to appropriate confidentiality constraints;
 - d. the following contact information for the responding party:
 - the name, address, telephone number, and email address of the responding claimant or the name, address, telephone number, and email address of the claimant's attorney or designated representative to whom the attorneys for the Plan Administrator should serve a reply to the Response, if any; or
 - (ii) the name, address, telephone number, and email address of the party with authority to reconcile, settle, or otherwise resolve the objection on the claimant's behalf.

11. <u>Filing and Service of the Response</u>. A Response will be deemed timely only if it is filed with the Court and served electronically using the Court's electronic filing system <u>and</u> *actually received* by 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Central Time) on the day that is thirty (30) calendar days from the date the Omnibus Objection is served (the "Response Deadline") unless as

otherwise ordered by the Court or agreed to by the Plan Administrator, by the following parties

(the "<u>Notice Parties</u>"):

Counsel to the Plan Administrator	
James W. Walker	
COLE SCHOTZ P.C.	
901 Main Street, Suite 4120	I
Dallas, Texas 75202	
jwalker@coleschotz.com	
- a n d -	
Seth Van Aalten	
Sarah A. Carnes	
Shira A. Baratz	
COLE SCHOTZ P.C	
1325 Avenue of the Americas, 19th Floor	I
New York, New York 10019	
svanaalten@coleschotz.com	
scarnes@coleschotz.com	
sbaratz@coleschotz.com	
U.S. Trustee	
Hector Duran, Jr., Esq.	
Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of Texas	
515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516	
Houston, Texas 77002	l
hector.duran.jr@usdoj.com	

12. <u>Discovery</u>. If the Plan Administrator determines that discovery is necessary in advance of a hearing on an Omnibus Objection, the Plan Administrator will serve notice on the affected claimant and its counsel of record that the scheduled hearing will be treated as a status conference during which the parties will request that the Court issue a scheduling order to facilitate dismissal or resolution of the litigation. Such notice may be incorporated into the initial agenda letter for the hearing or may be provided by separate notice.

13. <u>Failure to Respond</u>. A Response that is not filed and served in accordance with the procedures set forth herein may not be considered by the Court at the Hearing. **Absent reaching**

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an agreement with the Plan Administrator resolving the objection to a claim (as described in the Objection Notice), failure to timely file and serve a Response as set forth herein or to appear at the Hearing may result in the Court granting the Omnibus Objection without further notice or hearing. Upon entry of an order sustaining an Omnibus Objection, affected creditors will be served with such order.

14. <u>Reply to a Response</u>. The Plan Administrator shall be permitted to file a reply to any Response no later than three business days before the hearing with respect to the relevant Omnibus Objection.

Miscellaneous

15. <u>Additional Information</u>. Copies of these procedures, the Motion, the Order, or any other pleadings (the "<u>Pleadings</u>") filed in these chapter 11 cases are available at no cost at the Debtors' restructuring website <u>http://www.kccllc.net/stagestores</u>. You may also obtain copies of any of the Pleadings filed in these chapter 11 cases for a fee at the Court's website at <u>http://www.txs.uscourts.gov/bankruptcy</u>. A login identification and password to the Court's Public Access to Court Electronic Records ("<u>PACER</u>") are required to access this information and can be obtained through the PACER Service Center at http://www.pacer.psc.uscourts.gov.

16. <u>Reservation of Rights</u>. NOTHING IN ANY OMNIBUS OBJECTION OR OBJECTION NOTICE IS INTENDED OR SHALL BE DEEMED TO CONSTITUTE (A) AN ADMISSION AS TO THE VALIDITY OF ANY PREPETITION CLAIM AGAINST A DEBTOR ENTITY; (B) A WAIVER OF ANY RIGHT OF ANY DEBTOR OR THE PLAN ADMINISTRATOR TO DISPUTE ANY PREPETITION CLAIM ON ANY GROUNDS, ASSERT COUNTERCLAIMS, RIGHTS OF OFFSET OR RECOUPMENT, DEFENSES, OBJECT TO CLAIMS (OR OTHER CLAIMS OR CAUSES OF ACTION OF A CLAIMANT)

ON ANY GROUNDS NOT PREVIOUSLY RAISED IN AN OBJECTION, UNLESS THE COURT HAS ALLOWED A CLAIM OR ORDERED OTHERWISE, OR SEEK TO ESTIMATE ANY CLAIM AT A LATER DATE; (C) A PROMISE OR REQUIRE PAYMENT OF ANY PREPETITION CLAIM; (D) AN IMPLICATION OR ADMISSION THAT ANY PARTICULAR CLAIM IS OF A TYPE SPECIFIED OR DEFINED IN THIS MOTION OR ANY ORDER GRANTING THE RELIEF REQUESTED BY THIS MOTION; OR (E) A WAIVER OF ANY RIGHT OF ANY DEBTOR OR PLAN ADMINISTRATOR UNDER THE BANKRUPTCY CODE OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE LAW.

Exhibit 2

Objection Notice

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

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In re:

STAGE STORES, INC., et al.,¹

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 20-32564 (DRJ) (Jointly Administered)

NOTICE OF THE PLAN ADMINISTRATOR'S [NUMBER] OMNIBUS CLAIMS OBJECTION

THIS IS AN OBJECTION TO YOUR CLAIM. THE OBJECTING PARTY IS ASKING THE COURT TO DISALLOW THE CLAIM THAT YOU FILED IN THIS BANKRUPTCY CASE. YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE OBJECTING PARTY TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE. IF YOU DO NOT REACH AN AGREEMENT, YOU MUST FILE A RESPONSE TO THIS OBJECTION AND SEND A COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE TO THE OBJECTING PARTY WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE OBJECTION WAS SERVED ON YOU. YOUR RESPONSE MUST STATE WHY THE OBJECTION IS NOT VALID. IF YOU DO NOT FILE A RESPONSE WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE OBJECTION WAS SERVED ON YOU, YOUR CLAIM MAY BE DISALLOWED WITHOUT A HEARING.

REPRESENTED PARTIES SHOULD ACT THROUGH THEIR ATTORNEY.

Important Information Regarding the Objection

<u>Grounds for the Objection</u>. By the Objection, the Plan Administrator is seeking to [disallow/expunge/reclassify/reduce/subordinate] your claim(s) listed in the schedule attached hereto on the grounds that your claim(s) [is/are] []. The claim(s) subject to the Objection may also be found on the schedules attached to the Objection, a copy of which has been provided with this notice.

<u>Objection Procedures</u>. On [Date], the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "<u>Court</u>") entered an order [Docket No.] approving procedures for filing and resolving objections to claims asserted against the Debtors in these chapter 11 cases (the "<u>Objection Procedures</u>"). A copy of the Objection Procedures is included with this notice.

¹ The Debtors, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Stage Stores, Inc. (6900) and Specialty Retailers, Inc. (1900).

<u>Please review the Objection Procedures to ensure your response to the Objection, if any, is timely</u> and correctly filed and served.

Resolving the Objection

<u>Parties Required to File a Response</u>. If you disagree with the Objection filed with respect to your claim, you must file a response (each, a "<u>Response</u>") with the Court in accordance with the procedures described below and appear at the Hearing (as defined herein).

<u>Response Contents</u>. Each Response must contain the following (at a minimum):

- a. a caption with the name of the Court, the name of the Debtors, the case number, and the title of the Objection to which the Response is directed, and, if applicable, the Proof of Claim number(s) related thereto from the Claims Register;
- b. a concise statement setting forth the reasons why the Court should not grant the Objection with respect to your claim, including the specific factual and legal bases upon which you rely in opposing the Objection;
- copies of documentation or other evidence of your claim not previously filed with proof of such claim on which your Response is based (excluding confidential, proprietary, or other protected information, copies of which <u>must</u> be provided to the counsel to the Plan Administrator, subject to appropriate confidentiality constraints, if any);
- d. a declaration or other statement of a person with personal knowledge of the relevant facts that support the Response; and
- e. the following contact information for the responding party:
 - the name, address, telephone number, and email address of the responding claimant or the name, address, telephone number, and email address of the claimant's attorney or designated representative to whom the attorneys for the Plan Administrator should serve a reply to the Response, if any; or
 - (ii) the name, address, telephone number, and email address of the party with authority to reconcile, settle, or resolve the Objection on your behalf.

<u>Notice and Service</u>. Your Response must be filed with the Court and served so as to be <u>actually received</u> by 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Central Time) on [Date], (the "<u>Response Deadline</u>") by the following parties (the "<u>Notice Parties</u>"):

Counsel to the Plan Administrator	
James W. Walker	
COLE SCHOTZ P.C.	
901 Main Street, Suite 4120	
Dallas, Texas 75202	
jwalker@coleschotz.com	
- and -	
Seth Van Aalten	
Sarah A. Carnes	
Shira A. Baratz	
COLE SCHOTZ P.C	
1325 Avenue of the Americas, 19th Floor	
New York, New York 10019	
svanaalten@coleschotz.com	
scarnes@coleschotz.com	
sbaratz@coleschotz.com	
U.S. Trustee	
Hector Duran, Jr., Esq.	
Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of Texas	
515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516	
Houston, Texas 77002	
hector.duran.jr@usdoj.com	

<u>Failure to Respond</u>. A Response that is not filed and served in accordance with the procedures set forth herein may not be considered by the Court at the Hearing. Absent an agreement with the Plan Administrator resolving the Objection to a claim, failure to timely file and serve a Response as set forth herein and appear at the Hearing may result in the Court granting the Objection without further notice or hearing. Upon entry of an order, affected creditors will be served with a notice of entry, and a copy, of the order.

Hearing on the Objection

<u>Date, Time, and Location</u>. A hearing (the "<u>Hearing</u>") on the Objection will be held on [<u>Date</u>], at [<u>Time</u>] prevailing Central Time, before the Honorable David R. Jones, United States Bankruptcy Judge, in Courtroom 400, 515 Rusk, Houston, Texas 77002. You may participate in the Hearing either in person or via audio/video connection with the instructions included at the top of this Notice. The Hearing may be adjourned to a subsequent date in these chapter 11 cases in the Plan Administrator's sole discretion. **You must attend the Hearing if you disagree with the Objection and have filed a Response**. Contested claims for which (a) a Response is filed in accordance with the proposed response procedures, but such Response is not resolved prior to the Hearing and (b) an appearance is made at the Hearing may be heard at the Hearing or adjourned to a subsequent hearing in the Plan Administrator's sole discretion. If a subsequent hearing is determined to be necessary, the Plan Administrator shall file with the Court and serve

on the affected claimants a notice of the hearing (the date of which shall be determined in consultation with the affected claimant(s)).

<u>Discovery</u>. If the Plan Administrator determines that discovery is necessary in advance of a hearing on an Objection, the Plan Administrator will serve notice on the affected claimant and its counsel of record that the scheduled hearing will be treated as a status conference during which the parties will request that the Court issue a scheduling order to facilitate dismissal or resolution of the litigation. Any such notice may be incorporated into the initial agenda letter for the hearing or may be provided by separate notice.

Additional Information

<u>Questions or Information</u>. Copies of the Objection Procedures and any other pleadings (collectively, the "<u>Pleadings</u>") filed in these chapter 11 cases are available at no cost at the Debtors' restructuring website <u>http://www.kccllc.net/stagestores</u>. You may also obtain copies of any of the Pleadings filed in these chapter 11 cases for a fee at the Court's website at <u>http://www.txs.uscourts.gov/bankruptcy</u>. A login identification and password to the Court's Public Access to Court Electronic Records ("<u>PACER</u>") are required to access this information and can be obtained through the PACER Service Center at <u>http://www.pacer.psc.uscourts.gov</u>. Please do not contact the Court to discuss the merits of any claim or any Objection filed with respect thereto.

Reservation of Rights

NOTHING IN ANY OMNIBUS OBJECTION OR OBJECTION NOTICE IS INTENDED OR SHALL BE DEEMED TO CONSTITUTE (A) AN ADMISSION AS TO THE VALIDITY OF ANY PREPETITION CLAIM AGAINST A DEBTOR ENTITY; (B) A WAIVER OF ANY RIGHT OF ANY DEBTOR OR THE PLAN ADMINISTRATOR TO DISPUTE ANY PREPETITION CLAIM ON ANY GROUNDS, ASSERT COUNTERCLAIMS, RIGHTS OF OFFSET OR RECOUPMENT, DEFENSES, OBJECT TO CLAIMS (OR OTHER CLAIMS OR CAUSES OF ACTION OF A CLAIMANT) ON ANY GROUNDS NOT PREVIOUSLY RAISED IN AN OBJECTION, UNLESS THE COURT HAS ALLOWED A CLAIM OR ORDERED OTHERWISE, OR SEEK TO ESTIMATE ANY CLAIM AT A LATER DATE; (C) A PROMISE OR **REQUIREMENT TO PAY ANY PREPETITION CLAIM; (D) AN IMPLICATION OR** ADMISSION THAT ANY PARTICULAR CLAIM IS OF A TYPE SPECIFIED OR DEFINED IN THIS MOTION OR ANY ORDER GRANTING THE RELIEF **REQUESTED BY THIS MOTION; OR (E) A WAIVER OF ANY RIGHT OF ANY** DEBTOR OR PLAN ADMINISTRATOR UNDER THE BANKRUPTCY CODE OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE LAW.

Dated: [

], 2022

/s/ James W. Walker James W. Walker, Esq. (TX Bar No. 20709600) **COLE SCHOTZ P.C.** 901 Main Street, Suite 4120 Dallas, Texas 75202 Telephone: (469) 557-9391 Facsimile: (469) 533-0361 Email: jwalker@coleschotz.com

- and -

Seth Van Aalten, Esq. (Admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) Sarah A. Carnes, Esq. (Admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) Shira A. Baratz, Esq. **COLE SCHOTZ P.C.** 1325 Avenue of the Americas, 19th Floor New York, NY 10019 Telephone: (212) 752-8000 Facsimile: (212) 752-8000 Facsimile: (212) 752-8393 Email: svanaalten@coleschotz.com scarnes@coleschotz.com