### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:		) Chapter 11
VILLAGE ROADSHOW GROUP USA INC., et al., 1	ENTERTAINMENT	)
	Debtors.	<ul><li>(Joint Administration Requested)</li><li>)</li></ul>

### DEBTORS' MOTION FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE FILING UNDER SEAL OF THE DECLARATION OF KEITH MAIB IN SUPPORT OF FIRST DAY RELIEF

The above-captioned debtors and debtors-in-possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") respectfully state the following in support of this motion (this "<u>Motion</u>"):

#### RELIEF REQUESTED

1. By this Motion, the Debtors seek entry of an order, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (the "Proposed Order"): (i) authorizing the Debtors to redact and file under seal certain confidential information contained in the *Declaration of Keith Maib in Support of First Day Relief* (the "First Day Declaration"),<sup>2</sup> filed contemporaneously herewith; and (ii) granting related relief.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the First Day Declaration.



The last four digits of Village Roadshow Entertainment Group USA Inc.'s federal tax identification number are 0343. The mailing address for Village Roadshow Entertainment Group USA Inc. is 750 N. San Vicente Blvd., Suite 800 West, West Hollywood, CA 90069. Due to the large number of debtors in these cases, which are being jointly administered for procedural purposes only, a complete list of the Debtors and the last four digits of their federal tax identification is not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' claims and noticing agent at https://www.veritaglobal.net/vreg.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 2. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated as of February 29, 2012. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), and pursuant to Rule 9013-1(f) of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedures of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Local Rules"), the Debtors consent to the entry of a final order by the Court in connection with this Motion to the extent that it is later determined that the Court, absent the consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments in connection herewith consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.
- 3. Venue of these cases and this Motion in this district is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 4. The statutory bases for the relief requested herein are in sections 105(a) and 107(b) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), rule 9018 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Local Rule 9018-1(d).

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 5. On March 17, 2025 (the "Petition Date"), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors are authorized to operate their business and manage their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No official committees have been appointed in these chapter 11 cases, and no request has been made for the appointment of a trustee or an examiner.
- 6. Additional information regarding the Debtors' business, their capital structure, and the circumstances leading to the filing of these chapter 11 cases is set forth in the First Day Declaration.

#### **BASIS FOR RELIEF**

7. Section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code codifies the Court's inherent equitable powers and empowers it to "issue any order, process, or judgment that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this title." 11 U.S.C. § 105(a). Moreover, pursuant to section 107(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Court may authorize the Debtors to file under seal certain confidential information contained in the First Day Declaration (the "Confidential Information") by permitting the issuance of an order that protects entities from potential harm that may result from the disclosure of such information. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 107(b). Specifically, section 107(b) provides in relevant part, that:

On request of a party in interest, the bankruptcy court shall, and on the bankruptcy court's own motion, the bankruptcy court may —

(1) protect an entity with respect to a trade secret or confidential research, development, or commercial information . . . .

11 U.S.C. § 107(b).

- 8. Bankruptcy Rule 9018 sets forth the procedures by which a party may obtain a protective order authorizing the filing of a document under seal. Bankruptcy Rule 9018 provides, in relevant part, that "[o]n motion, or on its own initiative, with or without notice, the court may make any order which justice requires (1) to protect the estate or any entity in respect of a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9018.
- 9. Further, Rule 9018-1(d) of the Local Rules provides, in relevant part, that "Any filer who seeks to file a document ... under seal must file a motion requesting such relief." Del. Bankr. L.R. 9018-1(d).
- 10. Unlike its counterpart in Rule 26(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, section 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code does not require an entity seeking such protection to demonstrate

"good cause." See, e.g., Video Software Dealers Ass'n v. Orion Pictures Corp. (In re Orion Pictures Corp.), 21 F.3d 24, 28 (2d Cir. 1994) (holding that a license agreement authorizing a licensee "to reproduce, manufacture, distribute, and sell videocassettes" of three films contained confidential commercial information). Rather, if the material sought to be protected satisfies one of the categories identified in section 107(b), "the court is required to protect a requesting party and has no discretion to deny the application." Id. at 27. Moreover, the resulting order should be broad (i.e., "any order which justice requires"). In re Glob. Crossing Ltd., 295 B.R. 720, 724 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2003); Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9018. Courts are required to provide such protections "generally where open inspection may be used as a vehicle for improper purposes." Orion Pictures, 21 F.3d at 27. Indeed, the "authority goes not just to the protection of confidential documents, but to other confidentiality restrictions that are warranted in the interests of justice." Glob. Crossing, 295 B.R. 724.

- 11. Confidential commercial information is information that, if disclosed, would result in "unfair advantage to competitors by providing them information as to the commercial operations of the debtor." *In re Alterra Healthcare Corp.*, 353 B.R. 66, 75 (Bankr. D. Del. 2006) (citing *Orion Pictures*, 21 F.3d at 27). Commercial information, however, need not rise to the level of a trade secret to be protected under section 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. *Orion Pictures*, 21 F.3d at 28.
- 12. As discussed in the First Day Declaration, the Debtors have been engaged in lengthy arbitration proceedings (the "Arbitration") with Warner Bros Entertainment Inc. and its affiliates ("WB") since 2022. Given the highly sensitive subject matter of the Arbitration, the Debtors and WB are bound by confidentiality provisions barring the disclosure of certain information related to the ongoing Arbitration.

- 13. The First Day Declaration contains information which has been designated as confidential in the Arbitration. The Debtors seek to keep this Confidential Information under seal in order to abide by the terms of the Arbitration's confidentiality provisions, and to prevent an unfair advantage to the Debtors' competitors and other parties in interest, who may use this information to the detriment of the Debtors and their estates. Accordingly, due to the sensitive, confidential, and commercial nature of the Confidential Information discussed in the First Day Declaration, the Debtors submit that cause exists for the Court to grant them leave to file under seal and to redact those portions of the First Day Declaration containing the Confidential Information.
- 14. The Debtors will provide an unredacted version of the First Day Declaration to the Court pursuant to Local Rule 9018-1 and will provide an unredacted version of the First Day Declaration, on a confidential, professionals' eyes only basis, to (a) the U.S. Trustee, (b) counsel to the ABS Trustee, (c) counsel to the DIP Lenders, (d) counsel to any committee appointed in the chapter 11 cases, and (e) any other party that makes a request in accordance with the Proposed Order. In addition, consistent with Local Rule 9018-(d), a redacted version of the First Day Declaration was separately filed on the Court's docket.

### COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL RULE 9018-1(d)(ii)

15. To the best of the knowledge, information and belief of the undersigned counsel to the Debtors, the First Day Declaration contains information that is subject to the confidentiality provisions of the Arbitration. Because this Motion is being filed on the Petition Date, the Debtors have not yet conferred with WB regarding the redaction of the Confidential Information but believe that the proposed redactions are sufficiently narrow and have been made in accordance with the Arbitration confidentiality provisions as to obviate the need to confer with WB regarding the scope of and need for redaction.

#### **NOTICE**

16. Debtors will provide notice of this Motion to: (a) the U.S. Trustee; (b) the holders of the 20 largest unsecured claims against the Debtors (on a consolidated basis); (c) counsel to the ABS Trustee; (d) counsel to the DIP Lenders; (e) counsel to Vine Alternative Investments Group; (f) the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware; (g) the state attorneys general for all states in which the Debtors conduct business; (h) the Internal Revenue Service; (i) the United States Department of Justice; and (j) any party that requests service pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. In light of the nature of the relief requested, no other or further notice need be given.

17. A copy of this Motion is available on (i) the Court's website: www.deb.uscourts.gov, and (ii) the website maintained by the Debtors' proposed claims and noticing agent, Verita: https://www.veritaglobal.net/vreg.

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WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request entry of the Proposed Order, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, (a) granting the relief requested herein, and (b) granting such other relief as the Court deems appropriate under the circumstances.

Dated: March 17, 2025 Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ Benjamin C. Carver

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### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	) Chapter 11
VILLAGE ROADSHOW ENTERTAINMENT GROUP USA INC., et al., 1	) Case No. 25-10475 (TMH)
GROOT USA IIVC., et ut.,	) (Joint Administration Requested)
Debtors.	) Hrg. Date: April 11, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. (ET) Obj. Deadline: April 3, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. (ET)

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") filed the *Debtors' Motion for an Order Authorizing the Filing Under Seal of the Declaration of Keith Maib in Support of First Day Relief* (the "<u>Motion</u>") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "<u>Court</u>").

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that that any objections to the Motion must be filed on or before **April 3, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. (ET)** (the "Objection Deadline") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 824 North Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801. At the same time, you must serve a copy of the objection upon the undersigned proposed counsel to the Debtors so as to be received on or before the Objection Deadline.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that copies of the Motion and other information regarding these chapter 11 cases are available for inspection free of charge on the case website at https://www.veritaglobal.net/vreg.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT A HEARING TO CONSIDER THE MOTION WILL BE HELD ON <u>APRIL 11, 2025, AT 1:30 P.M. (ET)</u> BEFORE THE HONORABLE THOMAS M. HORAN, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE, 824 N. MARKET STREET, 5TH FLOOR, COURTROOM NO. 5, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801.

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The last four digits of Village Roadshow Entertainment Group USA Inc.'s federal tax identification number are 0343. The mailing address for Village Roadshow Entertainment Group USA Inc. is 750 N. San Vicente Blvd., Suite 800 West, West Hollywood, CA 90069. Due to the large number of debtors in these cases, which are being jointly administered for procedural purposes only, a complete list of the Debtors and the last four digits of their federal tax identification is not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' claims and noticing agent at https://www.veritaglobal.net/vreg.

# PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, IF YOU FAIL TO RESPOND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE COURT MAY GRANT THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE MOTION WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE OR A HEARING.

Dated: March 17, 2025 Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ Benjamin C. Carver

### YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR, LLP

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### EXHIBIT A

**Proposed Order** 

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	)	) Chapter 11
VILLAGE ROADSHOW GROUP USA INC., et al., 1	ENTERTAINMENT )	) Case No. 25-10475 (TMH)
,	Debtors.	(Joint Administration Requested
	)	Ref. Docket No

### ORDER AUTHORIZING THE FILING UNDER SEAL OF THE DECLARATION OF KEITH MAIB IN SUPPORT OF FIRST DAY RELIEF

Upon the motion (the "Motion")<sup>2</sup> of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") for entry of an order (the "Order") pursuant to sections 105(a) and 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 9018, and Local Rule 9018-1(b), authorizing the Debtors to file the under seal certain confidential information contained in the First Day Declaration (the "Confidential Information"), all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated as of February 29, 2012; 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 due and proper notice of the Motion having been provided; and this Court having determined that it may enter a final order

The last four digits of Village Roadshow Entertainment Group USA Inc.'s federal tax identification number are 0343. The mailing address for Village Roadshow Entertainment Group USA Inc. is 750 N. San Vicente Blvd., Suite 800 West, West Hollywood, CA 90069. Due to the large number of debtors in these cases, which are being jointly administered for procedural purposes only, a complete list of the Debtors and the last four digits of their federal tax identification is not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' claims and noticing agent at https://www.veritaglobal.net/vreg.

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

consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and this Court having found and determined that the relief sought in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, their creditors and all other parties-in-interest; and that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Motion is GRANTED as set forth herein.
- 2. The Debtors are authorized to file the Confidential Information under seal and to redact such Confidential Information in the First Day Declaration pursuant to section 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 9018, and Local Rule 9018-1(b).
- 3. The Confidential Information is confidential and shall remain under seal, and shall not be made available to anyone, except that copies of the First Day Declaration shall be provided to: (a) the Court, (b) the Clerk of the Court, (c) the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware, (d) counsel to the ABS Trustee, (e) counsel to the DIP Lenders, (e) counsel to any committee appointed in the chapter 11 cases, and (f) by agreement with the Debtors or as may be further directed by order of this Court, which parties shall keep the First Day Declaration and the Confidential Information therein strictly confidential.
- 4. Any party who receives the unredacted First Day Declaration in accordance with this Order shall not disclose or otherwise disseminate such unredacted First Day Declaration, or the information contained therein, to any other person or entity.
- 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

- 6. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary and appropriate to carry out the relief granted in this Order.
- 7. Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, or enforcement of this Order.