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)
Debtors.) (Jointly Administered)
Deotors.) <u>Hearing Date</u> : April 11, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. (ET Obj. Deadline: April 4, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. (ET)
)

DEBTORS' MOTION FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER (I) ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR INTERIM COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR PROFESSIONALS AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

The above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") respectfully state the following in support of this motion (the "<u>Motion</u>"):²

RELIEF REQUESTED

1. By this Motion, the Debtors seek entry of an order (the "<u>Proposed Order</u>"), substantially in the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>, (a) approving the Compensation Procedures (as defined herein) for an orderly, regular process for the allowance and payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses for attorneys and other professionals whose retentions are approved by the Court pursuant to sections 327, 328, or 1103 of chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101–1532 (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>") and who will be required to file

Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the First Day Declaration (as defined herein).



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.

applications for allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and (b) granting related relief.

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 February 29, 2012. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), and the Debtors confirm their consent, pursuant to Rule 9013-1(f) of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Local Rules"), 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 consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments in connection herewith consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.
 - 3. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 4. The statutory bases for the relief requested in this Motion are sections 105(a), 327, 330, and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Local Rule 2016-1.

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 managing their properties and operating their businesses as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. On March 27, 2025, the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware (the "U.S. Trustee") appointed an Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

(the "<u>Committee</u>") [Docket No. 103]. No request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in these chapter 11 cases.

6. Additional information regarding the Debtors, their business, capital structure, and the circumstances leading to the commencement of these chapter 11 cases is set forth in the *Declaration of Keith Maib in Support of First Day Relief* [Docket No. 2] (the "<u>First Day Declaration</u>"), which is fully incorporated herein by reference.

RETENTION OF PROFESSIONALS

7. The Debtors have filed or will file applications to retain certain professionals (collectively, the "Debtors' Professionals"), including: (a) Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP and Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP as co-counsel to the Debtors; (b) Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC dba Verita Global ("Verita") as administrative advisor and claims and noticing agent; and (c) Solic Capital as investment banker. The Debtors anticipate that they also may retain other professionals pursuant to sections 327 or 328 of the Bankruptcy Code during the course of these chapter 11 cases as the need arises. Moreover, any statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases may retain counsel and a financial advisor or other professionals to represent them in connection with these chapter 11 cases (together with the Debtors' Professionals, the "Professionals").³

THE PROPOSED COMPENSATION PROCEDURES

8. Pursuant to section 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, all professionals are entitled to

Contemporaneously herewith, the Debtors have filed the *Debtors' Motion for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing the Debtors to Retain and Compensate Professionals Utilized in the Ordinary Course of Business and (II) Granting Related Relief* (the "OCP Motion"). The OCP Motion seeks authority for the Debtors to continue to retain certain professionals in the ordinary course of business (the "OCPs") on terms substantially similar to those in effect before the Petition Date. If the OCP Motion is granted, the OCPs would not be required to file individual retention applications and would be paid in full, subject to their respective prepetition arrangements, without the need for submission of fee applications, but subject to a monthly fee cap.

submit applications for interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses every 120 days or more often if the Court permits. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 331. In addition, section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the Court to issue any order "necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of [the Bankruptcy Code]," thereby codifying the Court's inherent equitable powers. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 105(a).

- 9. The Debtors propose that the monthly payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses of the Professionals (the "<u>Compensation Procedures</u>") be structured as follows:
 - (a) On or after the 15th day of each month following the month for which compensation is sought, each Professional seeking compensation may file an application (each, a "Monthly Fee Application") for interim allowance of compensation for services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred during the preceding month, and serve such Monthly Fee Application by hand, first class mail, or email on each of the following parties (collectively, the "Notice Parties"):
 - the Debtors, Village Roadshow Entertainment Group USA Inc., 750
 N. San Vincente Boulevard, Suite 800 West, West Hollywood, CA 90069, Attn: Kevin Berg;
 - ii. proposed co-counsel to the Debtors: (a) Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, 321 North Clark Street, 32nd Floor Chicago, IL 60654, Attn: Justin Bernbrock (jbernbrock@sheppardmullin.com), and (b) Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, Rodney Square, 1000 North King Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Joseph M. Mulvihill (jmulvihill@ycst.com);
 - iii. counsel to the DIP Lenders: (a) Morrison & Foerster LLP, 250 West 55th Street, New York, NY 10019, Attn: James Newton (jnewton@mofo.com), and (b) Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, 1313 N. Market Street, 6th Floor Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Christopher M. Samis (csamis@potteranderson.com);
 - iv. counsel to the ABS Trustee, Barnes & Thornburg LLP, One North Wacker Drive Suite 4400, Chicago IL 60606, Attn: Aaron Gavant (agavant@btlaw.com);
 - v. the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn:

Rosa Sierra-Fox (rosa.sierra-fox@usdoj.gov); and

- vi. counsel to any statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases.
- (b) Unless otherwise provided in the order authorizing any Professionals' retention, each of the Professionals' Monthly Fee Applications, in accordance with Local Rule 2016-1(c)(i)–(ii), shall include the information required by Local Forms 101 and 102 and a monthly invoice that shall include fee and expense detail that describes the fees and expenses incurred by such Professional.
- (c) Any of the Professionals that fails to file a Monthly Fee Application for a particular month or months may subsequently submit a consolidated Monthly Fee Application including any prior month or months. All Monthly Fee Applications shall comply with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and Local Rule 2016-1.
- Each of the Notice Parties will have until 4:00 p.m. (Prevailing Eastern Time) fourteen (14) days after service of a Monthly Fee Application to object to such application (the "Objection Deadline"). Upon the expiration of the Objection Deadline and consistent with the Local Rules, a Professional may file a certificate of no objection with the Court with respect to the unopposed portion of the fees and expenses requested in its Monthly Fee Application (each, a "CNO"). After a CNO is filed with the Court, the Debtors are authorized and directed to pay the Professional an amount (the "Actual Monthly Payment") equal to eighty-percent (80%) of the fees and one hundred-percent (100%) of the expenses requested in the applicable Monthly Fee Application (the "Maximum Monthly Payment") that are not subject to an objection pursuant to subparagraph (e) below.
- (e) If any Notice Party objects to a Monthly Fee Application, within fourteen (14) days of service of the Monthly Fee Application, the objecting party shall serve, by email or first-class mail, upon the affected Professional(s) and each of the other Notice Parties a written objection (the "Objection") setting forth the precise nature of the objection and the amount at issue. Thereafter, the objecting party and the affected Professional(s) shall attempt to resolve the objection on a consensual basis. If the parties reach an agreement, the Debtors shall promptly pay 80% of the agreed-upon fees and 100% of the agreed-upon expenses. If, however, the parties are unable to reach a resolution of the objection within fourteen (14) days after service of the objection, the objecting party shall file an Objection with the Court within three (3) business days and serve such Objection on the respective Professionals and each of the Notice Parties. Thereafter, the Professional may either (i) file with the Court a response to the Objection, together with a request for payment of the difference, if any, between the Maximum Monthly Payment and the Actual Monthly Payment made to the affected

- Professional (the "<u>Disputed Amount</u>") or (ii) forego payment of the Disputed Amount until the next hearing on an Interim Fee Application or Final Fee Application (each as defined herein), at which time the Court will consider the Objection, if requested by the parties.
- (f) Each Professional seeking compensation may submit its first Monthly Fee Application on or after April 15, 2025, that will cover the period from the Petition Date through and including March 31, 2025. Thereafter, the Professionals may file Monthly Fee Applications in the manner described above.
- Beginning with the period ending on May 31, 2025 and at three-month (g) intervals thereafter (each, an "Interim Fee Period"), on or before the 45th day, or the next business day if such day is not a business day, following the end of each Interim Fee Period, each of the Professionals may file and serve, by email or first class mail, on the Notice Parties an interim fee application (each, an "Interim Fee Application") for interim Court approval and allowance of the payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses during such period. Each Professional shall serve notice of its Interim Fee Application (which identifies the Professional seeking compensation, discloses the period for which the payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses is being sought, and describes the amount of compensation and expenses sought) on the Notice Parties. The Notice Parties will have twenty-one (21) days after service of an Interim Fee Application to file an Objection with respect thereto. The first Interim Fee Application shall cover the Interim Fee Period from the Petition Date through and including May 31, 2025.
- (h) The Debtors will request that the Court schedule a hearing on Interim Fee Applications at least once every three months or at such other intervals as the Court deems appropriate. The Court, in its discretion, may approve an uncontested Interim Fee Application without the need for a hearing upon the Professional's filing of a certification of counsel and proposed order. Upon allowance by the Court of a Professional's Interim Fee Application, the Debtors shall be authorized to promptly pay such Professional all requested fees (including the 20% holdback) and expenses not previously paid.
- (i) The pendency of an Objection to payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses will not disqualify a Professional from the future payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses under the Compensation Procedures.
- 10. The Debtors also request that each member of any official committee formed by the United States Trustee (the "<u>U.S. Trustee</u>") be permitted to submit statements of expenses

(excluding third-party counsel expenses of individual committee members) and supporting vouchers to the respective official committee's counsel, which counsel will collect and file the committee members' requests for reimbursement with the Court in accordance with the Compensation Procedures.

11. The Debtors further request that the Court limit service of Interim Fee Applications and final fee applications (the latter, a "Final Fee Application," and collectively, the "Applications") to the Notice Parties. The Debtors further request that all other parties that have filed a notice of appearance with the Clerk of the Court and requested notice of pleadings in these chapter 11 cases shall be entitled to receive only notice of hearings on the Applications (the "Hearing Notice"). Serving the Applications and the Hearing Notices in this manner will permit the parties most active in these chapter 11 cases to review and object to the Professionals' fees and will save unnecessary duplications and mailing expenses.

BASIS FOR REVIEW

- 12. Section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that, after notice and a hearing, the Court may award to professionals reasonable compensation and reimbursement of expenses. In addition, pursuant to section 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, all Professionals are entitled to submit applications for interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses every 120 days, or more often if the bankruptcy court permits. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 331. In addition, section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the Court to issue any order "necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of [the Bankruptcy Code]," thereby codifying the Court's inherent equitable powers. 11 U.S.C. § 105(a).
- 13. Factors to consider in deciding whether to establish interim compensation procedures include "the size of [the] reorganization cases, the complexity of the issues involved,

and the time required on the part of the attorneys for the debtors in providing services necessary to achieve a successful reorganization of the debtors." *See*, *e.g.*, *In re Int'l Horizons*, *Inc.*, 10 B.R. 895, 897 (Bankr. N.D. Ga. 1981) (establishing procedures for monthly interim compensation).

- 14. The significant size of these chapter 11 cases and the amount of time and effort that will be required from the Professionals for the Debtors to successfully emerge from chapter 11 justifies the Compensation Procedures requested herein. Indeed, such Compensation Procedures are necessary to ensure that the Professionals are fairly and timely compensated for their services in these chapter 11 cases and are not forced to bear undue financial burden or risk caused by delays in payment.
- 15. The proposed Compensation Procedures will enable the Debtors to closely monitor costs of administration, maintain level cash flow availability, and implement efficient cash management procedures. Moreover, these procedures will allow the Court and key parties in interest to ensure the reasonableness and necessity of the compensation and reimbursement sought pursuant to such procedures.
- 16. The Debtors submit that establishing the foregoing interim compensation and expense reimbursement procedures will significantly aid the efficient administration of these chapter 11 cases. Accordingly, the relief requested is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, creditors, and parties in interest.

NOTICE

17. Notice of this Motion will be provided 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 the Vine Alternative Investments Group, LLC; (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 has requested notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. In light of the nature of the relief requested herein, the Debtors submit that no other or further notice is necessary.

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WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request entry of the Proposed Order, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, granting the relief requested herein and granting such other relief as is just and proper.

Dated: March 28, 2025 Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ Carol E. Thompson

YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR, LLP

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Proposed Co-Counsel for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

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)
GROUP USA INC., et al.,) (Jointly Administered)
Debtors.) <u>Hearing Date</u> : April 11, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. (ET)) <u>Obj. Deadline</u> : April 4, 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 Entry of an Order (I) Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for Professionals and (II) Granting Related 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 4, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. (ET)** (the "Objection Deadline") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, 3rd 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.

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 28, 2025 Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ Carol E. Thompson

YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR, LLP

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Proposed Co-Counsel for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

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Proposed Co-Counsel for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

EXHIBIT A

Proposed Order

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

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

ORDER (I) ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR INTERIM COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR PROFESSIONALS AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the motion ("Motion")² of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors"), for entry of an order (this "Order") (a) authorizing the Debtors to establish procedures for interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses for Professionals and (b) granting related relief, each 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 February 29, 2012; and this matter being a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court being able to issue a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district being proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and appropriate notice of and opportunity for

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.

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

hearing on the Motion having been given; and the relief requested in the Motion being in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and this Court having determined 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 relief requested in the Motion is granted as set forth herein.
- 2. All Professionals in these chapter 11 cases may seek compensation in accordance with the following procedures (collectively, the "Compensation Procedures"):
 - (a) On or after the 15th day of each month following the month for which compensation is sought, each Professional seeking compensation may file an application (each, a "Monthly Fee Application") for interim allowance of compensation for services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred during the preceding month, and serve such Monthly Fee Application by hand, first class mail, or email on each of the following parties (collectively, the "Notice Parties"):
 - the Debtors, Village Roadshow Entertainment Group USA Inc., 750
 N. San Vincente Boulevard, Suite 800 West, West Hollywood, CA 90069, Attn: Kevin Berg;
 - ii. proposed co-counsel to the Debtors: (a) Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, 321 North Clark Street, 32nd Floor Chicago, IL 60654, Attn: Justin Bernbrock (jbernbrock@sheppardmullin.com), and (b) Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, Rodney Square, 1000 North King Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Joseph M. Mulvihill (jmulvihill@ycst.com);
 - iii. counsel to the DIP Lenders: (a) Morrison Foerster, 250 West 55th Street, New York, NY 10019, Attn: James Newton (jnewton@mofo.com), and (b) Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, 1313 N. Market Street, 6th Floor Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Christopher M. Samis (csamis@potteranderson.com);
 - iv. counsel to the ABS Trustee, Barnes & Thornburg LLP, One North Wacker Drive Suite 4400, Chicago IL 60606, Attn: Aaron Gavant (agavant@btlaw.com);
 - v. the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn:

Rosa Sierra-Fox (rosa.sierra-fox@usdoj.gov); and

- vi. counsel to any statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases.
- (b) Unless otherwise provided in the order authorizing any Professionals' retention, each of the Professionals' Monthly Fee Applications, in accordance with Local Rule 2016-1(c)(i)–(ii), shall include the information required by Local Forms 101 and 102 and a monthly invoice that shall include fee and expense detail that describes the fees and expenses incurred by such Professional.
- (c) Any of the Professionals that fails to file a Monthly Fee Application for a particular month or months may subsequently submit a consolidated Monthly Fee Application including any prior month or months. All Monthly Fee Applications shall comply with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and Local Rule 2016-1.
- Each of the Notice Parties will have until 4:00 p.m. (Prevailing Eastern Time) fourteen (14) days after service of a Monthly Fee Application to object to such application (the "Objection Deadline"). Upon the expiration of the Objection Deadline and consistent with the Local Rules, a Professional may file a certificate of no objection with the Court with respect to the unopposed portion of the fees and expenses requested in its Monthly Fee Application (each, a "CNO"). After a CNO is filed with the Court, the Debtors are authorized and directed to pay the Professional an amount (the "Actual Monthly Payment") equal to eighty-percent (80%) of the fees and one hundred-percent (100%) of the expenses requested in the applicable Monthly Fee Application (the "Maximum Monthly Payment") that are not subject to an objection pursuant to subparagraph (e) below.
- (e) If any Notice Party objects to a Monthly Fee Application, within fourteen (14) days of service of the Monthly Fee Application, the objecting party shall serve, by email or first-class mail, upon the affected Professional(s) and each of the other Notice Parties a written objection (the "Objection") setting forth the precise nature of the objection and the amount at issue. Thereafter, the objecting party and the affected Professional(s) shall attempt to resolve the objection on a consensual basis. If the parties reach an agreement, the Debtors shall promptly pay 80% of the agreed-upon fees and 100% of the agreed-upon expenses. If, however, the parties are unable to reach a resolution of the objection within fourteen (14) days after service of the objection, the objecting party shall file an Objection with the Court within three (3) business days and serve such Objection on the respective Professionals and each of the Notice Parties. Thereafter, the Professional may either (i) file with the Court a response to the Objection, together with a request for payment of the difference, if any, between the Maximum Monthly Payment and the Actual Monthly Payment made to the affected

- Professional (the "<u>Disputed Amount</u>") or (ii) forego payment of the Disputed Amount until the next hearing on an Interim Fee Application or Final Fee Application (each as defined herein), at which time the Court will consider the Objection, if requested by the parties.
- (f) Each Professional seeking compensation may submit its first Monthly Fee Application on or after April 15, 2025, that will cover the period from the Petition Date through and including March 31, 2025. Thereafter, the Professionals may file Monthly Fee Applications in the manner described above.
- Beginning with the period ending on May 31, 2025 and at three-month (g) intervals thereafter (each, an "Interim Fee Period"), on or before the 45th day, or the next business day if such day is not a business day, following the end of each Interim Fee Period, each of the Professionals may file and serve, by email or first class mail, on the Notice Parties an interim fee application (each, an "Interim Fee Application") for interim Court approval and allowance of the payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses during such period. Each Professional shall serve notice of its Interim Fee Application (which identifies the Professional seeking compensation, discloses the period for which the payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses is being sought, and describes the amount of compensation and expenses sought) on the Notice Parties. The Notice Parties will have twenty-one (21) days after service of an Interim Fee Application to file an Objection with respect thereto. The first Interim Fee Application shall cover the Interim Fee Period from the Petition Date through and including May 31, 2025.
- (h) The Debtors will request that the Court schedule a hearing on Interim Fee Applications at least once every three months or at such other intervals as the Court deems appropriate. The Court, in its discretion, may approve an uncontested Interim Fee Application without the need for a hearing upon the Professional's filing of a certification of counsel and proposed order. Upon allowance by the Court of a Professional's Interim Fee Application, the Debtors shall be authorized to promptly pay such Professional all requested fees (including the 20% holdback) and expenses not previously paid.
- (i) The pendency of an Objection to payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses will not disqualify a Professional from the future payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses under the Compensation Procedures.
- 3. Neither (a) the payment of or the failure to pay, in whole or in part, monthly interim compensation and/or reimbursement of expenses under the Compensation Procedures nor (b) the

filing of or failure to file an Objection with this Court as to any monthly or interim compensation and/or reimbursement of expenses will bind any party in interest or this Court with respect to the final allowance of applications for compensation and reimbursement of expenses of Professionals. All fees and expenses paid to Professionals under the Compensation Procedures are subject to challenge and disgorgement until final allowance by this Court.

- 4. In each Interim Fee Application and Final Fee Application, all attorneys who have been or are hereafter retained pursuant to sections 327, 328, or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code, unless such attorney is retained by the Debtors pursuant to any order entered in connection with the retention and compensation of "ordinary course" professionals (such professionals, the "Required Professionals") (a) shall apply for compensation for professional services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with these chapter 11 cases in compliance with sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Rules, Local Rules, and any other applicable procedures and orders of this Court and (b) intend to make a reasonable effort to comply with the U.S. Trustee's requests for information and additional disclosures as set forth in the Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed under 11 U.S.C. § 330 by Attorneys in Larger Chapter 11 Cases Effective as of November 1, 2013, both in connection with any Interim Fee Application and Final Fee Application to be filed by the Required Professionals in these chapter 11 cases.
- 5. Each member of any official committee formed by the U.S. Trustee is permitted to submit statements of expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of the committee (excluding third-party counsel expenses of individual committee members) and supporting vouchers to the respective committee's counsel, which counsel will collect and file the committee

members' requests for reimbursement with this Court in accordance with the Compensation Procedures.

- 6. The Professionals shall be required to serve only (a) the Monthly Fee Statements, the Interim Fee Applications, and the Final Fee Application on the Notice Parties, and (b) the notice of hearings on the Interim Fee Applications and Final Fee Applications on all other parties that have filed a notice of appearance with the Clerk of this Court and requested notice of pleadings in these chapter 11 cases.
- 7. All notices given in accordance with the Compensation Procedures shall be deemed sufficient and adequate notice and in full compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules.
- 8. All time periods set forth in this Order shall be calculated in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a).
- 9. 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.
- 10. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.
- 11. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Motion.
- 12. This Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.