Case 25-10475-TMH Doc 181 Filed 0//15/25 Page 1 of 19 Docket #0181 Date Filed: 04/15/2025

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

In re:

VILLAGE ROADSHOW ENTERTAINMENT GROUP USA INC., *et al.*, <sup>1</sup> Chapter 11

Case No. 25-10475 (TMH)

(Jointly Administered)

Debtors.

Ref. Docket Nos. 8 & 63

## **CERTIFICATION OF COUNSEL**

On March 17, 2025, the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") filed the *Debtors' Motion for Entry of Interim and Final Orders (I) Authorizing the Debtors to (A) Pay Prepetition Employee Wages, Salaries, Other Compensation, and Reimbursable Employee Expenses and (B) Continue Employee Benefits Programs; and (II) Granting Related Relief [D.I. 8] (the "<u>Motion</u>") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "<u>Court</u>"). A proposed form of order approving the Motion on a final basis was attached to the Motion as Exhibit B (the "<u>Proposed Final Order</u>").* 

On March 18, 2025, the Court entered an order approving the Motion on an interim basis [D.I. 63] (the "<u>Interim Order</u>"). Pursuant to the Interim Order, any objections or responses to entry of the Proposed Final Order were to be filed and served by April 3, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. (ET), (as may have been extended by the Debtors for any party, the "<u>Objection Deadline</u>").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.



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Prior to the Objection Deadline, Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. filed *Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.'s Omnibus Limited Objection and Reservation of Rights to Various Other Second Day Hearing Relief* [D.I. 146] and the Debtors received informal comments to the Proposed Final Order from the official committee of unsecured creditors and the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware (collectively, the "<u>Parties</u>"). No other formal or informal responses or objections to the Proposed Final Order were received.

Following discussions with the Parties, the Debtors have agreed to a revised form of order (the "<u>Revised Proposed Final Order</u>"), a copy of which is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>, which resolves the Parties' comments. For the convenience of the Court and other interested parties, a blackline comparing the Revised Proposed Final Order against the Proposed Final Order is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u>.

As no other objections or responses to the Motion have been received, it is hereby respectfully requested that the Revised Proposed Final Order be entered at the earliest convenience of the Court.

#### [Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

Dated: April 15, 2025 Wilmington, Delaware

#### /s/ Benjamin C. Carver

# 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

**Revised Proposed Final Order** 

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

In re:

VILLAGE ROADSHOW ENTERTAINMENT GROUP USA INC., *et al.*,<sup>1</sup>

Chapter 11

Case No. 25-10475 (TMH)

(Jointly Administered)

Debtors.

Ref. Docket Nos. 8 & 63

# FINAL ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO (A) PAY PREPETITION WAGES, SALARIES, OTHER COMPENSATION, AND REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES AND (B) CONTINUE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS; AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the motion (the "<u>Motion</u>")<sup>2</sup> of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") for the entry of a final order (this "<u>Final Order</u>"): (a) authorizing, but not directing, the Debtors to (i) pay prepetition wages, salaries, other compensation, and reimbursable expenses on account of the Employee Compensation and Benefits and (ii) continue to administer the Employee Compensation and Benefits programs in the ordinary course, including payment of certain related prepetition obligations; and (b) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon consideration of the First Day Declaration; 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 Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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 otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

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§ 157(b)(2); and this Court having found 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 other parties in interest; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at an interim hearing before this Court (the "<u>Hearing</u>"); and this Court having found that the Debtors' notice of a final hearing on the Motion and opportunity for a final hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing 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 GRANTED on a final basis as set forth herein.

2. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to: (a) continue, renew, and discontinue the Employee Compensation and Benefits programs in the ordinary course of business during these chapter 11 cases and without the need for further Court approval, subject to applicable law; *provided, however*, that the Debtors shall seek court approval, upon a motion on notice, of any modification that would implicate any portion of section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code; and (b) pay and honor prepetition amounts outstanding under or related to the Employee Compensation and Benefits programs in the ordinary course of business, provided however, that (a) no payment to any Employee or Independent IT Contractor on account of prepetition obligations owing

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programs shall exceed, in the aggregate, the \$15,150.00 statutory cap provided for under sections 507(a)(4) and 507(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code; (b) with respect to the Employee Compensation and Benefits programs set forth in the table immediately below, the Debtors shall not pay any prepetition obligations on account of such Employee Compensation and Benefit programs in excess of the applicable amounts set forth therein, unless required by applicable state law; and (c) the Debtors shall not cash out any prepetition obligations on account of PTO unless applicable state law requires such cash-out payment.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Debtors are authorized, but not directed, in their sole discretion, to pay, remit, or reimburse, as applicable, not more than the following prepetition amounts:

Employee Compensation and Benefits	Interim Amount	Final Amount <sup>3</sup>
Employee Compensation		
PEO Services	\$0	\$0
Employee Wages	\$8,600	\$8,600
IT Contractor Fees	\$0	\$0
Withholding Obligations	\$1,250	\$1,250
Reimbursable Expenses	\$0	\$1,000
Employee Benefits		
Employee Leave Benefits	\$93,000	\$93,000
Health and Welfare Benefits	\$0	\$0
Retirement Savings Plans	\$50	\$50
Australia Employee Termination Pay	\$178,000	\$178,000
Other Voluntary Benefits	\$0	\$0
Total:	\$280,900	\$281,900

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, the amounts listed in the "Final Amounts" column are inclusive of the amounts listed in the "Interim Amounts" column.

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4. Pursuant to section 362(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, Employees are authorized to proceed with their claims under the Workers' Compensation Program in the appropriate judicial or administrative forum and the Debtors are authorized to continue the Workers' Compensation Program and pay all prepetition amounts relating thereto in the ordinary course of business. This modification of the automatic stay pertains solely to claims under the Workers' Compensation Program.

5. The Debtors will provide seven (7) days' notice of any material changes to the programs and policies of their Employees and any new Employee compensation or Employee obligations including Employee Compensation and Benefits to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "<u>Committee</u>") and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. and its affiliates (collectively, "<u>Warner Bros.</u>"); *provided, however*, that no such non-ordinary course changes or modifications shall be made without consulting with the Committee and Warner Bros., including any changes or modifications that implicate any provision of section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code.

6. The Debtors shall not make any bonus, incentive, or severance payments to any "Insider" (as such term is defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code) without consulting with the Committee and Warner Bros., and absent further order of the Court.

7. Nothing in this Order shall be deemed to authorize the payment of any amounts subject to section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code.

8. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to (1) authorize the payment of any amounts in satisfaction of bonus or severance obligations, except if applicable law requires such payment, or (2) authorize the Debtors to cash out unpaid vacation/leave time, except upon termination of an Employee if applicable law requires such payment.

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9. Nothing contained herein is intended or should be construed to create an administrative priority claim on account of any obligations owed under any Employee Compensation and Benefits Program. All parties' rights with respect to whether such obligations are administrative priority claims are fully reserved.

10. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contain in the Motion or this Final Order, any payment to be made, obligation incurred, or relief or authorization granted hereunder shall not be inconsistent with, and shall be subject to and in compliance with, the requirements imposed on the Debtors under the terms of each interim and final order entered by the Court in respect of *Debtors' Motion for Entry of Interim and Final Orders (I) Authorizing the Debtors to (A) Obtain Postpetition Financing and (B) Utilize Cash Collateral, (II) Granting Liens and Superpriority Administrative Expense Claims, (III) Granting Adequate Protection, (IV) Modifying the Automatic Stay, (V) Scheduling a Final Hearing, and (VI) Granting Related Relief (the "<u>DIP Orders</u>"), including compliance with any budget or cash flow forecast in connection therewith and any other terms and conditions thereof. Nothing herein is intended to modify, alter, or waive, in any way, any terms, provisions, requirements, or restrictions of the DIP Orders.* 

11. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Final Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, nothing in this Final Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against the Debtors under the Bankruptcy Code, any foreign bankruptcy or insolvency law, or other applicable nonbankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Final Order or the Motion; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code;

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(f) an admission to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; or (g) a waiver of any claims or causes of action which may exist against any entity under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law. Any payment made pursuant to this Final Order is not intended and should not be construed as an admission as the validity of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtors' rights to subsequently dispute such claim. Likewise, nothing in the Motion or this Final Order shall be construed as impairing the Committee's and Warner Bros.' rights to contest the validity, priority or amount of any Employee claim that may be due.

12. The banks and financial institutions on which checks were drawn or electronic payment requests made in payment of the prepetition obligations approved herein are authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay all such checks and electronic payment requests when presented for payment, and all such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the Debtors' designation of any particular check or electronic payment request as approved by this Final Order.

13. The Debtors are authorized to issue postpetition checks, or to effect postpetition fund transfer requests, in replacement of any checks or fund transfer requests that are dishonored as a consequence of these chapter 11 cases with respect to prepetition amounts owed in connection with the relief granted herein.

14. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of such Motion, and such notice satisfies the requirements of the Bankruptcy Rules and Local Rules.

15. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Final Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

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16. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Motion.

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

# <u>EXHIBIT B</u>

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

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In re:

VILLAGE ROADSHOW ENTERTAINMENT GROUP USA INC., *et al.*,<sup>1</sup> Chapter 11

Case No. 25-10475 (TMH)

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# FINAL ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO (A) PAY PREPETITION WAGES, SALARIES, OTHER COMPENSATION, AND REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES AND (B) CONTINUE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS; AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the motion (the "<u>Motion</u>")<sup>2</sup> of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") for the entry of a final order (this "<u>Final Order</u>"): (a) authorizing, but not directing, the Debtors to (i) pay prepetition wages, salaries, other compensation, and reimbursable expenses on account of the Employee Compensation and Benefits and (ii) continue to administer the Employee Compensation and Benefits programs in the ordinary course, including payment of certain related prepetition obligations; and (b) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon consideration of the First Day Declaration; 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 Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C.

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§ 157(b)(2); and this Court having found 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 other parties in interest; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at an interim hearing before this Court (the "<u>Hearing</u>"); and this Court having found that the Debtors' notice of a final hearing on the Motion and opportunity for a final hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing 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 GRANTED on a final basis as set forth herein.

2. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to: (a) continue, renew, and discontinue the Employee Compensation and Benefits programs in the ordinary course of business during these chapter 11 cases and without the need for further Court approval, subject to applicable law; *provided, however*, that the Debtors shall seek court approval, upon a motion on notice, of any modification that would implicate any portion of section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code; and (b) pay and honor prepetition amounts outstanding under or related to the Employee Compensation and Benefits programs in the ordinary course of business, provided however, that (a) no payment to any Employee or Independent IT Contractor on account of the Employee Compensation and

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Benefitsprepetition obligations owing programs shall exceed, in the aggregate, the \$15,150.00 statutory cap provided for under sections 507(a)(4) and 507(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code; (b) with respect to the Employee Compensation and Benefits programs set forth in the table immediately below, the Debtors shall not pay any prepetition obligations on account of such Employee Compensation and Benefit programs in excess of the applicable amounts set forth therein, unless required by applicable state law; and (c) the Debtors shall not cash out any prepetition obligations on account of PTO unless applicable state law requires such cash-out payment.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Debtors are authorized, but not directed, in their sole discretion, to pay, remit, or reimburse, as applicable, not more than the following prepetition amounts:

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4. Pursuant to section 362(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, Employees are authorized to proceed with their claims under the Workers' Compensation Program in the appropriate judicial or administrative forum and the Debtors are authorized to continue the Workers' Compensation Program and pay all prepetition amounts relating thereto in the ordinary course of business. This modification of the automatic stay pertains solely to claims under the Workers' Compensation Program.

5. The Debtors will provide seven (7) days' notice of any material changes to the programs and policies of their Employees and any new Employee compensation or Employee obligations including Employee Compensation and Benefits to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "<u>Committee</u>") and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. and its affiliates (collectively, "<u>Warner Bros.</u>"); *provided, however*, that no such non-ordinary course changes or modifications shall be made without consulting with the Committee and Warner Bros., including any changes or modifications that implicate any provision of section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code.

6. The Debtors shall not make any bonus, incentive, or severance payments to any "Insider" (as such term is defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code) without consulting with the Committee and Warner Bros., and absent further order of the Court.

7. Nothing in this Order shall be deemed to authorize the payment of any amounts subject to section 503(c) of the Bankruptcy Code.

8. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to (1) authorize the payment of any amounts in satisfaction of bonus or severance obligations, except if applicable law requires such payment, or (2) authorize the Debtors to cash out unpaid vacation/leave time, except upon termination of an Employee if applicable law requires such payment.

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8.9. Nothing contained herein is intended or should be construed to create an administrative priority claim on account of any obligations owed under any Employee Compensation and Benefits Program. All parties' rights with respect to whether such obligations are administrative priority claims are fully reserved.

9.10. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contain in the Motion or this Final Order, any payment to be made, obligation incurred, or relief or authorization granted hereunder shall not be inconsistent with, and shall be subject to and in compliance with, the requirements imposed on the Debtors under the terms of each interim and final order entered by the Court in respect of *Debtors' Motion for Entry of Interim and Final Orders (I) Authorizing the Debtors to (A) Obtain Postpetition Financing and (B) Utilize Cash Collateral, (II) Granting Liens and Superpriority Administrative Expense Claims, (III) Granting Adequate Protection, (IV) Modifying the Automatic Stay, (V) Scheduling a Final Hearing, and (VI) Granting Related Relief (the "<u>DIP Orders</u>"), including compliance with any budget or cash flow forecast in connection therewith and any other terms and conditions thereof. Nothing herein is intended to modify, alter, or waive, in any way, any terms, provisions, requirements, or restrictions of the DIP Orders.* 

10.11. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Final Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, nothing in this Final Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against the Debtors under the Bankruptcy Code, any foreign bankruptcy or insolvency law, or other applicable nonbankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Final Order or the Motion; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code;

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(f) an admission to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; or (g) a waiver of any claims or causes of action which may exist against any entity under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law. Any payment made pursuant to this Final Order is not intended and should not be construed as an admission as the validity of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtors' rights to subsequently dispute such claim. Likewise, nothing in the Motion or this Final Order shall be construed as impairing the Committee's and Warner Bros.' rights to contest the validity, priority or amount of any Employee claim that may be due.

11.12. The banks and financial institutions on which checks were drawn or electronic payment requests made in payment of the prepetition obligations approved herein are authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay all such checks and electronic payment requests when presented for payment, and all such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the Debtors' designation of any particular check or electronic payment request as approved by this Final Order.

12.13. The Debtors are authorized to issue postpetition checks, or to effect postpetition fund transfer requests, in replacement of any checks or fund transfer requests that are dishonored as a consequence of these chapter 11 cases with respect to prepetition amounts owed in connection with the relief granted herein.

13.14. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of such Motion, and such notice satisfies the requirements of the Bankruptcy Rules and Local Rules.

14.<u>15.</u> Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Final Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

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15.16. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Motion.

<u>16.17.</u> This Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.