

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

In re:

NEW WEI, INC., *et al.*,¹

Debtors.

Chapter 7

Case No. 15-02741-TOM7

Jointly Administered

**SUMMARY OF TENTH MONTHLY FEE APPLICATION OF
DIRECT FEE REVIEW LLC FOR ALLOWANCE OF
COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES
FOR THE PERIOD FROM
JANUARY 01, 2023 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Name of Applicant:

Direct Fee Review LLC

Authorized to Provide Professional Services
to:

Debtors and Debtors-in-Possession

Date of Retention:

Effective as of May 22, 2017

Period for which compensation and
reimbursement is sought:

January 01, 2023 through September 30, 2024

Amount of Compensation sought as

actual, reasonable and necessary:

\$2,480.00

80% of compensation sought as actual,
reasonable and necessary:

\$1,984.00

¹ The Debtors in these cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: New WEI, Inc. (f/k/a Walter Energy, Inc.) (9953); Atlantic Development and Capital, LLC (8121); Atlantic Leaseco, LLC (5308); Blue Creek Coal Sales, Inc. (6986); Blue Creek Energy, Inc. (0986); New WEI 7, LLC (f/k/a J.W. Walter, Inc.) (0648); Jefferson Warrior Railroad Company, Inc. (3200); New WEI 2, LLC (f/k/a Jim Walter Homes, LLC) (4589); New WEI 13, Inc. (f/k/a Jim Walter Resources, Inc.) (1186); Maple Coal Co., LLC (6791); Sloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Company (4884); SP Machine, Inc. (9945); Taft Coal Sales & Associates, Inc. (8731); Tuscaloosa Resources, Inc. (4869); V Manufacturing Company (9790); New WEI 19, LLC (f/k/a Walter Black Warrior Basin LLC) (5973); New WEI 18, Inc. (f/k/a Walter Coke, Inc.) (9791); New WEI 22 LLC (f/k/a Walter Energy Holdings, LLC) (1596); New WEI 20, LLC (f/k/a Walter Exploration & Production LLC) (5786); New WEI 1, Inc. (f/k/a Walter Home Improvement, Inc.) (1633); New WEI 6 Company (f/k/a Walter Land Company) (7709); New WEI 16, Inc. (f/k/a Walter Minerals, Inc.) (9714); and New WEI 21, LLC (f/k/a Walter Natural Gas, LLC) (1198). The location of the Debtors' corporate headquarters is 2100 Southbridge Parkway, Suite 650, Birmingham, Alabama 35209.



Amount of Expense Reimbursement sought

as actual, reasonable and necessary: \$0.00

This is a monthly application.

This application includes 1.0 hours and \$200.00 in fees incurred in connection with the preparation of fee applications.

Prior Applications:

Date Filed / Docket No	Fee Period	Requested Fees	Requested Expenses	Approved Fees	Approved Expenses	Order Entered
10/22/18 3341	1/1/18 through 9/30/18	\$2,060.00	\$35.00	\$2,060.00	\$35.00	12/3/18
2/7/19 3383	10/1/18 through 1/31/19	\$2,680.00	\$0.00	\$2,060.00	\$0.00	3/13/19
5/6/19 3432	2/1/19 through 4/30/19	\$2,120.00	\$0.00	\$2,120.00	\$0.00	6/14/19
12/20/19 3588	5/1/19 through 11/30/19	\$3,760.00	\$42.50	\$3,760.00	\$42.50	1/28/20
5/27/20 3631	12/1/19 through 4/30/20	\$2,680.00	\$0.00	\$2,680.00	\$0.00	7/23/20
1/15/21 3716	5/1/20 through 12/31/20	\$2,740.00	\$0.00	\$2,740.00	\$0.00	3/16/21
3754	1/1/21 through 12/31/21	\$2,920.00	\$0.00	\$2,920.00	\$0.00	3/1/22
3853	1/1/22 through 12/31/22	\$2,700.00	\$0.00	\$2,700.00	\$0.00	8/26/24

Compensation by individual:

Name	Position	Hourly Billing Rate	Total Hours Billed	Total Compensation
WJ Dryer (WJD)	Auditor	\$ 200.00	8.0	\$ 1,600.00
DF Oliver (DFO)	Auditor	\$ 200.00	4.4	\$ 880.00
Total			12.4	\$ 2,480.00

Cumulative Compensation Summary by Project Category:

Project Category	Total Hours for the Period 1/1/23 through 9/30/24	Total Hours from the Petition Date	Total Fees for the Period 1/1/23 through 9/30/24	Total Fees from the Petition Date
Auditing	11.4	113.0	\$ 2,280.00	\$ 22,600.00
Fee Application	1.0	7.7	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,540.00
Total	12.4	120.7	\$ 2,480.00	\$ 24,140.00

Cumulative Expense Summary:

Expense Category	Total Expense for the Period 1/1/23 through 9/30/24	Total Expense from the Petition Date
Court call	\$ 0.00	\$ 77.50
Delivery	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Postage	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
PACER	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Supplies	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Mileage	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Tolls	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Parking	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 77.50

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In re:

NEW WEI, INC., *et al.*,¹

Debtors.

Chapter 7

Case No. 15-02741-TOM7

Jointly Administered

**TENTH MONTHLY FEE APPLICATION OF DIRECT FEE REVIEW LLC FOR
ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES
FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 01, 2023 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 330 and 331 and Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, Direct Fee Review LLC (hereinafter "DFR") hereby moves this Court for reasonable compensation for professional services rendered as Fee Examiner to the above-captioned Debtors and Debtors-in-Possession (the "Debtors") in the amount of \$2,480.00 together with reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the amount of \$0.00 for the period commencing January 01, 2023 through and including September 30, 2024 (the "Fee Period"). In support of its Application, DFR respectfully represents the following:

¹ The Debtors in these cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: New WEI, Inc. (f/k/a Walter Energy, Inc.) (9953); Atlantic Development and Capital, LLC (8121); Atlantic Leaseco, LLC (5308); Blue Creek Coal Sales, Inc. (6986); Blue Creek Energy, Inc. (0986); New WEI 7, LLC (f/k/a J.W. Walter, Inc.) (0648); Jefferson Warrior Railroad Company, Inc. (3200); New WEI 2, LLC (f/k/a Jim Walter Homes, LLC) (4589); New WEI 13, Inc. (f/k/a Jim Walter Resources, Inc.) (1186); Maple Coal Co., LLC (6791); Sloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Company (4884); SP Machine, Inc. (9945); Taft Coal Sales & Associates, Inc. (8731); Tuscaloosa Resources, Inc. (4869); V Manufacturing Company (9790); New WEI 19, LLC (f/k/a Walter Black Warrior Basin LLC) (5973); New WEI 18, Inc. (f/k/a Walter Coke, Inc.) (9791); New WEI 22 LLC (f/k/a Walter Energy Holdings, LLC) (1596); New WEI 20, LLC (f/k/a Walter Exploration & Production LLC) (5786); New WEI 1, Inc. (f/k/a Walter Home Improvement, Inc.) (1633); New WEI 6 Company (f/k/a Walter Land Company) (7709); New WEI 16, Inc. (f/k/a Walter Minerals, Inc.) (9714); and New WEI 21, LLC (f/k/a Walter Natural Gas, LLC) (1198). The location of the Debtors' corporate headquarters is 2100 Southbridge Parkway, Suite 650, Birmingham, Alabama 35209.

1. DFR was employed under a general retainer to act as Fee Examiner to examine the professional fees and expenses incurred in connection with these Chapter 7 cases, pursuant to an Order entered by this Court. The Order authorized DFR to be compensated for fees and expenses subject to application and review pursuant to section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code and to be paid from the Debtors' estates as an administrative expense under section 503(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code.
2. All services for which compensation is requested by DFR were performed for or on behalf of the bankruptcy estate and not on behalf of any committee, creditor or other person.
3. There is no agreement or understanding between DFR and any other person other than members of DFR for sharing of compensation to be received for services in these cases.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES RENDERED

4. Attached hereto as Exhibit A are the DFR billing statements for the Fee Period showing the amount of \$2,480.00 due for fees and a detailed statement of expenses paid during the Fee Period showing the amount of \$0.00 for reimbursement of expenses. These statements contain detailed entries describing the time expended by each member of DFR.
5. Members of DFR have expended a total of 12.4 hours in connection with this matter during the Fee Period. The services were performed by WJ Dryer (WJD) and DF Oliver (DFO) and are identified as such in the billing statement attached hereto as Exhibit A.

DISBURSEMENTS

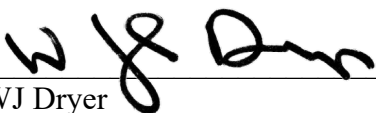
6. During this Fee Period, DFR has incurred out-of-pocket disbursements during the Fee Period in the amount of \$0.00. This disbursement sum is broken down into categories of charges

including court call, photocopies, supplies and document mailing expenses. A complete review by category of the expenses incurred for the Fee Period may be found in the attachment hereto as Exhibit A.

7. DFR submits that the time entries included in the attached Exhibit A are in compliance with the requirements of Local rule 2016-1 of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Alabama. In accordance with the factors enumerated in Section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, it is respectfully submitted that the amount requested by DFR is fair and reasonable given (a) the complexity of the case, (b) the time expended, (c) the nature and extent of the services rendered, (d) the value of such services, and (e) the costs of comparable services other than in a case under this title.

WHEREFORE, DFR respectfully requests an award of compensation for professional services rendered as Fee Examiner during the Fee Period in the amount of \$2,480.00, and the sum of \$0.00 for reimbursement of actual necessary costs and expenses incurred during the period and for such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

DIRECT FEE REVIEW LLC
FEE EXAMINER

By: 
WJ Dryer

24 A Trolley Square, # 1225
Wilmington, DE 19806
Telephone: 302.287.0955
dfr.wjd@gmail.com

VERIFICATION

D F Oliver, after being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

1. I am a principal in the applicant Firm, Direct Fee Review LLC.
2. I have personally performed many of the services rendered by Direct Fee Review LLC, as Fee Examiner in these cases and am thoroughly familiar with all other work performed by the fee auditors in the firm.
3. I have reviewed the foregoing Application and the facts set forth therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.



D F Oliver

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy or validity of that document.

State of California
County of Sonoma

On this OCTOBER 4, 2024 before me, SHONA L. WEIR, Notary Public

personally appeared D. F. OLIVER
who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.



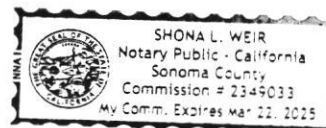


EXHIBIT A

Payment Remittance Address:

Direct Fee Review LLC
24A Trolley Square,
#1225

FEIN: 27-0822707

Wilmington, DE 19806

Invoice to:
WEI Trust
Attn:
3000 Riverchase Galleria, Suite 1700
Birmingham, Alabama 35244-2359

Invoice Date: 9/30/2024
Invoice Number: 1030-0924
Project: NEW WEI, INC.
Bankruptcy Professional Fee Exam

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>Rate</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Amount</u>
For Services 01/01/23 Through 09/30/24						
1/19/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re fee app	200.00 0.10 20.00
1/19/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re data files	200.00 0.50 100.00
1/20/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review documents filed	6th interim	200.00 0.40 80.00
1/20/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review billing entry detail	6th interim	200.00 0.40 80.00
1/20/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Update and revise initial	6th interim	200.00 0.30 60.00
1/20/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re draft report	200.00 0.20 40.00
1/21/2023	WJD	DFR	Interim fee application	Draft fee application	2022	200.00 1.00 200.00
1/24/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re draft report	200.00 0.20 40.00
1/24/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Update and revise report	6th interim	200.00 0.20 40.00
1/24/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	6th interim draft	200.00 0.20 40.00
1/24/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	6th interim revised	200.00 0.30 60.00
1/24/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Update and revise report	6th interim	200.00 0.30 60.00
1/24/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Prepare and file	6th interim	200.00 0.20 40.00
1/26/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From sp re final report	200.00 0.10 20.00
2/8/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Fee hearing	Review e-mail	From sp re fee hearing	200.00 0.10 20.00
2/14/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Fee hearing	Review e-mail	From sp re hearing time	200.00 0.10 20.00
2/15/2023	WJD	Denaburg	Interim fee application	Attend fee hearing	6th interim	200.00 0.20 40.00
10/11/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From sp ds re new fee app	200.00 0.20 40.00
10/11/2023	WJD	Client administration	Fee hearing	Attend fee hearing	DFR fee hearing	200.00 0.70 140.00
10/11/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re data files	200.00 0.20 40.00
10/12/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Review documents filed	14th interim	200.00 0.20 40.00
10/12/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Review billing entry detail	14th interim	200.00 0.70 140.00
10/12/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Update and revise initial	14th interim	200.00 0.30 60.00
10/12/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re report	200.00 0.10 20.00
10/14/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re draft report	200.00 0.10 20.00
10/14/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Update and revise report	14th interim	200.00 0.30 60.00
10/18/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re draft report	200.00 0.10 20.00

Payment Remittance Address:

Direct Fee Review LLC
24A Trolley Square,
#1225

FEIN: 27-0822707

Wilmington, DE 19806

Invoice to:
WEI Trust
Attn:
3000 Riverchase Galleria, Suite 1700
Birmingham, Alabama 35244-2359

Invoice Date: 9/30/2024
Invoice Number: 1030-0924
Project: NEW WEI, INC.
Bankruptcy Professional Fee Exam

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>Rate</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Amount</u>
For Services 01/01/23 Through 09/30/24						
10/19/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Review e-mail	From dfo re final report	200.00 0.10 20.00
10/19/2023	WJD	Dentons	Interim fee application	Prepare and file	Final report	200.00 0.20 40.00
					8.00	\$ 1,600.00
6th Interim Fee						
01/19/23	DFO	Christian & Denaburg	14th Quarter	Review docket, update d	Application	200.00 0.10 20.00
01/19/23	DFO	Christian & Denaburg	14th Quarter	math check & data correlation		200.00 1.10 220.00
01/19/23	DFO	Christian & Denaburg	14th Quarter	Draft Initial Report		200.00 0.30 60.00
01/20/23	DFO	Christian & Denaburg	14th Quarter	Draft Initial Report	edit copy & fwd to E Denaburg	200.00 0.20 40.00
01/24/23	DFO	Christian & Denaburg	14th Quarter	Draft Final Report	review Firm's response & draft final report	200.00 0.30 60.00
01/24/23	DFO	Christian & Denaburg	14th Quarter	Draft Final Report	edit, convert & fwd to E Denaburg	200.00 0.20 40.00
01/24/23	DFO	Client Administration	14th Quarter	Prepare Fee Application	review fee application & get affidavit notarized S Porterfield w 14th	200.00 0.20 40.00
10/11/23	DFO	Dentons Sirote	14th Quarter	Read email & download f	Interim fee files	200.00 0.10 20.00
10/11/23	DFO	Dentons Sirote	14th Quarter	math check & data correl	prepare data & review	200.00 0.90 180.00
10/11/23	DFO	Dentons Sirote	14th Quarter	Draft Initial Report		200.00 0.40 80.00
10/12/23	DFO	Dentons Sirote	14th Quarter	Draft Initial Report	edit, convert & fwd to S Porterfield	200.00 0.10 20.00
10/14/23	DFO	Dentons Sirote	14th Quarter	Draft Final Report	Review Firm's response & draft report	200.00 0.30 60.00
10/18/23	DFO	Dentons Sirote	14th Quarter	Draft Final Report	edit, convert & fwd to S Porterfield	200.00 0.10 20.00

Payment Remittance Address:Direct Fee Review LLC24A Trolley Square,#1225Wilmington, DE 19806

FEIN: 27-0822707

Invoice to: WEI Trust Attn: 3000 Riverchase Galleria, Suite 1700 Birmingham, Alabama 35244-2359	Invoice Date: 9/30/2024 Invoice Number: 1030-0924 Project: NEW WEI, INC. Bankruptcy Professional Fee Exam
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Date	Staff	Description			Rate	Hours	Amount
For Services 01/01/23 Through 09/30/24							
11/29/23	DFO	Dentons Sirote	14th Quarter	Attend Fee Hearing	Denton & Sirote 14th Interim	200.00	0.10 20.00
						4.40	\$ 880.00
						12.40	\$ 2,480.00

Cost Reimbursement:							
Date	Description	Count	Rate				Amount
	Courtcall	0	\$	-			-
		0	\$	-			-
		0	\$	-			-
		0	\$	-			-
			\$	-			-
Total Costs							\$ -

Payment Remittance Address:

Direct Fee Review LLC
24A Trolley Square,
#1225

Wilmington, DE 19806

FEIN: 27-0822707

Invoice to: WEI Trust Attn: 3000 Riverchase Galleria, Suite 1700 Birmingham, Alabama 35244-2359	Invoice Date: 9/30/2024 Invoice Number: 1030-0924 Project: NEW WEI, INC. Bankruptcy Professional Fee Exam
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<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Amount</u>
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For Services 01/01/23 Through 09/30/24

Please remit to:	Invoice Total	\$ 2,480.00
Direct Fee Review LLC WJ Dryer 24A Trolley Square, #1225 Wilmington, DE 19806	Total Amount Payable	\$ 5,180.00

Payment Remittance Address:

Direct Fee Review LLC
24A Trolley Square,
#1225

FEIN: 27-0822707

Wilmington, DE 19806

Invoice to:
WEI Trust
Attn:
3000 Riverchase Galleria, Suite 1700
Birmingham, Alabama 35244-2359

Invoice Date: 9/30/2024
Invoice Number: 1030-0924
Project: NEW WEI, INC.
Bankruptcy Professional Fee Exam

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff Description</u>					<u>Rate</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Amount</u>
For Services 01/01/23 Through 09/30/24								
Statement:								
	<u>INVOICES/PAYMENTS</u>	<u>Total Fees</u>	<u>20 Percent Holdback</u>	<u>80 Percent Payable</u>	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
							\$	-
10/15/2018	1030-0918	\$ 2,060.00	\$ 412.00	\$ 1,648.00	\$ 35.00		\$	2,095.00
01/02/2019	PAYMENT					\$ 2,095.00	\$	-
02/15/2019	1030-0119	\$ 2,680.00	\$ 536.00	\$ 2,144.00	\$ -		\$	2,680.00
04/18/2019	PAYMENT					\$ 2,680.00	\$	-
05/01/2019	1030-0419	\$ 2,120.00	\$ 424.00	\$ 1,696.00	\$ -		\$	2,120.00
07/09/2019	PAYMENT					\$ 2,120.00	\$	-
07/18/2019	PAYMENT					\$ 2,120.00	\$	(2,120.00)
12/15/2019	1030-1119	\$ 3,760.00	\$ 752.00	\$ 3,008.00	\$ 42.50		\$	1,682.50
02/24/2020	PAYMENT					\$ 3,802.50	\$	(2,120.00)
05/15/2020	1030-0420	\$ 2,680.00	\$ 536.00	\$ 2,144.00	\$ -		\$	560.00
08/24/2020	PAYMENT					\$ 560.00	\$	-
01/15/2021	1030-1220	\$ 2,740.00	\$ 548.00	\$ 2,192.00	\$ -		\$	2,740.00
05/10/2021	PAYMENT					\$ 2,740.00	\$	-
01/14/2022	1030-1221	\$ 2,920.00	\$ 584.00	\$ 2,336.00	\$ -		\$	2,920.00
04/26/2022	PAYMENT					\$ 2,920.00	\$	-
01/21/2023	1030-1222	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 540.00	\$ 2,160.00	\$ -		\$	2,700.00
09/30/2024	1030-0924	\$ 2,480.00	\$ 496.00	\$ 1,984.00	\$ -		\$	5,180.00
	TOTAL	\$ 24,140.00	\$ 4,828.00	\$ 19,312.00	\$ 77.50	\$ 19,037.50		