IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	)	Chapter 11
AMERICAN SIGNATURE, INC., *et al.*,[1]	)	Case No. 25-12105 (JKS)
Debtors.	)	(Jointly Administered)
	)	**Ref. Docket Nos. 9 and 75**

FINAL ORDER (I) DETERMINING ADEQUATE ASSURANCE OF PAYMENT FOR FUTURE UTILITY SERVICES, (II) PROHIBITING UTILITY PROVIDERS FROM ALTERING, REFUSING, OR DISCONTINUING SERVICES, (III) APPROVING DEBTORS' PROPOSED PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING ADEQUATE ASSURANCE REQUESTS, AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the motion (the "Motion")[2] of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") for entry of a final order (this "Final Order"): (a) approving the Debtors' proposed adequate assurance of payment for future utility services, (b) prohibiting Utility Providers from altering, refusing, or discontinuing services, (c) approving the Adequate Assurance Procedures, and (d) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon the First Day Declaration; and the United States District Court for the District of Delaware having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334, which was referred to this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 157 pursuant to 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. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found that

[1] The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: American Signature, Inc. (6162); American Signature Home Inc. (8573); American Signature USA Inc. (6162); ASI Pure Promise Insurance LLC (6162); ASI Elston LLC (7520); ASI – Laporte LLC (6162); ASI Polaris LLC (6162); ASI Thomasville LLC (6162); and American Signature Woodbridge LLC (6162). The Debtors' business address is 4300 E. 5th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43235.

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

it 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 found that the Debtors' notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and upon entry of an order [Docket No. 75] granting the relief requested on an interim basis and scheduling a final hearing; 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. Any objections to the entry of this Final Order, to the extent not withdrawn or settled, are overruled.

3. Subject to the rights of Utility Providers to move for relief under section 366(c)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code and further order of this Court, the Adequate Assurance Deposit and the Debtors' ability to pay for future Utility Services in the ordinary course of business subject to the Adequate Assurance Procedures shall constitute adequate assurance of future payment as required under section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code.

4. The following Adequate Assurance Procedures are hereby approved, subject to the rights of Utility Providers to move for relief under section 366(c)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code and further order of this Court:

a. The Debtors have deposited the Adequate Assurance Deposit in the Adequate Assurance Account.

b. Each Utility Provider shall be entitled to the funds in the Adequate Assurance Account in the amount set forth for such Utility Provider in the column labeled "Proposed Adequate Assurance" on the Utility Providers List, attached as Exhibit C to the Motion.

c. If an amount relating to Utility Services provided postpetition by any Utility Provider is unpaid and remains unpaid beyond any applicable grace period, such Utility Provider may request a disbursement from the Adequate Assurance Account up to the amount applicable to each such Utility Provider by giving notice to: (a) proposed counsel to the Debtors, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 919 North Market Street, 17th Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Laura Davis Jones (ljones@pszjlaw.com); (b) the Office of the United States Trustee, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Malcolm M. Bates (Malcolm.M.Bates@usdoj.gov); (c) proposed counsel to the official committee of unsecured creditors appointed in the Chapter 11 Cases (the "Committee"), (a) Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, 3 World Trade, 175 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10007 Attn: Eric R. Wilson (ewilson@kelleydrye.com), Jason R. Adams (jadams@kelleydrye.com), and Maeghan J. McLoughlin (mmcloughlin@kelleydrye.com)), and (b) Cole Schotz, 500 Delaware Avenue, Suite 600, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Justin Alberto (jalberto@coleschotz.com), Seth Van Aalten (svanaalten@coleschotz.com) and Sarah Carnes (scarnes@coleschotz.com); (d) counsel to the DIP Agent and Prepetition ABL Agent, (i) Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP, Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, Attn: John F. Ventola (jventola@choate.com), Jonathan D. Marshall (jmarshall@choate.com), and Lucas B. Barrett (lbarrett@choate.com), and (ii) Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., One Rodney Square, 920 North King Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Daniel J. DeFranceschi (defranceschi@RLF.com), John H. Knight (Knight@RLF.com), and Matthew P. Milana (Milana@RLF.com); and (e) counsel to the Prepetition Term Agent, Goldberg Kohn, 55 East Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603-5792, Attn: Randall L. Klein (randall.klein@goldbergkohn.com) and Zachary J. Garrett (zachary.garrett@goldbergkohn.com) (collectively, the "Notice Parties"). The Debtors shall honor such request within five business days after the date the request is received by the Debtors, subject to the ability of the Debtors and any such requesting Utility Provider to resolve any dispute regarding such request without further order of the Court. To the extent any Utility Provider receives a disbursement from the Adequate Assurance Account, the Debtors shall replenish the Adequate Assurance Account in the amount disbursed.

d. Within two days after entry of the Final Order, the Debtors will mail a copy of the Final Order to the Utility Providers.

e. Any Utility Provider desiring additional assurances of payment in the form of deposits, prepayments, or otherwise must serve an Adequate Assurance Request on the Notice Parties.

f. Any Adequate Assurance Request must: (i) be in writing; (ii) identify the location for which the Utility Services are provided; (iii) summarize the Debtors' payment history relevant to the affected account(s); (iv) certify the amount that is equal to one-half of the monthly cost of the Utility Services the Utility Provider supplies to the Debtors, calculated as a historical average over the 12-month period ended August 31, 2025; (v) certify whether the Utility Provider holds a prepetition deposit and, if so, (1) the amount of the deposit and (2) any pre-petition amount(s) allegedly outstanding; (vi) provide evidence that the Debtors have a direct obligation to the Utility Provider; and (vii) explain why the Utility Provider believes the Proposed Adequate Assurance is not sufficient adequate assurance of future payment.

g. Unless a Utility Provider files and serves an Adequate Assurance Request, the Utility Provider shall be: (i) deemed to have received "satisfactory" adequate assurance of payment in compliance with section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code; and (ii) forbidden from discontinuing, altering, or refusing Utility Services to, or discriminating against, the Debtors on account of any unpaid prepetition charges, or requiring additional assurance of payment other than the Proposed Adequate Assurance.

h. Upon the Debtors' receipt of an Adequate Assurance Request, the Debtors shall promptly negotiate with the Utility Provider to resolve the Utility Provider's Adequate Assurance Request.

i. The Debtors may, without further order from the Court, resolve any Adequate Assurance Request by mutual agreement with a Utility Provider, and the Debtors may, in connection with any such agreement, provide a Utility Provider with additional adequate assurance of payment, including but not limited to cash deposits, prepayments, or other forms of security if the Debtors believe that such adequate assurance is reasonable.

j. If the Debtors and the Utility Provider are unable to reach a consensual resolution within 21 days of receipt of an Adequate Assurance Request, or if a Utility Provider was omitted from the Utility Services List and wishes to dispute that they received adequate assurance of future payment as required by section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code as provided by this Final Order, the Debtors, in consultation with the Utility Provider, will request a hearing before the Court at the next regularly-scheduled omnibus hearing to determine the adequacy of assurance of payment with respect to that

particular Utility Provider (a "Determination Hearing") pursuant to section 366(c)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code.

k. Pending resolution of such dispute at a Determination Hearing, the relevant Utility Provider shall be prohibited from altering, refusing, or discontinuing service to the Debtors on account of: (i) unpaid charges for prepetition services; (ii) a pending Adequate Assurance Request; or (iii) any objections filed in response to the Proposed Adequate Assurance.

l. The portion of the Adequate Assurance Deposit attributable to each Utility Provider, including any additional amount deposited upon request of any applicable Utility Provider or any portion thereof, shall revert to the Debtors less any amounts owed on account of unpaid postpetition Utility Services, by no later than five business days following the earlier of the date upon which (i) the Debtors reconcile and pay the Utility Provider's final invoice in accordance with applicable non-bankruptcy law following the Debtors' termination of Utility Services from such Utility Provider, or (ii) the effective date of any chapter 11 plan confirmed in these chapter 11 cases.

5. Subject to the rights of Utility Providers to move for relief under section 366(c)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Utility Providers are prohibited from requiring additional adequate assurance of payment other than pursuant to the Adequate Assurance Procedures.

6. Unless and until the Court orders otherwise, all Utility Providers are prohibited from altering, refusing, or discontinuing services on account of any unpaid prepetition charges, the commencement of these chapter 11 cases, or any perceived inadequacy of the Proposed Adequate Assurance.

7. The Debtors are authorized to cause the Adequate Assurance Deposit to be placed into a segregated account for the benefit of each Utility Provider. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other order of this Court, including any order approving debtor-in-possession financing, in these chapter 11 cases, the interests of any party, including but not limited to the Debtors' postpetition or prepetition lenders, in, or lien on, the Adequate Assurance Deposit shall be subordinate to the Utility Providers' interest in any Adequate Assurance Deposit until such time as the Adequate Assurance Deposit is returned to the Debtors or as otherwise ordered by the Court.

8. The Debtors' service of the Motion upon the Utility Services List shall not constitute an admission or concession that any such entity is a "utility" within the meaning of section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code, and the Debtors reserve all rights and defenses with respect thereto.

9. The Debtors are authorized to add or remove parties from the Utility Services List; *provided, however*, that the Debtors shall provide seven days' notice of any such addition or removal to the Notice Parties; *provided, further*, that if a Utility Provider is removed from the Utility Services List, the Debtors shall provide the applicable Utility Provider with seven days' notice thereof and the opportunity to respond to such removal. To the extent that there is any dispute as to the postpetition amounts owed to a Utility Provider, such Utility Provider shall not be removed from the Utility Services List, and no funds shall be removed from the Adequate Assurance Deposit, until such dispute has been resolved. For any Utility Provider that is subsequently added to the Utility Services List, within two business days of the date of such addition, the Debtors shall (i) serve such Utility Provider a copy of this Final Order, including the Adequate Assurance Procedures, and (ii) augment the Adequate Assurance Deposit by 60% of the Debtors' Monthly Spend for that particular Utility Provider. The terms of this Final Order and the Adequate Assurance Procedures shall apply to any subsequently-identified Utility Provider.

10. The Debtors shall be authorized to reduce the Adequate Assurance Deposit to reflect terminated utility service upon either: (a) obtaining the affected Utility Provider's consent to reduce the Adequate Assurance Deposit; or (b) filing notice with the Court and serving upon the affected Utility Provider a notice of the Debtors' intent to reduce the Adequate Assurance Deposit within 14 days thereof and receiving no response thereto. If an objection is received, the Debtors shall request a hearing before the Court at the next omnibus hearing date or such other

date to which the Debtors and the Utility Provider may agree. Upon the effective date of a plan in these chapter 11 cases, the Adequate Assurance Deposit shall be returned to the Debtors, less any amount owed on account of unpaid, postpetition Utility Services, by no later than five business days following the date upon which the plan becomes effective.

11. The inclusion of any entity in, as well as any omission of any entity from, the Utility Providers List shall not be deemed an admission by the Debtors that such entity is, or is not, a utility within the meaning of section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code, and the Debtors reserve all rights and defenses with respect thereto. Nothing in this Final Order constitutes a finding that any entity is or is not a Utility Provider hereunder or under section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code, whether or not such entity is listed on the Utility Providers List.

12. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein or in the Motion, nothing in this Final Order affects the rights and obligations of the Debtors and their applicable landlords under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to nonresidential real property leases and the obligations arising thereunder.

13. 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.

14. Nothing contained in the Motion or this Final Order, and no action taken pursuant to the relief requested or granted (including any payment made in accordance with this Final Order), is intended as or shall be construed or deemed to be: (a) an admission, concession, or waiver of rights of the Debtors or any party in interest as to the amount of, basis for, validity,

priority, enforceability, or perfection of any claim against, lien on (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise), security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; (b) a promise or requirement to pay any particular claim; (c) an implication, admission, or finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim, other priority claim, or otherwise of a type specified or defined in the Motion or this Final Order; (d) a request, approval, assumption, adoption, rejection, or termination of any agreement, contract, lease, program, or policy under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (e) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors or any other party in interest of the right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (f) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors or any person or entity of any claims, causes of action, or other rights, under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (g) a waiver of the obligation of any party in interest to file a proof of claim. Any payment made pursuant to this Final Order is not intended as, and should not be construed as, an admission as to the validity, priority, or amount of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights subsequently to dispute such claim.

15. 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 authorized to be paid in connection with the relief granted herein.

16. This Final Order shall not apply to the Utility Providers that filed the (i) *Objection of Certain Utility Companies To the Motion of Debtors For Entry of Interim and Final Orders (I) Determining Adequate Assurance of Payment For Future Utility Services, (II) Prohibiting Utility Providers From Altering, Refusing, or Discontinuing Services, (III) Approving Debtors' Proposed*

Procedures For Resolving Adequate Assurance Requests, and (IV) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 177] and (ii) *Joinder of Certain FirstEnergy Operating Companies* [Docket No. 178].

17. Nothing in this Final Order authorizes the Debtors to accelerate any payments not otherwise due.

18. Nothing in this Final Order affects or otherwise impairs the rights of Utility Providers with regards to prepetition security deposits under section 366(c)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

19. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of the Motion, and the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and the Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.

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

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

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

Dated: January 2nd, 2026
Wilmington, Delaware

J. KATE STICKLES
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE