IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	)	Chapter 11
ASCEND ELEMENTS, INC., *et al.*,[1]	)	Case No. 26-90440 (ARP)
Debtors.	)	(Joint Administration Requested)

DEBTORS' EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO FILE A CONSOLIDATED CREDITOR MATRIX AND LIST OF THE 30 LARGEST UNSECURED CREDITORS; (II) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO REDACT CERTAIN PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION; (III) APPROVING THE FORM AND MANNER OF NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT; AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Emergency relief has been requested. Relief is requested not later than 4:00 P.M. (prevailing Central Time) on April 10, 2026.

If you object to the relief requested or you believe that emergency consideration is not warranted, you must appear at the hearing if one is set, or file a written response prior to the date that relief is requested in the preceding paragraph. Otherwise, the Court may treat the pleading as unopposed and grant the relief requested.

A hearing will be conducted on this matter on April 10, 2026, at 4:00 P.M. (prevailing Central Time) in Courtroom 400, 515 Rusk St., Houston, Texas 77002. Participation at the hearing will only be permitted by an audio and video connection.

Audio communication will be by use of the Court's dial-in facility. You may access the facility at 832-917-1510. Once connected, you will be asked to enter the conference room number. Judge Pérez's conference room number is 282694. Video communication will be by use of the GoToMeeting platform. Connect via the free GoToMeeting application or click the link on Judge Pérez's homepage. The meeting code is "JudgePerez". Click the settings icon in the upper right corner and enter your name under the personal information setting.

Hearing appearances must be made electronically in advance of both electronic and in-person hearings. To make your appearance, click the "Electronic Appearance" link on Judge Pérez's homepage. Select the case name, complete the required fields and click "Submit" to complete your appearance.

[1] The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Ascend Elements, Inc. (2893) and Ascend Elements US, LLC (8309). The location of the Debtors' service address is: 133 Flanders Road, Westborough, MA 01581.

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The above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") state the following in support of this emergency motion (this "Motion"):

Relief Requested

1. By this Motion, the Debtors seek entry of an order (the "Order"), substantially in the form attached hereto: (i) authorizing the Debtors to file a consolidated creditor matrix in lieu of submitting separate mailing matrices for each Debtor and a consolidated list of the 30 largest unsecured creditors,[2] (ii) authorizing the Debtors to redact certain personally identifiable information from such matrix and other papers to be filed in these chapter 11 cases; and (iii) approving the form and manner of notice of commencement of these Chapter 11 cases, the form of which is attached as **Exhibit 1** to the Order; and (iv) granting related relief.

Jurisdiction and Venue

2. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "Court") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). The Debtors confirm their consent, pursuant to Rule 7008 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedures (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), to the Court's entry of a final order 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 bases for the relief requested herein are sections 105(a) and 107(b)-(c), and 521 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rules 1007, 2002, and 9007 of the Bankruptcy Rules, Rule 9013-1 and 9037-1 of the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the Southern

[2] The Debtors intend to file a single consolidated list of the Debtors' 30 largest general unsecured creditors pursuant to Section F.14(a) of the Procedures for Complex Chapter 11 Cases in the Southern District of Texas.

District of Texas (the "Bankruptcy Local Rules"), and the Procedures for Complex Cases in the Southern District of Texas (the "Complex Case Procedures").

Background

5. The Debtors are in the business of recovering critical minerals from used lithium-ion batteries to create Black Mass – a valuable intermediate generated during the battery recycling process – and then using it to produce other materials, namely high-performance precursor cathode active material (pCAM) and lithium carbonate, both of which are crucial to the fast-growing battery industry. A detailed description of the Debtors and their businesses, including the facts and circumstances giving rise to the Debtors' chapter 11 cases, is set forth in the *Declaration of Linh Austin in Support of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Petitions and First Day Motions* (the "First Day Declaration"), filed contemporaneously herewith on April 9, 2026 (the "Petition Date").[3]

6. On the Petition Date, the Debtors filed voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Concurrently with the filing of this Motion, the Debtors have filed a motion requesting procedural consolidation and joint administration of these chapter 11 cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b). The Debtors are operating their businesses and managing their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in these chapter 11 cases and no official committees have been appointed or designated as of the date hereof.

Basis for Relief

I. A Consolidated Creditor Matrix is Warranted.

7. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1007(a)(1), a debtor "shall file with the petition a list containing the name and address of each entity included or to be included on Schedules D, E, F,

[3] Capitalized terms used but not defined in this Motion have the meanings ascribed to them in the First Day Declaration.

G, and H as prescribed by the Official Forms." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1007(a)(1). Although the list of creditors usually is filed on a debtor-by-debtor basis, in a complex chapter 11 bankruptcy involving more than one debtor in the Southern District of Texas, the filing of a consolidated creditor matrix by the lead Debtor is consistent with the Complex Case Procedures. Here, the preparation of separate lists of creditors for each Debtor would be expensive, time consuming, administratively burdensome, and of little incremental benefit (if any).

8. Accordingly, the Debtors respectfully request authority to file one consolidated list of creditors (the "Creditor Matrix") for all of the Debtors on the lead case docket instead of uploading a text file for each case to avoid duplicative notice.

II. A Consolidated List of 30 Largest General Unsecured Creditors is Warranted.

9. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1007(d), a debtor shall file "a list containing the name, address and claim of the creditors that hold the 20 largest unsecured claims, excluding insiders." *See* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1007(d). This list is primarily used by the Office of the United States Trustee (the "U.S. Trustee") to evaluate the types and amounts of unsecured claims against the debtor and, thus, identify potential candidates to serve on an official committee of unsecured creditors appointed in a debtor's case pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code.[4] Because a large number of creditors may be shared amongst the Debtors and certain Debtors may have fewer than 30 significant unsecured creditors, the Debtors request authority to file a single, consolidated list

[4] "The purpose of the separate list of [20] largest creditors required by this provision in the rules is to enable the clerk to identify members and the court to appoint immediately an unsecured creditors' committee in compliance with 11 U.S.C. § 1102(a)(1)." *In re Dandy Doughboy Donuts, Inc.*, 66 B.R. 457, 458 (Bankr. S.D. Fla. 1986); *see also* 9 COLLIER ON BANKRUPTCY ¶ 1007.04 (Alan N. Resnick *et al*. eds., 16th ed. rev. 2012) ("[T]he larger [unsecured creditor] list and information about the claims of the creditors on the list enables the United States Trustee to determine the different types of claims existing in order to assure that a fully representative committee is appointed.").

of their 30 largest general unsecured creditors (the "Top 30 List").[5] The Top 30 List will help alleviate administrative burdens, costs, and the possibility of duplicative service.

10. Granting this relief is consistent with Section F of the Complex Case Procedures, which requires the lead Debtor to "file a single, consolidated list of unsecured creditors on Official Form 204 consisting of the 30 largest unsecured creditors of all jointly administered debtors." Although the Debtors reserve the right to do so in the future, in this Motion, the Debtors are not requesting authority to file consolidated schedules of assets and liabilities and statements of financial affairs or to substantively consolidate the Debtors.

11. Therefore, the Debtors submit that filing a consolidated Top 30 List is necessary for the efficient and orderly administration of these chapter 11 cases, appropriate under the facts and circumstances, and in the best interest of the Debtors' estates.

III. Redaction of Certain Confidential Information is Warranted.

12. Pursuant to section 107(c)(1)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Court "for cause, may protect an individual with respect to the following types of information to the extent the court finds that disclosure of such information would create undue risk of identity theft . . . [a]ny means of identification . . . contained in a paper filed, or to be filed, in a case under [the Bankruptcy Code]." *See* 11 U.S.C. § 107(c)(1)(A). Further, Local Rule 9037-1(b) recognizes that "[c]ertain documents are routinely redacted to remove personal identifying information or other content that is not relevant to a decision by the Court."

13. As set forth in section 107(c), Congress has recognized the importance of protecting the identities and privacy of individuals who have dealings with debtors by specifically authorizing the Court to shield the "means of identification" and "[o]ther information" if "disclosure of such

[5] The Debtors submit that if any of these chapter 11 cases converts to a case under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, the applicable Debtor will file an unconsolidated Top 30 List within ten days of any such conversion.

information would create undue risk of identity theft or other unlawful injury to the individual." *See* 11 U.S.C. § 107(c)(1)(B).

14. Accordingly, it is appropriate to authorize the Debtors to redact from any paper filed or to be filed with the Court in these chapter 11 cases, including the Creditor Matrix and the schedules and statements, the personally identifiable information of any natural person because, among other reasons, the publication of such information may violate United States privacy laws and could be used to perpetrate identity theft or phishing scams or to harass or stalk such individuals, exposing the Debtors to potential civil liability and significant financial penalties.

15. Furthermore, the disclosure of individuals' personal information, including home and email addresses, has the potential to result in significant harms to such individuals, including stalking and harassment from former partners and phishing and other scams perpetrated by malicious actors.

16. Accordingly, to mitigate the risk of such harms, numerous courts have authorized the same or similar relief requested herein, including this Court. *See, e.g.*, *In re Aleon Metals, Inc., et al.,* Case No. 25-90305 (CML) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Aug. 19, 2025 [Dkt. No. 53]; *In re SmileDirectClub*, *Inc*., Case No. 23-90786 (CML) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Oct. 2, 2023) [Dkt. No. 70]; *In re The Container Store Group, Inc.*, Case No. 24-90627 (ARP) (Bankr. S.D. Tex., Dec. 23, 2024) [Dkt. No. 73]; *In re Wellpath Holdings, Inc*., Case No. 24-90533 (ARP) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Nov. 12, 2024) [Dkt. No. 72]; *In re Steward Health Care System LLC*, Case No. 24-90213 (CML) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. May 7, 2024) [Dkt. No. 90]; *In re Robertshaw US Holding Corp*., Case No. 24-90052 (CML) (Bankr. S.D. Tex., Feb. 15, 2024) [Dkt. No. 101].

17. In addition, certain states and foreign countries have enacted data privacy and protection laws and regulations that protect against the collection and disclosure of personal

information. For example, Delaware and Texas have recently passed data protection laws that impose operational requirements on companies operating within those states to take steps to protect against the disclosure of certain personal information. Violations of these laws can result in significant civil penalties. *See, e.g.,* Texas Data Privacy and Security Act, Tex. Bus. & Com. Code Ann. § 541 (effective on July 1, 2024); and Delaware Personal Data Privacy Act, Del. Code Ann. Tit. 6, §§ 12D-101-112 (effective Jan. 1, 2025).

18. Given the significant risks to the privacy and safety of individual parties in interest, as well as the potential for legal or regulatory action against the Debtors, allowing the Debtors to redact the personal information of individuals involuntarily drawn into these chapter 11 cases is both appropriate and justified.

19. The Debtors propose to provide an unredacted version of the Creditor Matrix, Schedules and Statements, and any other filings redacted pursuant to the proposed order to (a) the Court, (b) the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of Texas (the "U.S. Trustee"), (c) counsel to any statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases, and (d) any party in interest who, for cause, requests such information from the Debtors or the Court; *provided*, in each case, that the recipient of such unredacted documents shall not transfer or otherwise provide such unredacted document to any other person or entity without a further order from this Court.

IV. Service of the Notice of Commencement.

20. Bankruptcy Rule 2002(a) provides, in relevant part, that "the clerk, or some other person as the court may direct, shall give the debtor, the trustee, all creditors and indenture trustees at least 21 days' notice by mail of: the meeting of creditors under § 341 or § 1104(b) of the Code." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(a)(1). Subsection (f)(1) provides that notice of the order for relief shall be sent by mail to all creditors. *See* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(f)(1).

21. Through Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC d/b/a Verita Global, the Debtors' proposed noticing, claims, and balloting agent (the "Claims and Noticing Agent"), the Debtors propose to serve the notice of commencement of these chapter 11 cases, substantially in the form attached as **Exhibit 1** to the Order (the "Notice of Commencement"), on all parties listed on the Creditor Matrix to advise them of the meeting of creditors under section 341 of the Bankruptcy Code. Service of the Notice of Commencement on the Creditor Matrix will not only avoid confusion among creditors, but will prevent the Debtors' estates from incurring unnecessary costs associated with serving multiple notices to the parties listed on the Debtors' voluminous Creditor Matrix and preserve judicial resources.

22. Accordingly, the Debtors submit that service of a single Notice of Commencement is warranted and proper in these chapter 11 cases. Numerous courts have authorized the same or similar relief requested herein, including this Court. *See, e.g., In re Aleon Metals, Inc., et al.*, Case No. 25-90305 (CML) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Aug. 19, 2025) [Dkt. No. 53]; *In re SmileDirectClub, Inc.*, No. 23-90786 (CML) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Oct. 2, 2023) [Dkt. No. 70]; *In re Northvolt AB*, No. 24-90577 (ARP) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Nov. 21, 2024) [Dkt. No. 63]; *In re Vertex Energy, Inc.*, No. 24-90507 (CML) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Sept. 25, 2024) [Dkt. No. 65]; *In re Digit. Media Sols.*, No. 24-90468 (ARP) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Sept. 12, 2024) [Dkt. No. 48]; *In re Global Clean Energy Holdings, Inc.,* Case No. 25-90113 (ARP) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Apr. 16, 2025) [Dkt. No. 54].

23. In addition, the Debtors propose to publish, within seven (7) days after entry of the Order or as soon as practicable thereafter, the Notice of Commencement once in the national edition of *The New York Times*. The Debtors submit that publication of the Notice of Commencement in the manner set forth herein is the most practical method by which to notify those creditors and other parties in interest who do not receive the Notice of Commencement by

mail notifying them of the commencement of these chapter 11 cases and constitutes an efficient use of the estates' resources.

24. For the foregoing reasons, the relief requested is necessary, appropriate, and in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, and all other parties in interest in these chapter 11 cases.

Emergency Consideration

25. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Local Rule 9013-1, the Debtors request emergency consideration of this Motion. This Motion requests relief from procedural rules and requirements that pertain to matters of immediate significance or which involve deadlines sooner than twenty-one (21) days following the Petition Date. The relief will save costs and avoid undue administrative burden and confusion only if granted immediately. As such, the Debtors submit that emergency consideration is necessary and respectfully request that the Court approve the relief requested in this Motion on an emergency basis.

Reservation of Rights

26. Nothing contained herein or any actions taken pursuant to such relief requested is intended or shall be construed as: (a) an admission by the Debtors as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against any Debtor under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable 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 Motion or any order granting the relief requested by this Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) an admission by the Debtors as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other

encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates (and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly preserved with respect to such liens); or (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors', or any other party in interest's, rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law. If the Court grants the relief sought herein, any payment made pursuant to the Court's order is not intended and should not be construed as an admission as to the validity of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights to subsequently dispute such claim.

Notice

27. The Debtors have provided notice of this Motion to the following parties or their respective counsel: (a) the U.S. Trustee; (b) the holders of the thirty largest unsecured claims against the Debtors (on a consolidated basis); (c) counsel to the Prepetition Secured Parties; (d) the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas; (e) the state attorneys general for states in which the Debtors conduct business; (f) other governmental or regulatory agencies having a regulatory or statutory interest in these cases; and (g) any party that has requested notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 and Bankruptcy Local Rule 9013-1(d). In light of the nature of the relief requested, the Debtors submit that no other or further notice is required.

No Prior Request

28. No prior motion for the relief requested herein has been made to this Court or any other court.

WHEREFORE, the Debtors request that the Court the Order granting the relief requested herein and such other relief as the Court deems appropriate under the circumstances.

Dated: April 9, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT US LLP

By: */s/ Ryan Manns*

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Proposed Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

Certificate of Accuracy

I certify that the foregoing statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. This statement is being made pursuant to Bankruptcy Local Rule 9013-1(i).

/s/ Ryan Manns
Ryan Manns

Certificate of Service

I certify that on April 9, 2026, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by the Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas. Additionally, the foregoing document will be served as set forth in a forthcoming affidavit filed by the Debtors' proposed claims agent.

/s/ Ryan Manns
Ryan Manns

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	)	Chapter 11
ASCEND ELEMENTS, INC., *et al.*,[1]	)	Case No. 26-90440 (ARP)
Debtors.	)	(Joint Administration Requested)

ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO FILE A CONSOLIDATED CREDITOR MATRIX AND LIST OF THE 30 LARGEST UNSECURED CREDITORS; (II) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO REDACT CERTAIN PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION; (III) APPROVING THE FORM AND MANNER OF NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT; AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the emergency motion (the "Motion")[2] of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") for the entry of an order (this "Order") (i) authorizing, but not directing, the Debtors to file a consolidated creditor matrix and list of the 30 largest unsecured creditors; (ii) authorizing the Debtors to redact certain personally identifiable information; (iii) approving the form and manner of notice of commencement; and (iv) granting related relief, as more fully described in the Motion and the First Day Declaration; and upon the First Day Declaration; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334 and the *Order of Reference to Bankruptcy Judges from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas*, entered May 24, 2012; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and this Court having found that 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

[1] The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Ascend Elements, Inc. (2893) and Ascend Elements US, LLC (8309). The location of the Debtors' service address is: 133 Flanders Road, Westborough, MA 01581.

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

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 this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing before this Court (the "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 Debtors are authorized to file a single consolidated Creditor Matrix and a single consolidated Top 30 List for all of the above-captioned chapter 11 cases.

2. The requirement that the Debtors file a separate Creditor Matrix and Top 30 List for each Debtor is waived.

3. The Debtors and the Claims and Noticing Agent are authorized to redact the names, email addresses, and home addresses of all individual creditors or any other natural person and all personally identifiable information of minors on the Creditor Matrix and any other documents, including affidavits of services and schedules of assets and liabilities and statements of financial affairs, filed or to be filed with this Court in these chapter 11 cases.

4. Upon request, the Debtors shall provide an unredacted version of the Creditor Matrix and any other filings redacted pursuant to this Order to (a) the Court, (b) the U.S. Trustee, (c) counsel to any statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases, and (d) any party in interest who, for cause, requests such information from the Debtors or the Court; *provided*, in each case, that the recipient of such unredacted documents shall not transfer or otherwise provide such

unredacted document to any other person or entity without a further order from this Court. The Debtors shall inform the U.S. Trustee and the Court promptly after denying any request for an unredacted document pursuant to this Order. The rights of all parties in these chapter 11 cases to object to the relief set forth in this paragraph are hereby preserved.

5. The Debtors are authorized to serve all pleadings and papers, including the Notice of Commencement, on all parties listed on the Creditor Matrix, including via email, if available.

6. The Debtors are authorized to serve the Notice of Commencement, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, on all parties listed on the Creditor Matrix and on all parties that have entered an appearance in these chapter 11 cases. Service of the Notice of Commencement shall be deemed adequate and sufficient notice of (a) the commencement of these chapter 11 cases and (b) the scheduling of the meeting of creditors under section 341 of the Bankruptcy Code.

7. The Debtors shall cause the Notice of Commencement (with such changes as may be required for publication) to be published once in the national edition of *The New York Times* within seven (7) days after entry of this Order or as soon as practicable thereafter. The form of the publication notice is hereby approved and authorized pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002(l).

8. The Debtors shall cause the Claims and Noticing Agent to post the Notice of Commencement on the case website.

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 Bankruptcy Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.

10. Notwithstanding the relief granted herein and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, and subject to the administrative status afforded pursuant to this Order, nothing in this Order

shall be deemed: (a) an admission by the Debtors as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against a Debtor entity under the Bankruptcy Code 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 the Motion or any order granting the relief requested by the Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) an admission by the Debtors as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors', or any other party in interest's, rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (h) a concession by the Debtors that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in the Motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or seek avoidance of all such liens. Any payment made pursuant to this Order is not intended to be nor should it be construed as an admission as to the validity of any claim or a waiver of the Debtors' rights to subsequently dispute such claim.

11. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order.

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

Information to identify the case:

Debtor **ASCEND ELEMENTS, INC., *et al.*** EIN: 82-2222893
Name

United States Bankruptcy Court for the: **Southern** District of **Texas**
(State)

Date case filed for chapter 11 **04/09/2026**
MM / DD / YYYY

Case number: 26-90440 (ARP) (Joint Administration Requested)

Official Form 309F (For Corporations of Partnerships)

Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case

12/17

For the debtors listed above, cases have been filed under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. An order for relief has been entered.

This notice has important information about the cases for creditors, debtors, and trustees, including information about the meeting of creditors and deadlines. Read both pages carefully.

The filing of the cases imposed an automatic stay against most collection activities. This means that creditors generally may not take action to collect debts from the debtors or the debtors' property. For example, while the stay is in effect, creditors cannot sue, assert a deficiency, repossess property, or otherwise try to collect from the debtors. Creditors cannot demand repayment from the debtors by mail, phone, or otherwise. Creditors who violate the stay can be required to pay actual and punitive damages and attorney's fees.

Confirmation of a chapter 11 plan may result in a discharge of debt. A creditor who wants to have a particular debt excepted from discharge may be required to file a complaint in the bankruptcy clerk's office within the deadline specified in this notice. (See line 11 below for more information.)

To protect your rights, consult an attorney. All documents filed in the cases may be inspected on the website created by Verita Global, the Claims and Noticing Agent for these chapter 11 cases at www.veritaglobal.net/ascend, the bankruptcy clerk's office at the address listed below or through PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records at www.pacer.gov). Telephonic inquiries may be directed to Verita at (866) 927-7078.

The staff of the bankruptcy clerk's office cannot give legal advice.
Do not file this notice with any proof of claim or other filing in the case.

1. Debtors' full names:

Ascend Elements, Inc.	EIN: 88-2222893	Case No. 26-90440
Ascend Elements US, LLC	EIN: 41-3028309	Case No. 26-90439

2. All other names used in the last 8 years

Battery Resourcers, Inc.

3. Address Applicable to all Debtors:

133 Flanders Road, Westborough, MA 01581

4. Debtors' attorneys:

NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT US LLP

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Information to identify the case:		
5. Bankruptcy clerk's office Documents in this case may be filed at this address. You may inspect all records filed in this case at this office or online at www.pacer.gov.	**United States Courthouse** **515 Rusk Street** **Houston, TX 77002**	**Hours Open:** Mon-Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (CT) **Contact phone:** (713) 250-5500
6. Meeting of creditors The debtors' representative must attend the meeting to be questioned under oath. Creditors may attend, but are not required to do so.	**Not yet set. To be determined.** Date Time The meeting may be continued or adjourned to a later date. If so, the date will be on the court docket.	Location: Telephonic

7. Proof of claim deadline	**Deadline for filing proof of claim:**	**Not yet set. To be determined.**
You may file your claim by mail, overnight courier or hand delivery to: Ascend Claims Processing Center c/o KCC dba Verita 222 N Pacific Coast Highway Suite 300 El Segundo, CA 90245 **Or you may file your claim electronically with the claims agent at the following website:** **www.veritaglobal.net/ascend**	A proof of claim is a signed statement describing a creditor's claim. A proof of claim form may be obtained at www.uscourts.gov, any bankruptcy clerk's office, or on the case website at www.veritaglobal.net/ascend. Your claim will be allowed in the amount scheduled unless: ▪ your claim is designated as *disputed*, *contingent*, or *unliquidated*; ▪ you file a proof of claim in a different amount; or ▪ you receive another notice. If your claim is not scheduled or if your claim is designated as *disputed*, *contingent*, or *unliquidated*, you must file a proof of claim or you might not be paid on your claim and you might be unable to vote on a plan. You may file a proof of claim even if your claim is scheduled. You may review the schedules at the bankruptcy clerk's office, the case website at www.veritaglobal.net/ascend or online at www.pacer.gov Secured creditors retain rights in their collateral regardless of whether they file a proof of claim. Filing a proof of claim submits a creditor to the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court, with consequences a lawyer can explain. For example, a secured creditor who files a proof of claim may surrender important nonmonetary rights, including the right to a jury trial.	
8. Exception to discharge deadline The bankruptcy clerk's office must receive a complaint and any required filing fee by the following deadline	If § 523(c) applies to your claim and you seek to have it excepted from discharge, you must start a judicial proceeding by filing a complaint by the deadline stated below **Deadline for filing the complaint: N/A**	
9. Creditors with a foreign address	If you are a creditor receiving notice mailed to a foreign address, you may file a motion asking the court to extend the deadlines in this notice. Consult an attorney familiar with United States bankruptcy law if you have any questions about your rights in this case.	
10. Filing a Chapter 11 bankruptcy case	Chapter 11 allows debtors to reorganize or liquidate according to a plan. A plan is not effective unless the court confirms it. You may receive a copy of the plan and a disclosure statement telling you about the plan, and you may have the opportunity to vote on the plan. You will receive notice of the date of the confirmation hearing, and you may object to confirmation of the plan and attend the confirmation hearing. Unless a trustee is serving, the debtor will remain in possession of the property and may continue to operate its business.	
11. Discharge of debts	Confirmation of a chapter 11 plan may result in a discharge of debts, which may include all or part of your debt. See 11 U.S.C. § 1141(d). A discharge means that creditors may never try to collect the debt from the debtor except as provided in the plan. If you want to have a particular debt owed to you excepted from the discharge and § 523(c) applies to your claim, you must start a judicial proceeding by filing a complaint and paying the filing fee in the bankruptcy clerk's office by the deadline.	