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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA,
SACRAMENTO DIVISION

In re Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools, Debtor and Debtor in Possession.[1]	Case No. 26-25868 Chapter 11 DCN: SMR-8 Judge: Hon. [●] Date: [●], 2026 Time: [●] Place: [●]

DECLARATION OF JONATHAN RAYMOND IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY APPLICATION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF KURTZMAN CARSON CONSULTANTS, LLC, DBA VERITA GLOBAL AS NOTICE, CLAIMS, AND SOLICITATION AGENT

I, Jonathan Raymond, hereby state and declare as follows:

1. I am the Executive President of Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or, the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws

[1] The Debtor in this chapter 11 case, along with the last four digits of the Debtor's federal tax identification number, is: Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools [0967]. The mailing address for the Debtor is 1111 Howe Ave. Suite 505 Sacramento, CA 95825.

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of the State of California. I make this Declaration in support of the *Debtor's Emergency Application For Order Authorizing and Approving the Appointment of Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC dba Verita Global as Notice, Claims, and Solicitation Agent* (the "Application") filed concurrently herewith and for all other purposes authorized by law.[2]

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with others in the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, including Arch + Beam Global, LLC ("A+B") as its financial advisors, my review of relevant documents and information concerning the Debtor's operations, financial affairs, and restructuring initiatives, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. The documents referenced herein, or otherwise relied upon for purposes of this Declaration, are business records of the Debtor, prepared and kept in the ordinary course of the regularly conducted business activities of the Debtor and used by me for those purposes. I am over the age of eighteen and authorized to submit this Declaration on behalf of the Debtor. If called upon as a witness, I could and would testify competently to the facts set forth in this Declaration.

3. The Debtor is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation that owns, manages and operates two adult-serving charter schools in Sacramento County: Highlands Community Charter School ("HCCS") and California Innovative Career Academy ("CICA" and, together with HCCS, the "Schools"). The Twin Rivers Unified School District ("Twin Rivers") issued the current charters (the "Charters") for both HCCS and CICA, and since opening in August 2014, HCCTS has served approximately 60,000 students. The Debtor is exempt from certain federal income taxation as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. A more detailed description of the Debtor, including its current and historical business operations and the events precipitating this bankruptcy case (the "Chapter 11 Case"), are set forth in the *Declaration of Jonathan Raymond in Support of Chapter 11 Petition and First Day Motions* (the "First Day Declaration"), which is incorporated herein by reference.

[2] Unless otherwise defined herein, all capitalized terms have the definitions set forth in the Memorandum of Points and Authorities filed concurrently herewith.

4. The Debtor filed the Chapter 11 Case on date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). The Debtor is operating its business and managing its properties as a debtor in possession pursuant to §§ 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in this Chapter 11 Case, and no committees have been appointed or designated.

5. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor estimates that it has over $88 million in liabilities and approximately 2,000 potential creditors and parties in interest (on a consolidated basis).

6. I have reviewed the Application, Verita's qualifications, and the Services Agreement. Based on my understanding of the creditor body in the Chapter 11 Case and after discussions with the Debtor's advisors concerning the volume of the parties in interest, I believe that it would be in the best interests of the Debtor, its estate, and its creditors to appoint Verita as claims, noticing, and solicitation agent. Specifically, given the size of the potential creditor body, I expect that the administrative burden on the Debtor to manage noticing would be untenable. Moreover, I understand that it would be materially more expensive for other estate professionals to perform the same tasks proposed under the Services Agreement. Accordingly, I believe it is in the best interests of the Debtor's estate and creditors to employ Verita as claims, noticing and solicitation agent in this Chapter 11 Case.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated this 4th day of October, 2026, in Sacramento County, California.

Signed by:
Jonathan Raymond
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Jonathan Raymond