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SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP
A Limited Liability Partnership
Including Professional Corporations
ORI KATZ, State Bar No. 209561
Four Embarcadero Center, 17th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-4109
Telephone: (415) 434-9100
Facsimile: (415) 434-3947
Email: okatz@sheppard.com

AMANDA L. COTTRELL, Cal. Bar No. 360215
2200 Ross Avenue, Floor 20
Dallas, TX 75201
Telephone: 469.391.7400; Fax: 469.391.7401
Email: acottrell@sheppard.com

Proposed Counsel for Debtor and Debtor in Possession

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, SACRAMENTO DIVISION

In re Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools, Debtor and Debtor in Possession.	Case No. 26-25868 Chapter 11 Adv No. 26-02134 DCN: SMR-1 Hearing Information Judge: Hon. Christopher D. Jaime Date: November 10, 2026 Time: 11:00 a.m. Place: Courtroom 32, Department B 501 I Street Sacramento, California 95814
Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools, Plaintiff, v. Twin Rivers Unified School District Board of Trustees and California State Board of Education, Defendants.	

EXHIBITS (PART II) IN SUPPORT OF DECLARATION OF ORI KATZ IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case, 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") and hereby submits the following exhibits in support of the *Declaration of Ori Katz in support of Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and* 362.

Exhibit	Description	Page(s)
A	Declaration of Pat Fong Kushida, President and CEO of the Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce (Part I)	
B	Declarations of Teachers at the Schools (Part I)	
C	Declarations of Staff at the Schools (Part II)	3-128
D	Declarations of Current Students at the Schools (Part III + IV)	

Dated: October 13, 2026

SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP

By */s/ Ori Katz*
ORI KATZ
AMANDA COTTRELL
Proposed Counsel for Highlands Community Charter and Technical School

EXHIBIT C

DECLARATION OF ADAM FRAHAM IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Adam Graham hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a certificated administrator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I began working at Highlands as a teacher in 2019. I came here Oregon because I heard there was a school in Sacramento that taught English to refugees and immigrants. I had worked abroad as an English teacher for several years and the entire time I vividly remembered people from my student teaching in the States that I felt deserved an opportunity to learn English and improve their lives. I felt like someone needed to help them, and my dreams came true when Highlands gave me that opportunity. After five years in the classroom at Highlands I became the Accountability Coordinator. I work with my team to ensure our students

receive the best possible services we can deliver and I am fiercely proud of all my coworkers and all our students

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. As a teacher I felt an awesome responsibility to these people. There is a very great deal riding on what we do. They trust us, place their faith in us that we can give them the skills to thrive in a challenging landscape.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have seen students graduate high school who never believed they could. I've seen them gain the confidence they need to move forward with their lives. I've seen them go from frightened and lost to driven and capable. Medical assistants, truck drivers, teachers, childcare providers, engineers have all sat down across the table from me. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working here has been one of the hardest things I have ever done and also, for sure and certain, the best. Nothing else has given me the sense of purpose and mission Highlands does. There has been no other job where I wasn't counting the hours and minutes. My professional and financial circumstances have been completely transformed. The kind of professional experience I have accumulated working with our diverse student body and staff is a treasure I could never put a price on. The last seven years have been a lifetime of personal and professional growth.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. Our students, our staff our teachers are drawn from the community they serve. They help to lift up voices that are to often quiet. Every job, every parent who can help their children with their homework, every loved one taken to the doctor, every hard-won community college credit serves strengthens the community.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. I don't know what I would do, it would be nearly impossible to secure gainful employment in my profession, and the progress on my administrative services credential would cease

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. There are no other options for the bulk of these students. People speak of community colleges and other adult education programs, but I have seen firsthand that our students do not have the basic skills and level of comfort and perceived safety to access other educational programs. Our school is a lifeline to a broader world, and without it they have few options. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 9th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Adam Graham

DECLARATION OF ALINA HOI IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Alina Hoi, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Student Services Navigator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support every day. As a Student Services Navigator I provide help with academic goals, school and community resources, and provide basic need and language support to students. This is my fourth year of working at Highlands. When I was a student at HCCTS, I found not only a great place to receive knowledge, but also an extremely welcoming and supportive environment

where I was able to feel valued and heard. I also managed to complete the "Office Administration" CTE program through Highlands. When I graduated from HCCTS in 2023 I couldn't imagine my future without it, so I decided to apply for a job with Highlands. And I got lucky, they hired me as an IHS Navigator. I can confidently say that over the years, the school has become more than just a workplace for me; it has become a family I am happy to come to every day.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. As a Student Services Navigator I am helping students to improve their lives through getting school and community resources and providing language support to manage their daily responsibilities, so they can survive and support their families.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. As a Student Services Navigator, I have witnessed many HCCTS students earn their high school diplomas, complete CTE programs, secure better jobs, and receive essential documents and supplies to help them build a decent life in the United States, all with the support of HCCTS staff. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at HCCTS is extremely meaningful to me, because it gives me the opportunity to provide a safe childhood for my daughter and pay all my bills because I am a single mother and responsible for providing everything for my daughter, myself and our adopted kitten.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. HCCTS contributes to and supports the local community through its workforce, partnership with local organizations, and

serving our students' families by having created the following events in past years: school backpacks distribution, turkeys distribution for Thanksgiving Day, school-wide national holidays celebrations with lunch for students, Around the World event at CalExpo in 2024, provided free eyeglasses for students and their children, free laundromat and workforce support with finding job. As of now HCCTS provides bus passes, school phones and chromebooks for students along with T-shirts , school supplies and hygiene kits and essentials.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at HCCTS would lead my family to end up on the street, because if I am not able to pay my rent and all the bills I have nowhere to go since I don't have any relatives here. And my position at HCCTS is my only source of income that covers all expenses for my daughter and kitten and gives me the opportunity to survive and provide a decent life for them.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Since HCCTS provides opportunity for several thousand of adult learners not only to earn high school diploma, receive new job skills through CTE programs, but also find better jobs, a closure would have a devastating impact on HCCTS students, because in Sacramento area there are not enough schools places to accommodate several thousand adult students. Without having a high school diploma people can't find better jobs and provide a decent level of support for their families. All mentioned above will lead our community to have a higher level of poverty among people. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Alina Hoi

DECLARATION OF ALLA NIKOLAIETS IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Alla Nikolaiets, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Digital Navigator Lead currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I came to the United States from Ukraine in 2022 after fleeing the war. I first experienced Highlands as a student, where I received tremendous support and encouragement from my teacher and the school community. As someone who had to rebuild my life in a new country from zero scratch, I understood how overwhelming it can be for immigrants to navigate unfamiliar systems, language barriers, and uncertainty about their future. The kindness and support I received at Highlands inspired me to become part of this extraordinary community and provide the same opportunities and encouragement to others. I began working at Highlands in February 2023, and I

currently serve as a Digital Navigator Lead in the IT Department, helping students and staff overcome technological barriers to education.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from Working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. As a Digital Navigator Lead, I provide technical assistance, digital literacy support, and guidance to students and staff. My responsibilities include helping students use Chromebooks, access online learning platforms, communicate through email, and develop the digital skills necessary to succeed in their education. I understand that many of our students are immigrants who are learning English, adjusting to a new country, and balancing their education with work and family responsibilities. I approach every student with patience, understanding, and respect because I know firsthand how challenging this transition can be. My goal is not simply to solve technical problems, but to help students gain confidence, independence, and a sense of belonging.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have personally witnessed how Highlands gives students hope, confidence, and opportunities to build a better future. Many of our students arrive with limited English skills, unfamiliarity with American educational systems, and significant personal challenges. Through education, individualized guidance, and a supportive environment, they begin to overcome these barriers and believe in their own abilities. I have seen students develop essential digital skills, become more independent, and gain the confidence to continue their education and pursue professional opportunities. As a former Highlands student myself, I am living proof of how this school's support can help someone rebuild their life and move forward with purpose. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Highlands is much more than a workplace to me. It is a family, a community, and a place where I have found purpose and belonging after leaving my home country because of the war. Although I hold three higher

education degrees from Ukraine, my experience at Highlands has given me the opportunity to use my knowledge and skills to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Every day, I ask myself whether I have done enough to support our students and whether I have provided the same compassion and encouragement that I once received here. Being part of Highlands allows me to contribute to my community while providing stability for my family as we continue building our lives in the United States.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. In my work, I often meet alumni who return to Highlands simply to express their gratitude and share how much the school has changed their lives. I remember one young student who was homeless single mom and raising two children. Thanks to Highlands, she earned her high school diploma and is now attending medical college. I have also seen the tremendous impact Highlands has on Sacramento's large Slavic community. Many immigrants who could barely speak English when they first arrived are now communicating confidently, finding better jobs, and continuing their education in colleges. I see how people grow, gain confidence, and build better futures during their time at Highlands and long after graduation. For me, their success stories and sincere gratitude are the greatest measure of the work we do. I am TRULY PROUD to be part of Highlands and to contribute to a school that changes so many lives.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently support in the middle of the school year. Losing my job would have a significant financial and emotional impact on me and my family. After fleeing the war in Ukraine, my family and I have worked hard to rebuild our lives and establish stability in the United States. My employment at Highlands is an essential source of financial support for my family, allowing me to meet our everyday living expenses and provide for our future. Losing this position would create serious financial uncertainty and we can become homeless. Beyond the financial consequences, losing Highlands would be personally devastating. This school gave me a sense of belonging, purpose, and hope when I needed it most. It is not simply where I work; it is where I found a community that became my second family. The possibility of losing the opportunity to serve our students and contribute to a mission I deeply believe in is heartbreaking.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. A closure would also have a devastating impact on our students and the broader Sacramento community. Many of our students are immigrants, working adults, and parents who have already overcome significant challenges to pursue their education. For many, Highlands is not simply a school; it is a place where they receive encouragement, guidance, and the opportunity to build a better future. Based on my daily interactions with students, I know how much they depend on the support, resources, and personal connections they have developed here. Closing Highlands in the middle of the school year would interrupt their education, create uncertainty, and potentially discourage some students from continuing toward their goals. I am especially concerned about students with limited English proficiency and digital skills, who may struggle to navigate another educational system without the individualized assistance they currently receive. I have personally witnessed how Highlands helps people gain confidence, improve their English, find better employment, and continue their education. The loss of these opportunities would affect not only individual students but also their families and the communities they contribute to. In my opinion, closing Highlands would mean taking away an important source of hope and opportunity from thousands of people who are working hard to improve their lives. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Alla Nikolaiets

DECLARATION OF AMANDA MARTINEZ IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Amanda Martinez, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Counselor currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I have been a school counselor at HCCTS since December of 2025. I joined HCCTS because I strongly believe in the mission as the child of immigrant parents who utilized adult education classes to pursue their American dream after fleeing their home country.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I work with all the Highlands students in many aspects ranging from academic support, social-emotional needs, and college and career exploration. I meet with students on a regular basis to help them transition into the adult education sphere whilst handling many responsibilities in their lives.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. As a staff member, I have observed the life-altering impact of earning a high-school diploma and learning English through HCCTS for our students. Many if not all of our students come from various backgrounds, having dealt with challenges far beyond the comprehension of many Americans, despite the obstacles that have led them to this country and to HCCTS, these students are making a continuous effort to better their lives. As such, our students are juggling multiple responsibilities and attending HCCTS to create a future that is not only sustainable for themselves but for their families. Many of our students have achieved higher education degrees in their own countries but must start anew here in America, HCCTS offers them the opportunity of restarting their education at no cost and providing them with the resources to learn another language and preserve through the new challenges of acclimating to a whole new society. Our students have successfully integrated themselves into our society and through HCCTS, have built businesses, earned higher degrees, gained employment and promotions. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. I believe that the work I do here at HCCTS is meaningful because I am able to support our students to have access to a better future. As a child of immigrants, I often am reminded of the struggles my own family had to overcome when immigrating to this country and how they met other staff members at adult education schools who supported their dreams. I see my own family reflected in the students I serve and I work to ensure equitable access to education to my students.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. In my time at HCCTS, I have seen many community members reach out to our school to reestablish community partnerships that offer free resources to our students. Organizations in the community that serve marginalized populations such as our student demographics at HCCTS showcase their willingness to connect our students to their resources as a multi-tiered approach of support.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. I recently moved to Sacramento county and losing my position at HCCTS would greatly impact me not only financially but mentally and social-emotionally.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. A closure of HCCTS would be extremely detrimental to our school community. I have yet to observe any other adult education program in any district ask or encourage students to attend their sites, offer their resources, or entice our student populations to continue their education within their own systems. HCCTS offers our students something that other adult education programs do not. The impact of our closure would cause such irreparable harm to our underserved and highly vulnerable population. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12 day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Amanda Martinez

DECLARATION OF ANDREW MICHAUD IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Andrew Michaud, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am the Director of Instruction & Professional Learning currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. As the Director of Instruction & Professional Learning, I supervise, coach, professionally develop, and evaluate our students. It is my mission to ensure all teachers are performing at their best to ensure our students receive the best education possible. I have worked at HCCTS since 2018. I originally came to this school because of how important the work is to our community. I saw how it empowered students and changed lives.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I primarily

support students indirectly through our teachers. My direct work with students involves supporting the 504 building and monitoring process, intervening when students are struggling, and being a friendly ear when a student needs someone to talk to.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have personally observed students gain confidence in themselves, learn English, support their children with their school work, become advocates for their own children and grandchildren at their schools, and go to college. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at HCCTS is critically important to me. It aligns with my value of giving back to the community. My community helped me when I needed it most, and HCCTS allows me to give back. I am able to help people who felt voiceless find their voice. This spills over into my personal life. Being here allows me to not only financially support my family, but it reminds me of the importance to own our voices. I have taught my nieces to raise their voices in support of their needs and passions. My seven year old niece is now incredibly passionate and speaks her mind on all things, from her preferred afternoon snacks to how she feels about the impact of artificial intelligence on our environment.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. I have observed HCCTS support our community through partnerships. Our historical partnerships with Opening Doors, Greater Sacramento Urban League, and Bach Viet highlighted that community organizations are stronger together. We can pick up and serve our communities in ways the other cannot. HCCTS can provide education and empowerment while other organizations provide more direct employment support, counseling services, and more.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing HCCTS would be devastating. Working here has brought me great purpose and pride. Further, it has allowed me to make significant progress in paying off my own debt, support the

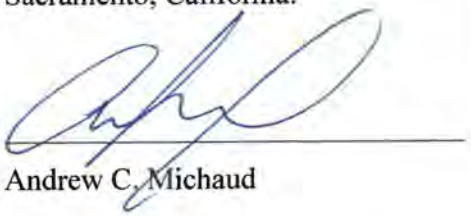
expenses of a friend who is still looking for work, and provide some financial support to my family. I will forever be grateful that I'm able to do these things.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Closing HCCTS means shutting the door on a community that has already had many doors slammed in their face. It further reinforces to them that they are not worthy of something geared so intently toward their success. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Andrew C. Michaud

DECLARATION OF ANNA SEMENKO IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Anna Semenko, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am an alumnus of Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my life and education. I came to the United States from Ukraine through the Uniting for Ukraine (U4U) program after the war began. Back in Ukraine, I had a medical education and worked in a hospital before becoming a mother. When my family arrived in the United States, our friends welcomed us and helped us settle in, but I soon realized that improving my English was essential for finding employment, integrating into American society, and building a future here. I chose HCCTS because it was close

to my home and offered childcare, which was especially important since my son was only three years old at the time. Having childcare available allowed me to spend more time in the classroom, focus on learning English, and take meaningful steps toward rebuilding my professional and personal life in a new country.

4. HCCTS provided me with an educational opportunity that I could not otherwise obtain. I am currently an alumnus. Highlands Community Charter School played an important role in helping me find my first job in the United States because earning my high school diploma opened doors to employment opportunities that would otherwise have been difficult to access. After graduating from Highlands, I started working at Deseret Industries thrift store while also participating in the truck driving training program offered through Highlands. The school's flexibility made it possible for me to balance my job, education, and family responsibilities.

5. HCCTS does more than provide classroom instruction. One of the most valuable parts of my experience at Highlands Community Charter School was the incredible support I received from the teachers and staff, especially as a newcomer to the United States trying to understand an unfamiliar system. They helped us navigate important everyday challenges, such as understanding health insurance, finding available resources, and knowing where to turn for assistance when even searching online felt overwhelming. A staff member named Tu helped me create my very first American résumé, which allowed me to apply for and obtain my first job at a thrift store. My teacher, Stacey, also provided emotional support during difficult times when I was facing personal and family challenges, and her kindness meant so much to me. To me, Highlands has always been much more than a school, and the relationships I built there are so meaningful that I still stay in touch with the staff and want to return again and again, even though I am no longer a student. The childcare program was also incredibly valuable because my son learned the alphabet and his first English words there, which helped him feel more prepared when he entered

kindergarten and later first grade. What makes Highlands so special to me is that the school does not just support adult students in building better futures but also cares about their children and helps entire families succeed.

6. HCCTS is important to me because it helped me take my first steps toward employment and independence in the United States. As I mentioned earlier, a staff member named Tu helped me prepare my résumé, and the school even provided me with my first professional outfit for a job interview. My teacher also gave me tremendous emotional support and helped me practice interview questions, preparing me with different ways to answer so that I could walk into my interview feeling confident and ready. This support went far beyond education and made a real difference in helping me find my first job and begin building a new life here. Highlands also holds a special place in my heart for another reason: it is where I found love, making the school an unforgettable part of my personal story. I am not aware of another school or program in my area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and support services that HCCTS provides.

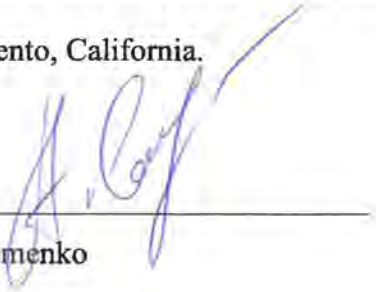
7. The loss of HCCTS would be a significant hardship to me personally and to our community. I believe Highlands Community Charter School is an essential part of Sacramento's Slavic community, especially for immigrants who have come from Ukraine and other post-Soviet countries. As someone who graduated from Highlands, I understand how important it is to have a place where people can connect with others who share their culture, values, and traditions, because this sense of belonging is also incredibly important for emotional well-being and mental health. Highlands gives newcomers not only the education and motivation they need to find employment and build a life in the United States, but also a welcoming community where they can form friendships, celebrate holidays, and support one another. Sacramento has a large Slavic community, and I believe there is no real alternative to Highlands that brings together all these

opportunities in one place. What makes this school truly special is its multicultural environment, where everyone can find something they need, whether it is learning English, earning a high school diploma, completing career training, or simply feeling connected to a community while building a better future.

8. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and students can continue their education without interruption.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Anna Semenko

DECLARATION OF ASKER ASLANOV IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Asker Aslanov, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Student Services Navigator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I support students and staff at HCCTS. I began working as a Student Services Navigator on , after working in Maintenance since November 2024.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or

developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I provide Russian-English language support. I help students coordinate with school departments of different backgrounds, helping them address barriers so they can focus on their education.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have seen students improve their English and gain skills that support employment and integration into the community. Through personal observations and conversations with students and teachers, I have learned of students obtaining truck-driving licenses, developing hairdressing skills, and earning high school diplomas that qualify them for jobs. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Having experienced the challenges of learning English and adapting to a new country myself, I find meaning in helping others overcome similar difficulties. This position provides income and stability for my family and helps me support my children and their education.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. I have helped students with Medi-Cal applications, benefits-related paperwork, correspondence with various departments, and translation. This support helps students access essential services and maintain the stability they need to continue their education and support their families.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. My income provides most of our family's financial support. Losing my position would make

it difficult to pay rent, buy groceries, and cover transportation and other essential expenses. Finding another job would take time and disrupt my professional development.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Closing HCCTS would interrupt students' English learning, diploma compilation, and access to support services. Students could struggle to find comparable assistance elsewhere. Based on the needs I encounter in my work, I believe this disruption could increase financial and housing instability and make integration into the community more difficult. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Asker Aslanov

Asker Aslanov

DECLARATION OF Catherine Thirkill IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Catherine Thirkill, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am the Director of Student Systems and Academic Compliance currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I have worked at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools (HCCTS) since 2019, serving as a teacher, Assessment Coordinator, and now Director of Student Systems and Academic Compliance. Throughout my career, I have developed a deep commitment to adult education and the belief that everyone deserves the opportunity to continue learning and

growing, regardless of their circumstances. This commitment is personal. After college, I moved to a country where I did not speak the language and experienced firsthand the challenges of navigating an unfamiliar culture and systems. I often wished I had access to a school like Highlands to help me build the language skills and confidence to succeed in a new environment. Similarly, my sister left high school before earning her diploma and later struggled to pursue higher education because of that decision. Watching her feel limited by her past reinforced my belief that education should offer second chances. I am incredibly proud to work at Highlands because we believe that past circumstances should not limit future opportunities. Whether helping newcomers build a life in a new country or supporting adults in earning their high school diplomas, we empower students to pursue goals they once thought were out of reach. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. As Director of Student Systems and Academic Compliance, I have the opportunity to support students in two key areas: onboarding and assessment. I oversee the Student Onboarding and Records team, which manages student registration and orientation. I value the opportunity to personally welcome new students and help them feel supported as they begin their educational journey. I also oversee the implementation of schoolwide assessments, working closely with teachers to ensure a smooth testing experience and occasionally proctoring assessments myself. I particularly enjoy opportunities to step outside the office and engage directly with students. Above all, I strive to ensure that assessment results are used meaningfully to inform instruction and improve student learning outcomes.

4. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. As a teacher, I had the privilege of witnessing the small but transformative milestones my students achieved. Beyond learning English, mastering new phrases, or improving pronunciation, I

watched them develop the confidence to communicate both inside and outside the classroom. Hearing how they navigated challenges in their daily lives was inspiring, not only to me but also to their classmates. Equally meaningful was the sense of community they built. Students created group chats to support one another, share resources, and develop friendships. For adults, particularly immigrants adjusting to a new country, building connections can be challenging, and I was proud to see our school become a welcoming space where students found friendship, belonging, and support. Although I now serve in an administrative role, I make an effort to visit classrooms regularly to stay connected to our students and witness the impact of HCCTS firsthand. Graduation ceremonies are especially meaningful, as students share powerful stories of resilience, perseverance, and overcoming extraordinary obstacles. These experiences continually remind me of the challenges our students face and reinforce my pride in working for an organization that empowers adults to overcome barriers, achieve their educational goals, and build better futures for themselves and their families. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

5. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Highlands has been an incredibly supportive place to work, providing opportunities that have shaped my professional growth and career. Before joining HCCTS, I earned just $15.50 per hour teaching adults. Through the opportunities and support Highlands has provided, I have advanced professionally, achieved greater financial stability, and become a homeowner. When I joined HCCTS, I participated in a program that helped me earn my teaching credential. After five years of teaching, I pursued my administrative credential, gaining the qualifications and experience necessary for my current role as Director. I am deeply grateful for the impact HCCTS has had on my life. Highlands has also

made a profound difference for my family. My sister did not graduate from high school as a teenager, and when I joined HCCTS, I encouraged her to return and complete her education. After years of dedication and perseverance, she is now on track to graduate this year. Earning her high school diploma would remove a significant barrier that has limited her educational and some career opportunities throughout adulthood. The possibility of losing Highlands when she is so close to achieving this milestone is heartbreaking, particularly because comparable opportunities to earn a high school diploma rather than a GED may be difficult to find. I sincerely hope she has the opportunity to complete what she started and move forward with the confidence and opportunities that come with earning her diploma.

6. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. I have seen firsthand how HCCTS strengthens our local community by providing adults with access to education, English language instruction, and opportunities to develop skills that improve their employment prospects and financial stability. By helping students overcome educational and language barriers, Highlands empowers individuals to better support their families, participate more fully in their communities, and build brighter futures for themselves and their children.

7. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at HCCTS would have a significant financial and emotional impact on my family. Highlands has provided me with the opportunity to grow from earning $15.50 per hour as an adult education teacher to becoming a Director and homeowner. Losing my position would threaten the financial stability I have worked so hard to build, including my ability to maintain my home and meet my family's financial obligations. Beyond the financial impact, it would be heartbreaking to lose a career and community that I have dedicated myself to since 2019. HCCTS

has played an essential role in both my professional and personal growth, and losing the opportunity to continue serving our students would be deeply difficult.

8. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Based on my experiences as both a teacher and administrator, I believe the closure of HCCTS would have a devastating impact on our students and the communities we serve. Many of our students have already overcome significant barriers to pursue their education, including language challenges, financial hardship, and interrupted schooling. For some, Highlands represents an opportunity they never thought they would have again. Closing our school would disrupt their educational progress and leave many without an accessible alternative to earn their high school diploma, improve their English, or prepare for better employment opportunities. Beyond academics, I have witnessed Highlands become a place where students build friendships, find support, and develop a sense of belonging, particularly for immigrants adjusting to life in a new country. Losing HCCTS would mean losing more than a school; it would mean losing a vital community resource that helps adults build confidence, achieve financial stability, support their families, and create better futures for themselves and their children. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

9. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this twelfth day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Catherine Thirkill

DECLARATION OF CHARLES HUSTED IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Charles Husted, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am the interim Director of Safety & Security, currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. I am over the age of eighteen and am 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I currently serve as the Interim Director of Safety & Security for HCCTS. I began this role on December 31, 2025, at the request of HCCTS Executive Director Jonathan Raymond. I was asked to join the organization to assess its existing safety and security practices and identify opportunities for meaningful improvement. My responsibilities include developing

and implementing measures to strengthen safety and security operations, ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and improving emergency preparedness and organizational readiness. Ultimately, my role is to help provide a safe and secure educational environment for all HCCTS students and staff. HCCTS serves a diverse adult student population that includes individuals who have not completed their high school education and many who are still learning English. These circumstances often create significant barriers to employment and financial independence. Many of our students face challenges that place them at a disadvantage when seeking meaningful employment that provides a living wage and the ability to support themselves and their families. HCCTS plays an important role in helping individuals overcome these barriers through education, workforce development, and opportunities that can positively change the direction of their lives. Having previously retired, my decision to return to professional service was primarily influenced by the importance of HCCTS's educational mission and my confidence in the current Executive Leadership Team's commitment to strengthening organizational accountability, improving operations practices, and ensuring the long-term success of the institution. I recognized the opportunity to contribute my professional experience and leadership to an organization whose mission extends well beyond the classroom. I believe that providing individuals with access to education and practical job skills not only improves their personal circumstances but also strengthens families and the communities in which they live. I accepted this interim position with a clear understanding of the responsibilities and challenges involved. My objective was not simply to assess existing safety and security conditions but to help establish sustainable improvements that promote accountability, preparedness, and a strong organizational culture of safety. I remain committed to supporting the staff who carry out this important mission and helping to ensure that every student has the opportunity to pursue their educational goals in an environment where they feel safe, respected, and supported.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. Through my role as Interim Director of Safety & Security, I have had the opportunity to observe and interact with HCCTS students and staff across our educational locations. Although my responsibilities are not directly associated with classroom instruction, my position provides a

unique perspective on the educational environment and the meaningful impact HCCTS has on the individuals it serves. What has stood out to me is the determination of our students to improve their circumstances and create better opportunities for themselves and their families. Many are balancing their educational pursuits with employment, family responsibilities, and other personal challenges. Despite these obstacles, they continue to make the commitment to attend school and pursue goals that may have previously seemed beyond their reach. In my view, the value of HCCTS extends beyond earning a high school diploma, improving English language skills, or developing practical employment skills. These achievements can represent turning points in a person's life. They create opportunities for greater independence and self-sufficiency, while helping individuals recognize their own value and potential. One of the more meaningful aspects of my experience at HCCTS has been seeing the genuine connection between our staff and students. There is a shared understanding that education can open doors that might otherwise remain closed. I believe this commitment to helping students overcome obstacles and pursue a better future is among the organization's greatest strengths. Having spent my entire professional career in public service, I recognize the lasting impact that opportunity, encouragement, and a supportive environment can have on individuals and the communities in which they live. My experience at HCCTS has reinforced that perspective. I have seen an organization where the work being done each day has the potential to change lives and where the success of one student can create a positive and lasting impact well beyond the classroom. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Prior to joining HCCTS, I devoted more than three decades of my professional life to public service through a career in law enforcement. Throughout those years, my commitment extended beyond enforcing laws and maintaining public safety. I have always believed that meaningful service involves helping others, standing in the gap for those who are most vulnerable, and contributing to the strength and resilience of the communities we serve. Although my professional responsibilities at

HCCTS are different from those of my previous career, the principles that guide my work remain the same. I believe everyone deserves to feel safe, be treated with dignity, and have a fair opportunity to improve their circumstances. HCCTS provides those opportunities to individuals who may have encountered significant obstacles throughout their lives. Being able to contribute to that mission is both personally meaningful and professionally rewarding. My decision to come out of retirement was not simply about returning to work. It was an opportunity to continue serving others in a capacity where my experience and leadership could make a meaningful difference. There is a tremendous sense of purpose in knowing that the work we do to strengthen safety and security helps create an environment where students can focus on learning, developing new skills, and pursuing a better future. On a personal level, my work at HCCTS reinforces the values that have guided my life and that I strive to demonstrate within my own family. Continuing to serve after retirement allows me to lead by example and demonstrate that purpose does not end with a career. For me and my family, this work represents a continuation of a lifelong commitment to service and the belief that our greatest contributions often come from what we do for others. I take considerable pride in being part of an organization whose mission can positively influence not only individual students but also their families and future generations. Knowing that I can contribute to that mission makes my work at HCCTS particularly rewarding.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. Through my work at HCCTS, I have come to appreciate the organization's important role in supporting and strengthening the communities it serves. HCCTS maintains close relationships with numerous established community-based organizations whose services and resources complement our educational programs. Together, these partnerships create a valuable network of support that helps individuals address challenges extending beyond the classroom. I believe this collaborative approach is essential to helping people build more stable and productive lives while contributing to healthier and more resilient communities. One of the most meaningful examples of HCCTS's impact is reflected in its own workforce. A number of our dedicated employees were once HCCTS students themselves. Their transition from student to employee speaks to the opportunities this organization helps create and the lasting value of its mission. I find it particularly inspiring that

individuals who once benefited from HCCTS's educational services are now contributing their own skills and experiences to helping others succeed. In my view, HCCTS represents much more than an educational institution. It is an invaluable community resource whose influence extends to families, local organizations, and the broader community. The strength of these partnerships and the commitment of those who serve within them demonstrate how meaningful collaboration and access to opportunity can positively influence lives for generations.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at HCCTS would represent far more than an unexpected end to my employment. Having made the deliberate decision to come out of retirement to support this organization's mission, I have developed a strong personal and professional commitment to the students and staff we serve. The sudden loss of that opportunity would be deeply disappointing and would bring an abrupt end to important safety and security improvements that I have been entrusted to help implement. This position represents a meaningful continuation of my lifelong commitment to public service and the values that have guided my career. Losing it would disrupt the purpose and professional fulfillment I have found in this work. Beyond the personal impact, I would be particularly concerned about the effect an unexpected closure would have on the students and families who depend upon HCCTS.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Through my work at HCCTS, I have observed the determination of students striving to overcome significant obstacles and improve their circumstances. An abrupt closure would disrupt their educational progress and potentially undermine the confidence and momentum they have worked so hard to develop. For many, finding another opportunity that accommodates their individual needs and circumstances may prove especially challenging. I also believe the consequences would extend well beyond our students. The loss of HCCTS would create a significant void within the network of community organizations and services that collectively help individuals and families achieve greater stability and independence. Having dedicated my professional life to public service, I have learned that strengthening communities requires more than responding to their challenges. It

requires investing in people and creating opportunities for meaningful change. Based on what I have observed at HCCTS, I believe its closure would represent a substantial loss of those opportunities for the individuals, families, and communities it serves. Ultimately, the true measure of HCCTS's value is not simply education it provides today, but the lives it helps change and the futures it makes possible. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Charles Husted

DECLARATION OF Cindy Ly IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Cindy Ly, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Social Worker currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. As a Social Worker, my priority is supporting students and their mental health. I have worked at HCCTS as a Social Worker since September 8, 2026. I was drawn to HCCTS because at an early age I saw the positive impacts adult school had on my family members as they assimilated to life in the U.S. after immigrating. The school's mission of accountability and reform resonated with me as I believe our students and community members also deserve a second chance in succeeding.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or

developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I feel honored to support adult learners that feel empowered to reach out for mental health support. Our students are determined to reach their goals, however, many of our students are also parents, working full time, assimilating into a new country/community, or just trying to keep their head afloat as they persevere through many adversities.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. After only a month at HCCTS, I've heard from several students how the school and it's community of staff and students have positively impacted them in several ways. Last week a student told me if it weren't for HCCTS they would be lonely and potentially fall back into a negative pattern that they've worked hard to get away from. I've also heard from another student that HCCTS is their escape, an escape from the busyness of being a caretaker. Lastly, another student who is graduating this month, told me before he came to HCCTS he didn't know any English and he was lost in life. Today he was able to eloquently advocate for himself and his mental health. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. As a Social Worker, supporting adult learners and their mental health is fulfilling to me because I came into this profession to break the barrier between communities of color and mental health. As a first-generation student myself, I know firsthand the hardships of breaking generational cycles. As I pursued higher education, the free counseling and therapy provided by my school was instrumental in my personal and professional growth. I truly feel honored to provide the same, free mental health service to students that are pursuing an academic goal while juggling other responsibilities. My employment at HCCTS helps me support myself and the increasing cost of living in California.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. HCCTS helps connect its students to the community through referrals to local agencies and education regarding the available resources in our county.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. This would directly impact me and my family as we battle with the increasing cost of living in California. The end of my employment at HCCTS would negatively impact me and my family and jeopardize our ability to afford our monthly living expenses

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. The closing of HCCTS would sever a lifeline to our students and retraumatize them after finding stability and support through HCCTS. Not only will our students lose access to education and English learning supports but they will also lose access to free mental health services, college and career counseling, community resource navigation, basic needs assistance, and career development coaching. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Cindy Ly

DECLARATION OF CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ GUZMAN IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Claudia Hernandez, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Digital Navigator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students. 3. HCCTS has had a profound impact on my personal and professional life. I am not only an employee of this school; I am also a former student whose life was changed by the opportunities and support I received here. I originally enrolled at Highlands because I wanted to learn English. In Mexico, I had only completed primary school, and after many years away from

formal education, earning a high school diploma seemed impossible to me. I was afraid of returning I was afraid of returning to school, completing assignments, and studying mathematics. However, the teachers and staff at Highlands encouraged me to try, believed in me when I struggled to believe in myself, and supported me throughout my educational journey.

4.

5. Working at HCCTS is different from teaching at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. Before becoming a Digital Navigator, I worked as a Paraeducator. In my current role, I help students use their Chromebooks, access their email accounts, find and complete assignments, submit their work, and use Zoom to meet with their teachers. I help students overcome technology challenges so they can participate in their education and continue working toward their goals. Because I was once a student at Highlands myself, I understand how important it is to have someone who is patient, supportive, and willing to help.

6. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in helping students overcome obstacles and build better futures. I know this firsthand because I once believed that earning a high school diploma was beyond my reach. One of the most meaningful moments in my journey happened when I attended a doctor's appointment and was able to say, "I don't need an interpreter because I am learning English." For years, I had depended on interpreters because I could not communicate in English. Being able to speak for myself made me feel more confident, independent, and free. That experience motivated me to keep going and earn my high school diploma. After graduating from Highlands, I was given the opportunity to work at the same school that had helped me succeed. I began as a Paraeducator and later became a Digital Navigator. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free

adult diploma. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

7. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Highlands gave me more than an education; it helped me regain confidence in myself and opened doors I had never imagined would be available to me. My job allows me to give back to the school that believed in me and to help students who may be facing challenges similar to those I experienced. I take pride in knowing that I can encourage others to keep going, just as the teachers and staff once encouraged me. If HCCTS were to close, I would lose my job, affecting my financial stability and my ability to support myself and my family.

8. HCCTS is much more than a school within four walls. For many people who have left their home countries to build a life in the United States, it is a place of support, belonging, and hope. It helps students learn English, earn a high school diploma, develop skills for employment, and become more independent. The school provides opportunities for people to regain confidence in themselves and work toward a better future for themselves and their families. Through its educational programs and support for adult learners, HCCTS makes a meaningful contribution to the community it serves.

9. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my job, affecting my financial stability and my ability to support myself and my family. However, the impact would go far beyond the financial loss. It would be heartbreaking to lose the opportunity to help students who, like me, left their home countries hoping to build a better life but face language barriers, limited educational opportunities, or doubts about their own abilities. I know what it feels like to believe that certain goals are impossible, and I know how life-changing it can be when someone

believes in you and encourages you not to give up. Losing my position would mean losing the opportunity to continue giving that same support to others.

10. A closure would also harm the students I support and the broader community. Students who depend on assistance with computers, email, online assignments, and virtual meetings with teachers could face additional barriers to continuing their education. Adults who are balancing jobs, family responsibilities, and language barriers could lose an educational environment that helps them work toward their goals. Based on my experience as both a former student and a current employee, I believe closing HCCTS would mean losing far more than a place to attend classes. It would mean losing an important source of hope, confidence, opportunity, and support. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately provide the same combination of educational opportunities and student support without significant disruption. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

11. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue helping the students who depend on this school. Highlands changed my life by helping me believe in myself, earn my high school diploma, and build a career in which I can help others. I hope future students will have the same opportunity to discover what they can accomplish when someone believes in them.

[*Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank*]

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 10/12/2026 day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Claudia Hernandez Guzman

DECLARATION OF DAISY VASQUEZ IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Daisy Vasquez, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Paraeducator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I am a Paraeducator and I have been working at HCCTS for three years. I love being part of this organization because it provides opportunities to people, to the community and to those who need a second chance.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I support teachers and students and my direct experience working with HCCTS has been wonderful, because I love seeing students completing a technical course and as well as graduating. This major accomplishment fulfills myself because HCCTS really changes peoples lives.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. Based on my own experience as a Paraeducator, I have seen a great impact from HCCTS to students, such as learning English, taking CTE courses and a path towards a Diploma. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at HCCTS is meaningful to me because I have seen how HCCTS transforms the students' lives. My family is also proud of me as well because contributing to the community is really amazing.

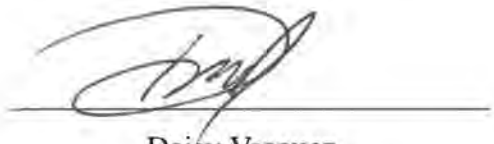
7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. HCCTS contributes to the support of the local community such as helping students to look for work with local organizations, helping the community to find a way to feed and support their families with the skills that HCCTS has taught the students in the workforce field for the students to succeed in the outside world. As well as being able to get a better job.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at HCCTS is losing the opportunity to continue contributing to my

workplace and supporting my family. It would create financial hardship, make it difficult to keep up with my responsibilities, and jeopardize financial stability. It would also cause considerable stress and uncertainty for my family as we try to adjust to the loss of income and determine how to meet our ongoing needs. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Closing HCCTS would have a significant negative impact on our students and the community we serve. Students would lose a supportive learning environment, relationships with teachers and staff, and the stability they need to succeed academically and personally. Many students rely on the support, guidance, and resources provided at HCCTS to help them reach their goals. The closure would also affect families who depend on the school for their children's education and support. Our community would lose an important resource dedicated to helping students learn, grow, and build a better future. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

9. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Daisy Vasquez

DECLARATION OF EKATERINA KOLIADINA IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Ekaterina Koliadina, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Project Management Specialist currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I currently work in the Accountability, Performance Management and Continuous Improvement Department, focusing on project management-related tasks. My job also includes administering Staff and Student Climate Surveys at the school, as well as WASC and LCAP related tasks. I started at Highlands as a student in late 2022 and graduated in 2023. The value that the school brought and the impact that it had on my life were enormous. Although I had work experience from Russia, back in 2022 I was not confident in my speaking skills and had no job or certificates that would be helpful for finding a job in the US. Me and my family were jumping from one friend's house to another for three months, starting in September in Sterling,

Virginia for a month, trying our best in New York for a week, and eventually driving all the way to California in the end of October 2022. After staying at a friend's house in Fair Oaks for a month, we ultimately found ourselves with nowhere to live: just our car, two kids, my husband, and me. We even had to apply for a program for unhoused families because we had no place to stay and could not find work. Being an immigrant escaping from war and autocracy, having to support two kids with limited resources and a lack of information, keeping up felt like an almost unachievable task. After graduation from Highlands in 2023, I decided to apply for an Instructional Paraeducator position to be able to lend a hand to those who are still struggling, understanding their trauma and supporting them with translation and tutoring. I gradually grew over these three years and am now able to perform more administrative tasks, having also earned additional certificates from the local community colleges.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. While working in the Digital Literacy Bootcamp program at Highlands, I helped hundreds of students gain the computer skills they lacked from their previous experience or were unfamiliar with. As a result, these adult learners were able to join our CICA independent study program, graduate, and later enter college or university to pursue a degree. Many of them also found confidence in their English language skills and found a job.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I saw deeply stressed individuals who had escaped, just like I did, with no job, no friends, and in a completely new country where everything is different, with limited language skills and no community to lean on. Right before my eyes, these students built friendships in class, shared vital information, and graduated from the course with a clear path ahead, a community of peers sharing the same goals, and solid knowledge of digital platforms essential for their future studies or work. I received immense gratitude and a tremendous amount of positive feedback about how this encouragement provided them with essential skills and self-confidence, showing firsthand how staff members can guide students by their own example. I am not aware of another school or

program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. I have always said that I have never seen such a welcoming place before. It feels like a miracle how the staff working with students is chosen, it truly is the warmest environment, and people are so genuinely kind and caring that it is hard to believe they are real. It was heartbreaking for me to see colleagues leave during the first round of massive layoffs, and I was later part of the second round myself. I felt that the school was losing its brightest minds and best people, a team assembled with so much care that worked tirelessly and made an enormous impact together. My family struggled without my income; we faced financial hardship, of course, but what I struggled with the most was being away from my team, the people still there, and the work where I knew I could help. That is why I applied three times after I was laid off, and finally, after multiple interviews, I was accepted into the role I hold today.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. Any question a student had, Highlands was able to help with. Whether a student needed assistance filling out a form for Medi-Cal or another agency, had substandard living conditions, needed help paying electricity bills, or was going through a family crisis, we always had someone who could translate for them, connect them to resources, and follow up afterward to ensure that help was actually provided. We also had partners from the Los Rios Community College District right on site in one of our school offices, where our students could get information about the college admissions process or apply directly. In addition, we hosted resource fairs where many local community non-profits participated to connect students with the vital support and resources they needed.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue serving the organization that helps thousands of students in the middle of the school year. My daughter and son would have to quit the sports they are involved in and their Saturday heritage school, and we would have to sell our car just to be able to keep up with the bills until I find a place to work.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. As a person who is closely connected to the community we serve, I know that the impact of a closure would be devastating. First of all, and this is very hard to talk about, families who are in the Welfare-to-Work program will stop receiving their benefits, which will directly impact their ability to simply buy food for their children. Soon after, this will affect their ability to pay rent, not to mention their ability to learn the language and integrate into the community. In the long run, they risk losing the language connection with their own children. Furthermore, English learner students who could go to college and apply for financial aid there would end up using all their financial aid just on basic English language classes. Eventually, they will not be able to pay for career training and pursue a degree because their financial aid limits will be exhausted. Historically, more educated communities lead to safer neighborhoods and safer living conditions, and I believe this closure will negatively impact the safety of the greater Sacramento area in the long run. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 10 day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Ekaterina Koliadina

DECLARATION OF FRANCISCO JAVIER HERNANDEZ IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, FRANCISCO JAVIER HERNANDEZ, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am an Attendance Generalist currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I have worked at Highlands since April 2024, beginning in student registration and advancing to my current role as Attendance Generalist, and was drawn to the opportunity to support adult education and help students achieve their educational goals.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I oversee student attendance and enrollment records, coordinate with school staff, and help ensure students receive the support needed to continue their education.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. Through my work at Highlands, I have seen students make progress toward earning their high school diplomas, improving their English skills, and overcoming personal challenges to continue their education. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at Highlands is meaningful to me because I can contribute to helping adults achieve their educational goals, while my position provides professional growth and financial stability for my family.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. I have seen Highlands support the local community by providing adults with opportunities to earn their high school diplomas, improve their English skills, and develop career skills that benefit both themselves and their families.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at Highlands would create financial hardship for my family, as my income helps support my wife and two young children, cover our mortgage, and maintain our household's financial stability.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. I believe a closure would significantly disrupt students' education, prevent many from reaching their academic goals, and leave the community with fewer opportunities for adult education and career advancement. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Francisco M

FRANCISCO JAVIER HERNANDEZ

DECLARATION OF GUADALUPE RAYGOZA IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Guadalupe Raygoza, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Student & Staff Engagement Generalist currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I have worked at HCCTS since 2017. I currently serve as a Student & Staff Engagement Generalist, supporting Student Services, student engagement, outreach, and events. Before becoming an employee, I was a student at HCCTS. I came to Highlands after experiencing addiction, mental health challenges, homelessness, and instability while raising my two boys. Saint John's Shelter for Women and Children referred me to Highlands so that I could earn my

high school diploma. After I graduated, Highlands gave me an opportunity to begin a career and give back to the same community that helped me rebuild my life.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. In my role, I conduct outreach, support student engagement, help coordinate events, and connect students and staff with information and resources. I regularly work with adult students who are balancing their education with employment, children, transportation challenges, language barriers, and other responsibilities. Because I was once a Highlands student, I understand how difficult it can be to return to school while dealing with personal challenges. I use my experience to make students feel welcomed, respected, and supported.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have seen students arrive at HCCTS feeling embarrassed, discouraged, or uncertain about whether they belong in school. I have also seen those same students gain confidence, improve their English, earn high school diplomas, develop employment skills, and become more involved in their families and communities. Many HCCTS students are immigrants, refugees, returning citizens, working parents, or adults who did not succeed in a traditional school environment. HCCTS gives them an opportunity to continue their education without being judged because of their past or current circumstances. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at HCCTS is deeply meaningful to me because Highlands did not merely give me a job, it helped me transform my entire life. Before coming to Highlands, I struggled with addiction and mental health challenges. I was at risk of losing custody of my children and moved from couch to couch because I did not have a stable place to live with my two boys. I eventually entered Saint John's Shelter for Women and Children, where I remained for approximately one year before moving into transitional housing. When I first came to Highlands, I felt embarrassed and believed I was too

good to be there. Those feelings quickly disappeared because the staff treated me like a human being. They did not judge me because of my past. They saw potential in me when I struggled to see it in myself. I earned my high school diploma during the 2016–2017 school year, became the first person in my family to graduate from high school, and later completed my HR certification. My mother has fourteen children, which made becoming the first graduate especially meaningful to me. Highlands hired me in 2017 and gave me an opportunity to build a career. Because of that stability, I was able to purchase a home in Marysville, provide for my children, and build a better life for my family. My oldest son has now graduated from high school, and my other children are working toward their own goals. Without Highlands, I honestly do not know where I would be. I might not have my home, my career, or the hope that keeps me moving forward. Highlands saw my potential when I struggled to see it for myself. It treated me with dignity, believed in me, and gave me a chance to transform my life. My past is not something I am ashamed of anymore. It is proof of how far I have come. I am still here, still growing, and still fighting. Most importantly, I am showing my children that no matter where they begin or how many times life knocks them down, it is never too late to rise, change their lives, and become something greater. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. I have seen HCCTS support the community by providing tuition-free education, English language instruction, diploma programs, career training, outreach, and other forms of assistance to adults and families who might otherwise have limited options. HCCTS works with community organizations and serves students from many different backgrounds. The school gives people a safe place to continue their education, strengthen their employment opportunities, and build more stable lives for themselves and their families. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at HCCTS would have a serious effect on me and my family. I am a wife, mother, and homeowner, and my family depends on the stability my employment provides. Losing my position could affect my ability to maintain my home and continue supporting my children. It would also mean losing the career and purpose I have spent nearly nine years building. HCCTS gave me an

opportunity when I needed one most, and losing that stability would be personally and financially devastating.

7. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Based on my personal experience working with HCCTS students, a closure would interrupt their education and separate them from teachers and staff members they know and trust. Many students balance school with employment, children, transportation challenges, and language barriers. Requiring them to find and adjust to another program could cause significant delays, discourage them from continuing, or prevent them from completing their education. The community would also lose an important resource that helps adults improve their English, earn diplomas, develop employment skills, and create greater stability for their families. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

8. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Guadalupe Raygoza

Guadalupe Raygoza

DECLARATION OF IULIIA CHERNIAEVA IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Iuliia Cherniaeva, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am an Instructional Paraeducator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I have worked at HCCTS as an Instructional Paraeducator since October 2023. Over the past three school years I have worked at several HCCTS sites, and during the current 2026–2027 school year I work at the College Oak site. My connection to HCCTS began before I joined its staff. I enrolled at HCCTS as an adult student in June 2022 and earned my high school diploma from HCCTS in July 2024. As a student, I took English language courses and completed HCCTS's career and technical education program, including the Asher College Business Essentials program, which I completed in May 2024. Before coming to HCCTS, I earned a degree in economics from Saratov State University and worked in government administrative

positions in Saratov, Russia. My own experience as an HCCTS student is what brought me to work there: I saw firsthand how much the school helps adult learners, and I wanted to help other students the way HCCTS helped me.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. As an Instructional Paraeducator, I work directly with students in the classroom, supporting the teacher of record and helping students individually and in small groups with their coursework. I maintain daily attendance records, follow up with students, and keep site administrators informed of any issues in the classroom. I greet each student, address them by name, and get to know their backgrounds and goals, and many students come to me for help and encouragement. Because I was an HCCTS student myself, I understand the challenges our students face in balancing school with work and family. As a native Russian speaker, I am also able to support Russian-speaking and other Slavic students, and I understand their literacy levels both in their native languages and in English.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have experienced this myself as a student, and I see it every day in my work. HCCTS gives adults a second chance at an education. For many students who were born and raised here but did not finish high school, HCCTS is a real opportunity to finally earn their high school diploma. For immigrants and English learners, HCCTS is where they learn English, understand how things work in this country, and gain the confidence to become active members of society. I have seen students who work full-time jobs and care for their families come to class because they are determined to finish their education, and I have watched them grow more confident as their English improves and as they complete their coursework. For many of our students, HCCTS is a place where someone knows them by name, understands their background, and believes they can succeed. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. HCCTS has been part of my life both as a student and as an employee. It gave me my high school diploma, career training, and the opportunity to work in education. Working at HCCTS is meaningful to me because I can see the direct difference my work makes in the lives of my students, and my goal is to become a teacher. My position also allows me to use my skills in both English and Russian to help students feel comfortable and supported in the classroom.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. HCCTS helps adults in the Sacramento area, both those born here and those who came from other countries, earn a high school diploma, improve their English, and gain career skills that help them find and keep jobs. When our students complete their education, they are better able to support their families, help their own children with school, and take part in the local workforce and community. In this way, HCCTS helps its students become confident, contributing members of society, which strengthens the whole community.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Most importantly, I would lose the relationships I have built with my students and the opportunity to help them finish what they have started.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Many of our students are working adults with families and limited time, and many are still learning English. For students born here, HCCTS may be their only realistic path to a high school diploma; for immigrant students, it is where they learn the language and skills they need to build a life here. From my own time as an HCCTS student and from my work with students, I know how much adult learners depend on a consistent, familiar classroom and staff in order to keep attending. In my experience, when adult students lose their routine and their connection to their classroom, many of them do not return to school. A sudden closure would take that away from all of our students at once, and I believe many of them would stop their education entirely. That would harm not only the students, but also their families and the community. I am not aware of another school

nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Iuliia Cherniaeva

DECLARATION OF JUAN MORENO IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Juan Moreno, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Para educator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I am a Paraeducator at HCCTS, and I have been working there for 10 years. In my role, I support students with their learning, help them develop important skills, and encourage them to become more independent. I enjoy building positive relationships with students and working with teachers and staff to help each student succeed. I was drawn to this work because I enjoy helping others, making a difference in students' lives, and being part of their growth and success. Over the past 10 years, my experience has strengthened my passion for supporting students and helping them reach their full potential.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from Working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. As a Paraeducator at HCCTS, I work directly with students to support their learning and daily needs. I help students follow classroom routines, complete assignments, develop social skills, and build independence. I provide one-on-one and small-group support based on each student's individual needs. Through my 10 years of experience, I have learned the importance of patience, understanding, consistency, and building positive relationships with students. My goal is to create a supportive environment where students feel safe, encouraged, and confident as they learn and grow.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. In my 10 years as a Paraeducator at HCCTS, I have seen how the school makes a positive difference in students' lives. I have watched students grow in confidence, improve their academic and social skills, and become more independent. HCCTS provides students with support, encouragement, and opportunities to overcome challenges and work toward their goals. I have seen how patience, guidance, and individualized support can help students believe in themselves and recognize their potential. It is rewarding to be part of their journey and see them make progress toward a brighter future. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally Working at HCCTS is meaningful to me both personally and professionally because I have the opportunity to make a difference in students' lives every day. After 10 years as a Paraeducator, I feel proud to be part of a team that supports students and helps them reach their goals. My job has taught me patience, understanding, and the importance of treating every student with kindness and respect. Professionally, HCCTS has helped me grow and gain valuable experience. Personally, my position provides stability for my family and allows me to feel proud of the work I do. I am grateful to be part of HCCTS and to contribute to the success and future of our students.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. In my 10 years as a Paraeducator at HCCTS, I have seen how the school supports students and their families by providing education, guidance, and opportunities for success. HCCTS helps students develop important life skills, build confidence, and prepare for their futures. The school also supports the community by helping students become more independent and prepared to contribute to society. I believe HCCTS plays an important role in creating a stronger community by giving students the support they need to overcome challenges, reach their goals, and build better futures for themselves and their families.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. If HCCTS were forced to close, losing my position would have a significant impact on me and my family. After 10 years of working as a Paraeducator, my job has become an important part of my life. Losing my position would create financial stress and uncertainty for my family, especially when it comes to meeting our everyday needs and expenses. It would also be difficult emotionally because I care deeply about the students I work with and the relationships I have built with them over the years. Leaving in the middle of the school year would be especially heartbreaking because I want to continue supporting my students and helping them succeed. HCCTS is more than just a job to me; it is a place where I feel I make a difference, and I would be deeply affected by losing that opportunity.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community If HCCTS were to close, I believe it would have a major impact on the students and the community we serve. In my 10 years as a Paraeducator, I have seen how important it is for students to have a safe, supportive, and consistent learning environment. Many students depend on the support, guidance, and encouragement they receive at HCCTS to help them overcome challenges, build confidence, and work toward their goals. Closing the school in the middle of the year would disrupt their education, affect the relationships they have built with staff, and create uncertainty about their futures. Families would also lose an important source of support for their children. I believe HCCTS plays a valuable role in the community by helping students develop the skills and

confidence they need to become independent and successful. The loss of HCCTS would affect not only the students, but also their families, staff, and the entire community. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

JUAN MORENO

DECLARATION OF KATERYNA FEDOROVA IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Kateryna Fedorova hereby declares as follows:

1. I am a SOR Coordinator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. I am over the age of eighteen and am 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students, I support I have worked at HCCTS since July 2021. I started as a Registration Specialist and have grown into my current role as an SOR Coordinator. In my role, I support students throughout the enrollment and registration process, assist with student records and transcripts, coordinate orientations, and work with staff to help students successfully begin and continue their education at HCCTS. Working at HCCTS has given me the opportunity to grow professionally, take on greater responsibilities, and make a meaningful difference in the lives of adult students.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing

career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities In my role, I work directly with students during the enrollment and registration process and help them navigate the steps needed to become fully registered and begin their education. I also help coordinate orientations and communicate important information to students, so they understand what to expect and where to go for support. Through my daily interactions with HCCTS students, I see firsthand how important flexibility, clear communication, and personalized support are for adult learners.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves Through my work with students, I have seen how HCCTS provides adults with an opportunity to continue their education while balancing work, family, and other responsibilities. Many students come to us from different backgrounds and countries and need support understanding the enrollment process, transferring their previous education, or continuing toward their diploma. I have seen students work through these challenges and take important steps toward completing their education and improving their future opportunities. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at HCCTS has allowed me to build my career and take on greater responsibilities over time. I value being part of a team that supports adult students and helps them reach goals that may have previously seemed difficult to achieve. My position provides me with professional growth, stability, and the opportunity to contribute to a school community that has a meaningful purpose.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. Through my work, I have seen HCCTS support students from many different backgrounds and communities by providing accessible educational opportunities and student support services. HCCTS also works with community partners and other organizations to help students access resources and services that support their education, employment, and personal goals. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with,

in the middle of the school year. Losing my position would have a significant impact on me and my family. HCCTS provides me with stable employment and an opportunity to continue developing professionally. After working at HCCTS for several years and taking on increasing responsibilities, losing my position unexpectedly would create financial and professional uncertainty and would interrupt the career I have built at HCCTS.

8. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Based on my experience working directly with students, I believe closure would create significant disruption for adult learners who are already balancing education with work, family, and other responsibilities. Students could lose access to the staff members who know their circumstances and help them navigate enrollment, records, orientations, and other school processes. Many students would also have difficulty finding another program that provides the same combination of adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career training, and student support. A closure in the middle of the school year could delay students' education and make it more difficult for them to reach their educational and career goals. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

9. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12 day of October 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Kateryna Fedorova

DECLARATION OF Mohammad Amiri IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, , Mohammad Amiri hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Student Services Navigator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I have worked at HCCTS for four years, supporting students and families by helping them access resources and services they need. I help students overcome barriers that may affect their education and success. I came to HCCTS because I wanted to make a positive difference

in students' lives and help them reach their goals. I am proud to be part of a school community where students feel supported, respected, and cared for.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from Working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I work directly with HCCTS students to help them with their needs and connect them with available resources and services. I support students with different challenges, including school, family, and personal needs that may affect their education. Through my daily work, I build relationships with students, listen to their concerns, and help them find solutions. I have seen how important it is for students to have a safe and supportive school where they feel understood and cared for.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. In my four years at HCCTS, I have seen how the school helps students overcome different challenges and continue their education. Many students need support with personal, family, financial, or language barriers, and the school helps connect them with the resources they need. I have seen how important it is for students to have staff who listen to them, understand their situations, and encourage them to keep going. HCCTS makes a difference by giving students support, hope, and an opportunity to work toward a better future.

6. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

7. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at HCCTS is meaningful to me because I have the opportunity to help students and families during difficult

times and support them in reaching their goals. It makes me happy to know that my work can make a difference in someone's life. My position means a lot to me because it allows me to serve my community, build relationships with students, and be part of their success. For my family, my work is a source of pride because I am doing something meaningful and helping create better opportunities for others.

8. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. I have seen HCCTS support the local community by helping students and families connect with important resources and services. The school supports families from different backgrounds and helps them overcome challenges related to education, language, and other basic needs. Through my work, I see how staff work together to support students and connect families with community resources. HCCTS makes a positive difference by giving students and families support, guidance, and opportunities to build a better future.

9. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at HCCTS would have a big impact on me and my family, especially financially. After working here for four years, HCCTS has become an important part of my life, and I care deeply about the students and families I support. Losing my job would create stress and uncertainty for my family and make it difficult to plan for the future. It would also be difficult emotionally because I value my work and the positive difference I can make in the lives of our students.

10.

11. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Based on what I have seen in my four years at HCCTS, closing the school would have a big impact on students and families in our community. Many students depend on HCCTS not only for their education but also

for the support, guidance, and resources they receive from staff. Some students already face many challenges, and losing this school could make it harder for them to continue their education and reach their goals. The closure would also affect families who depend on the school and its staff for support, and I believe our community would lose an important place where students feel safe, respected, and cared for.

12. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

13. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 10/12/2026 day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Mohammad Amiri

DECLARATION OF MOHARRAM PAYMAN IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Moharram Payman, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a paraeducator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I have worked as a Paraeducator at HCCTS for almost three years. I was drawn to this school because of my previous experience in teaching and education. Working at HCCTS has given me the opportunity to support students from diverse backgrounds, especially those who are new to this country and are learning English. I understand how important it is for

these students to have someone who can guide them, encourage them, and help them feel supported as they adjust to a new educational environment.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. As a Paraeducator at HCCTS, I support students with their classwork and assignments. I work with students from diverse backgrounds, especially those who are new to the country and learning English. At HCCTS, we help students learn about American culture and American life.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have seen how the school helps students overcome challenges and improve their English and work toward earning their high school diplomas. Many students are new to this country and need extra support as they adjust to a new language and educational system. HCCTS provides them with guidance and encouragement and opportunities to build their skills and prepare for their future. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at HCCTS is important to me because I can support students who are new to this country and learning English and help them succeed in their education. My position allows me to use my experience to make a positive difference while supporting my family financially. After working years at HCCTS, I care deeply about the students and hope the school continues to provide them with the support and opportunities they need for a better future.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. HCCTS supports the local community by helping students from diverse backgrounds, especially those who are new to the country, improve their English, continue their education, and work toward earning their high school diplomas and get a job. The school gives students opportunities to build skills, gain confidence, and prepare for better futures for themselves and their families.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at HCCTS would create financial challenges to me and my family. My job provides important income and allows me to use my skills and experience to support students. After almost three years at HCCTS, I have built meaningful connections with students and losing this opportunity would be both financially and emotionally difficult. I hope to continue contributing to the school and helping students succeed.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Based on my experience at HCCTS, closing the school would be a major loss for students and this community, especially those who are new to this country and need support adjusting to a new education system. Many students depend on HCCTS for guidance and encouragement and the opportunity to earn their high school diplomas. The closure would affect families and the community by reducing access to educational opportunities that help students build a better future. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Moharram Payman

DECLARATION OF MUJTABA SHOKORI IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Mujtaba Shokori, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Paraeducator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I work as a paraeducator supporting adult learners in the online ESL program. I value the opportunity to help students continue their education, improve their English, and work toward their personal and professional goals.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from Working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I help students join Zoom classes, access Google Classroom and

BurlingtonEnglish, complete assignments, and address technology challenges. I provide step-by-step guidance so students can participate in online learning and stay connected with their teachers.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have helped students who were unsure how to join online classes or find their assignments. By working with them individually and patiently walking them through the steps, I have helped them access their coursework and continue learning. This support can build students' confidence and help them overcome barriers to education. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. This work is meaningful to me because I can make education more accessible for students who are balancing learning with work and family responsibilities. My position also provides important professional purpose and helps me support my own family.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. By helping adult learners improve their English and continue their education online, HCCTS supports people who are working to participate more fully in their communities, pursue employment opportunities, and support their families.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position would affect my family's financial stability and would mean losing work that I find meaningful. It would also prevent me from continuing to support the students I currently assist.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. A closure would disrupt students' routines and could make it harder for them to continue their online classes, receive help with technology and assignments, and make progress toward their goals. Students who rely on flexible online learning and individual support could face significant barriers to continuing their education.. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take

in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Mujtaba Shokori

DECLARATION OF Nataliya Torchilo IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I Nataliya Torchilo, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Paraeducator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support as Paraeducator at Highlands School for two in the half years I support students in the classroom with English lessons. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and

other responsibilities. As a Paraeducator, I support both students and teachers every day. My responsibilities include working with small groups, helping students improve their English skills, collaborating with teachers, and providing classroom support to help students succeed. As a Paraeducator I am supporting students and teachers in the classroom every day. Such as small groups learning experience, collaborating with teachers and helping teachers during the day. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I have seen how the school provides adults with opportunities to continue their education, improve their English communication skills, build confidence, and work toward their personal and professional goals. Many students face challenges while balancing school, work, and family responsibilities, but HCCTS gives them the support and encouragement they need to keep moving forward. It is rewarding to be part of their learning journey and to see students make progress, develop new skills, and become more confident in their abilities. I am proud to contribute to a school community that helps students overcome obstacles and create better opportunities for their futures. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

4. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. My position at HCCTS is also important to me and my family because it provides me with valuable work experience, professional growth, and the opportunity to contribute to my community. I am grateful to be part of a supportive school environment where education can open doors to new opportunities. Being able to help students succeed while building my own future makes my work at HCCTS especially rewarding. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serHCCTS is an important part of our community because it gives adults a chance to learn, improve their lives, and work toward a better future for themselves and their families. As a Paraeducator, I see how the

school supports students from different backgrounds who are balancing school, work, and family responsibilities. HCCTS helps students learn English, earn their high school diplomas, and develop skills that can help them find better jobs and new opportunities. I believe that when we support our students, we also support their families and the entire community. I am happy to be part of HCCTS because I know that even in small ways, my work can make a difference in someone's life. It is rewarding to help students learn, grow, and feel that they have people who believe in them. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. If HCCTS were to close, losing my position would be very difficult for me and my family. My job is important to me because it provides income for my family and allows me to continue growing professionally. I enjoy working with students and helping them learn English and make progress toward their goals. Losing my job in the middle of the school year would bring financial stress and uncertainty about finding another position. It would also be sad to leave the students and teachers I have been working with and supporting. I care about my work and the relationships I have built at HCCTS, and I would be disappointed to lose the opportunity to continue helping students succeed. I hope to continue working at HCCTS and supporting our students and community. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

5. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this October 12th, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Nataliya Torchilo

Nataliya Torchilo

DECLARATION OF Parvin Monsef IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Parvin Monsef, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a paraeducator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. I am a paraeducator. I have been working at highlands for 4years. My family and I immigrated to the United States seven years ago. Learning English was our first major challenge, and Highlands helped me begin that journey. Not only did Highlands help us

learn English, but it also became a source of support and encouragement as we adjusted to life in a new country. Today, I am proud to be a staff member at Highlands.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. The school continues to serve many immigrant families like mine who need help learning English and adjusting to life in a new country. Having experienced these challenges myself, I understand how important it is to provide newcomers with the support and resources they need to succeed. I feel fortunate to have found Highlands, and I will do my best to support our students and their families.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. Highlands helps students develop the skills they need to find jobs and build successful careers. Students also have the opportunity to earn their high school diplomas. The Student Services department helps students find affordable housing, and school supplies are provided free of charge. In addition, students learn digital literacy skills, gaining access to opportunities that they may never have had in their home countries. These services go beyond education; they empower students and their families to build better lives and become more independent and confident as they adjust to their new communities. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Just six months after moving to the U.S, the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the country, and we found ourselves stuck at home. Our only connection to the outside world was through the online classes offered by

Highlands. Without those classes, we might have struggled emotionally during such a difficult time. Adjusting to a new country with a completely different language, culture, and religion was already challenging, and the pandemic made it even harder. I am deeply grateful for everything Highlands provided during that time, helping me adapt to my new life and get through the challenges of the pandemic. Then, I got hired and could support my family. I believe that helping immigrant families access education and support is an investment in the future of this country. Their children are the next generation of American citizens, and they will play an important role in shaping the future of our nation. By helping these students succeed, we are not only changing their lives but also contributing to a stronger and brighter future for everyone.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. It is like a second house for students.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Closing HCCTS would have a significant negative impact on students and the community because many immigrant families depend on the school for English classes, high school diplomas, job skills, digital literacy, and essential support services such as affordable housing assistance and free school supplies. As an immigrant who benefited from Highlands myself, I understand how important this school is in helping newcomers adjust to life in a new country and build a better future. Keeping HCCTS open means giving students and their families the opportunity to succeed, contribute to their communities, and help build a brighter future for our country. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed 12th of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Parvin Monsef

Parvin Monsef

DECLARATION OF Reeta Barstad IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Reeta Barstad hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Paraeducator I currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support daily. I have been working as a paraeducator at Highlands for about a month and a half, and I really enjoy my role. I have the opportunity to support students academically across a variety of subjects, including Math, Science, English, P.E., and Social Studies. I assist students with assignments, reading, math, homework, and projects. Providing regular tutoring also allows me to build relationships with students and gain a better understanding of the specific challenges and barriers that may affect their educational success, enabling me to better support their individual learning needs.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. I have been working in education for the past nine years, primarily in elementary schools. One thing I appreciate about working at Highlands is the commitment adult students demonstrate toward their education. Many are genuinely motivated to learn, earn their high school diplomas, or improve their English language skills. It is rewarding to support students as they work toward their educational goals and take steps toward building a brighter future for themselves, their families, and their community.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. During my time at HCCTS I have seen students experience the joy of learning through some of the strongest teachers I have ever worked with in my career. I have also seen teachers work with students one-on-one and in small groups to provide individualized support and help them better understand the material. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Coming to work each day is meaningful to me because I have the opportunity to make a positive impact on students' lives by helping them move toward a brighter future. When I support students in their education, I recognize that I am helping them take important steps toward earning their high school diplomas, which can open doors to new opportunities and improve their quality of life.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. Highlands has become a cornerstone of adult education in the Sacramento community. By helping students earn their high school diplomas and develop new skills, Highlands opens doors to greater educational and employment opportunities. These opportunities positively impact not only students themselves but also their families and the broader community.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school

year. Working at HCCTS brings meaning and purpose not only to my days but also to my life. I love encouraging and supporting adult learners as they develop their critical thinking skills while balancing the many responsibilities of their personal lives, including raising children and caring for their families. It is inspiring to see students pursue their educational goals despite the challenges they may face. If Highlands were to close, I would deeply miss my colleagues, who have become good friends in such a short time. The people here are not only professional but also kind, caring, and genuinely supportive of one another. I have been fortunate to be part of a community where colleagues go out of their way to help each other, and that sense of connection and care has made my experience at Highlands especially meaningful.

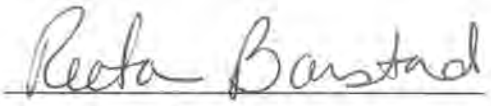
9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. Based on my experience working at HCCTS, I believe closing Highlands would have a significant impact on students and the Sacramento community. Many of our adult learners are serious about their education and genuinely want to earn their high school diplomas, improve their English language skills, and create better opportunities for themselves and their families. As a paraeducator, I have the opportunity to support students across a variety of subjects, including Math, Science, English, P.E., and Social Studies. Through tutoring and one-on-one support, I have come to understand some of the challenges and barriers students face while pursuing their education. Many are balancing school with busy personal lives and family responsibilities, yet they continue to show up and work toward their goals. I believe HCCTS provides more than an education. It offers adult learners encouragement, individualized support, and an opportunity to move toward a brighter future. Earning a high school diploma or improving English proficiency can open doors to employment, career advancement, and further education, potentially improving the quality of life for students and their families. If Highlands were to close, students could lose access to an educational environment that supports their individual needs and encourages them to persevere. Some might struggle to find another program that offers comparable opportunities and support. I also believe a closure would affect the broader Sacramento community by reducing access to adult education and the opportunities it creates for individuals, families, and the local workforce. My experience at Highlands has shown me how meaningful it is to come alongside students as they

develop their skills, build confidence, and work toward their educational goals. I would hate to see students lose a place where they can receive the support and encouragement they need to succeed. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.



Reeta Barstad

DECLARATION OF Shaima Ahmadzai IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, **Shaima Ahmadzai** , hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Digital Navigator Lead currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support by providing them Technology, technical support, access to the internet, and also providing digital literacy.

Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and

technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities. Our students are adults, with many life responsibilities, they make it to their classes. I train them on how to use technology to reach their goals faster. I make sure that their devices in their classroom are working properly. It's important to me to make it easier for our adult students. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. I saw students coming in here as a new student as a new immigrant to the US, not knowing the law and basic information in this country, not speaking English, not having any education, I saw different students with different stories, but then, I saw them growing, learning day by day, and finally making it to teh graduation day. Just to mention, that's my favorite day because I see our students reaching their goals and celebrating with their families. Our students are strong, brave, and talented. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. I have a similar story as our students do. I came to the US and faced very similar challenges. I needed little direction on how things work in the US. I wanted to study the rules of this society and engage with people. Language is the first tool that I could do so. High school Diploma opens many doors for our students.

HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. Many of our students are workers a the local business. They can contribute better if they receive the education through HCCTS, learn English, Get a Diploma, and be a professional worker.

If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year.

I'll miss this great opportunity of serving this amazing community. It'll be definitely challenging for me financially to support my further educational journey, school payments and family support.

A closure would also harm the students and the broader community.

Many of our students are newcomers, they see Highlands as their second chance, many Afghan women who didn't have a chance to study back in their country. HCCTS is a change to their life. I saw the result.

I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12 day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Shaima Ahmadzai

DECLARATION OF ZORIANA lABAZ IN SUPPORT OF DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ORDER EXTENDING STAY TO THE REVOCATION APPEAL UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE SECTIONS 105(a) AND 362

I, Zoriana Labaz, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Instructional Paraeducator currently employed at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools ("HCCTS" or the "Debtor"), a California Non-Profit Corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession in this voluntary chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case") filed on the date hereof (the "Petition Date") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). I submit this declaration (this "Declaration") in support of the Debtor's *Emergency Motion for Order Extending Stay to the Revocation Appeal Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 362* (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my discussions with the Debtor's management team and the Debtor's advisors, my review of relevant documents and information, or my opinions based upon my experience and knowledge. 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.

The Importance of HCCTS and the Impact of Its Closure

3. HCCTS has had a positive and meaningful impact on my professional life and on the students I support. In my current role, I support students in the classroom by providing guidance, encouragement, and individualized assistance whenever they need it. I also work closely with students in small groups while the teacher delivers instruction to the entire class. This approach allows me to give students additional attention, help them better understand the material, and build their confidence. Seeing their progress and the positive results of our work together is incredibly rewarding. I have been working at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools (HCCTS) since 2024, and throughout this time, I have continued to be inspired by the incredible work this school does and the people who make it possible. Helping others has always

been one of my greatest passions. Throughout my professional career, I have consistently found myself in roles where I could support, guide, and make a positive difference in people's lives. It is something that brings me genuine happiness and gives my work a deeper sense of purpose. When I first learned about Highlands, its mission, and the goals it strives to achieve, I immediately felt that this was an organization I wanted to be part of. I wanted to contribute to something meaningful, something that goes beyond everyday responsibilities and truly changes people's lives. When I joined Highlands, I wasn't familiar with everything the school had experienced in the past. What I saw, however, was a community of incredibly dedicated, compassionate, and motivated individuals who genuinely cared about their students and believed in their potential. I saw teachers, counselors, student navigators, and staff members who shared the same purpose: to help people overcome challenges, discover new opportunities, and build better futures.

4. Working at HCCTS is different from working at a traditional school, because our students are adults who are working toward a high school diploma, learning English, or developing career and technical skills while also managing jobs, families, and other responsibilities.

5. In my experience, HCCTS plays an important role in the lives of the students it serves. Because I spend every day working directly with students, I have the privilege of hearing their stories, understanding their challenges, and seeing firsthand how much Highlands means to them. Many of our students express their sincere gratitude for the opportunity to learn English, gain new skills, and become more independent. I personally know students who have been able to find employment because they improved their English language skills and developed the confidence to pursue opportunities they once thought were out of reach. Some students share that Highlands came into their lives during some of their most difficult moments. They speak with appreciation about the teachers who patiently supported them every day, the counselors who helped them navigate challenges, and the student navigators who encouraged them to believe in themselves and discover new possibilities. These are not just educational achievements. These are life-changing experiences. Because of the support and opportunities they received, many of our students are now able to find jobs, earn a living, contribute to their communities, pay taxes,

support their families, and create brighter futures for their children. And to me, that is what makes Highlands so special. We are not simply helping students learn English or complete their education. We are helping people regain their confidence, discover their potential, and open doors to opportunities that can change the course of their lives and the lives of future generations. I feel incredibly fortunate to be part of an organization where the impact of our work is not just something we talk about, but something I have the privilege of witnessing every single day. Working at Highlands has shown me that when people are given the right support, encouragement, and opportunity, their lives can truly change. And knowing that I can play even a small part in that transformation is one of the most meaningful and rewarding experiences of my career. I am not aware of another school or program in the area that offers the same combination of tuition-free adult diploma completion, English language instruction, career and technical training, and student support services that HCCTS provides.

6. HCCTS is also important to me personally and professionally. Working at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools is meaningful to me because it allows me to be part of something much bigger than myself. It is a place where education creates opportunities, restores hope, and gives people the tools they need to build a better life. Being able to contribute to that mission is something I deeply value. What makes my work especially rewarding is seeing the difference that education can make beyond the classroom. A student who once struggled to communicate can eventually feel comfortable expressing themselves, pursuing employment, and becoming more independent. Every achievement, no matter how small it may seem, represents progress toward something greater. Behind each student is a personal story, a family, and a future that can be positively influenced by the opportunities we provide. For me, the true value of working at HCCTS is knowing that the work I do today can make someone's tomorrow a little brighter.

7. HCCTS is part of the broader community it serves. One of the things I admire most about HCCTS is that its impact extends far beyond the classroom. The school plays an important role in strengthening our local community by helping individuals gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to become more independent and actively participate in society. Through my

daily interactions with students, I have witnessed how access to education can create opportunities that might otherwise seem out of reach. Many of our students are working toward improving their English, finding stable employment, advancing in their careers, or becoming more involved in their children's education. By helping them overcome language and educational barriers, Highlands empowers individuals to take meaningful steps toward achieving these goals. One of the most significant contributions I have observed is the school's impact on the local workforce. I have personally seen students develop their communication skills and gain the confidence necessary to apply for jobs, communicate with employers, and succeed in professional environments. Some students have shared exciting news about finding employment or discovering new career opportunities as a result of their progress. These accomplishments benefit not only the students themselves but also local businesses and the broader economy. I also believe that Highlands makes a tremendous difference in the lives of families. When parents gain stronger English skills, they become better equipped to communicate with their children's teachers, navigate everyday responsibilities, access important services, and advocate for their families. The benefits of their education are passed on to their children, creating opportunities that can positively influence future generations.

8. If HCCTS were forced to close or stop operating, I would lose my position and my ability to continue working with the students I currently work with, in the middle of the school year. Losing my position at Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools would have a severe and immediate impact on my financial stability, personal well-being, and ability to maintain a secure future. I am currently the sole provider for myself, and my employment at HCCTS is my only source of income. I do not have another household income or anyone I can financially depend on if I lose my job. Every financial responsibility I have, including housing, utilities, transportation, groceries, healthcare, and other essential living expenses, depends entirely on the income I earn through my position at Highlands. With the continuously rising cost of living in California, maintaining financial stability has become increasingly challenging, even with full-time employment. Losing my only source of income would not simply mean having to adjust my budget or reduce unnecessary expenses. It would put my ability to meet my most basic financial

obligations at serious risk. Without a steady paycheck, I would face the possibility of falling behind on rent, struggling to pay essential bills, and potentially losing the financial security I have worked so hard to establish. Because I have no additional financial support to fall back on, even a temporary period of unemployment could have long-lasting consequences. Beyond the financial hardship, losing my position would also take a significant emotional toll. The uncertainty of not knowing how I would cover my next rent payment, maintain my housing, or meet everyday necessities would create an overwhelming amount of stress and anxiety. The possibility of losing the stability I have built through years of hard work is deeply concerning. My position at HCCTS represents much more than employment. It represents independence, security, and the ability to take responsibility for my own future. I have worked hard to establish a stable life, and the thought of having that stability taken away because of circumstances beyond my control is frightening. I fully understand that organizations sometimes face difficult financial decisions. However, I hope the human consequences of those decisions are also recognized. Behind every position is a person whose livelihood, responsibilities, and future may depend entirely on that employment. For someone in my circumstances, losing a job is not simply a professional setback. It is a potential financial crisis that could affect nearly every aspect of my life. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work at Highlands, not only because I believe in the school's mission and the difference we make in our students' lives, but also because this position provides the foundation of my own financial security. Losing my position would mean losing my only reliable source of income, with no financial safety net or second household income to help me through the transition. The consequences would be immediate, serious, and potentially life-altering. I sincerely hope that the importance of preserving employment is considered not only from an organizational perspective, but also from the perspective of employees who depend on their jobs for their basic needs, stability, and future.

9. A closure would also harm the students and the broader community. I believe that the closure of Highlands Community Charter and Technical Schools would have devastating consequences, not only for the students who depend on its educational programs, but also for their families and the broader community. Based on what I have personally witnessed while working

directly with students, I strongly believe that the impact would extend far beyond the loss of a school. It would mean the loss of opportunities, stability, and hope for thousands of individuals who are working toward a better future. Many of the students we serve face challenges that make accessing education particularly difficult. Some are newcomers to the United States who are learning to navigate an unfamiliar country, language, and culture. Others are adults who have spent years prioritizing work and family responsibilities over their own education. For many of them, enrolling at Highlands represents a courageous decision to start over, overcome obstacles, and create opportunities they may never have had before. Through my daily interactions with students, I have seen how much determination it takes for them to pursue their education. Many balance demanding work schedules, financial responsibilities, and caring for their families while still making the effort to attend classes. They come to school because they believe that improving their education will eventually lead to greater independence, better employment opportunities, and a more secure future. If Highlands were to close, these students would lose far more than access to a classroom. They would lose an important support system that has helped them believe in themselves and their ability to succeed. I am not aware of another school nearby that could immediately take in HCCTS students and allow them to continue their education in the same way, without significant delay or disruption.

10. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested in the Motion so that HCCTS can continue to operate and I can continue serving the students who depend on this school.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this 12th day of October, 2026, at Sacramento, California.

Zoriana Labaz