Docket #1354 Date Filed: 07/02/2026

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

In re:	)	Chapter 11
STAGE STORES, INC., *et al.*,[1]	)	Case No. 20-32564 (CML)
Debtors.	)	(Jointly Administered)
	)	**Re: Docket No. 1332**

CERTIFICATE OF NO OBJECTION WITH RESPECT TO PLAN ADMINISTRATOR'S TWENTY-SECOND OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CERTAIN PROOFS OF CLAIM

Pursuant to the *Procedures for Complex Chapter 11 Cases in the Southern District of Texas* (the "Complex Case Procedures"), the undersigned counsel for Steven Balasiano, in his capacity as Plan Administrator of the above-captioned debtors (collectively, the "Debtors"), certifies as follows:

1. On May 19, 2026, the Plan Administrator filed the *Plan Administrator's Twenty-Second Omnibus Objection to Certain Proofs of Claim* [Docket No. 1332] (the "Claims Objection").

2. The deadline for the parties to file and serve responses to the Claims Objection was June 22, 2026 (the "Response Deadline"). No responses to the Claims Objection were filed on the docket on or before the Response Deadline. Additionally, counsel for the Plan Administrator did not receive any informal responses to the Claims Objection.

3. The Plan Administrator requests the Court enter the attached proposed order sustaining the Claims Objection at the earliest convenience of the Court.

1 The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Stage Stores, Inc. (6900) and Specialty Retailers, Inc. (1900).

2032564260702000000000008

Dated: July 2, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *Daniel F.X. Geoghan*

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- and –

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Counsel to Steven Balasiano, in his capacity as Plan Administrator of Stage Stores, Inc., *et al.*

Certificate of Service

I certify that on July 2, 2026, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by the Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas.

/s/ Daniel F.X. Geoghan
Daniel F.X. Geoghan

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

In re:	)	Chapter 11
STAGE STORES, INC., *et al.*,[1]	)	Case No. 20-32564 (CML)
Debtors.	)	(Jointly Administered)

ORDER SUSTAINING PLAN ADMINISTRATOR'S TWENTY-SECOND OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CERTAIN PROOFS OF CLAIM

(No Liability Claims)

Upon the Plan Administrator's twenty-second omnibus objection (the "Objection")[2] seeking to disallow and expunge the No Liability Claims pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 502; and the Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334(b); and the Court having found that this matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), and that the Plan Administrator consents to entry of a final order under Article III of the United States Constitution; and the Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Objection in this District is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and the Court having determined that the relief requested in the Objection is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and it appearing that proper and adequate notice of the Objection has been given, under the circumstances, and, that no other or further notice is necessary; and upon the record herein; and after due deliberation thereon; and good and sufficient cause appearing therefore,

[1] The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Stage Stores, Inc. (6900) and Specialty Retailers, Inc. (1900).

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

IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

1. The Objection is **SUSTAINED** as set forth herein.

2. The No Liability Claims listed on Schedule 1 hereto are hereby disallowed and expunged in their entirety.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, nothing herein shall affect the validity, nature, amount, allowability, priority, or otherwise seek to reclassify, disallow, or expunge any Proof of Claim or Modified Claim set forth on Schedule 1 hereto. All parties' rights are reserved with respect to the Modified Claims, including the Plan Administrator's right to file a further objection and seek disallowance thereof.

4. The Plan Administrator's rights to amend, modify, or supplement the Objection, to file additional objections to any claims (filed or not) asserted against the Debtors, and to seek further reduction of any claim to the extent such claim has been paid, are preserved. Additionally, should one or more grounds of objection stated in the Objection be overruled, the Plan Administrator's rights to object on other stated grounds or on any other grounds that the Plan Administrator discovers are further preserved.

5. The claims, noticing, and solicitation agent, Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC dba Verita Global, is authorized and directed to update the claims register maintained in these Chapter 11 Cases to reflect the relief granted in the Order.

6. Notwithstanding any Bankruptcy Rule or Local Rule to the contrary, this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

7. This Court shall retain jurisdiction over any and all matters arising from the interpretation, implementation, or enforcement of this Order.

Houston, Texas
Dated:_____, 2026

THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER M. LOPEZ
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

SCHEDULE 1

No Liability Claims

Schedule: No Liability

				ASSERTED CLAIMS			MODIFIED CLAIMS		
LINE	NAME	CLAIM NO.	DATE FILED	DEBTOR	PRIORITY STATUS	AMOUNT	DEBTOR	PRIORITY STATUS	AMOUNT
1	Alice Miller	2718	07/21/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	UNLIQUIDATED		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	UNLIQUIDATED		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
2	Alice Miller	2756	07/21/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	UNLIQUIDATED		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	UNLIQUIDATED		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
3	Alice Miller	2763	07/21/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	UNLIQUIDATED		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal			Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
4	Bib Dyer	5200	09/16/2020	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	$ 249,523.04		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	$ 249,523.04		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtor's books and records reflect liability owed to Cruz Alta Plaza LP under Claim 5181.								
5	David Bok	2134	07/13/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	$ 64,800.00		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	$ 64,800.00		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtor's books and records reflect invoices owed to Bigston, Inc. under Claim 242.								
6	Iboro Ekwere	1329	07/06/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	BLANK		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	BLANK		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. The Debtors' books and records indicate on DI 435 "consumer provisions" unused giftgard worthless.								

				ASSERTED CLAIMS			MODIFIED CLAIMS		
LINE	NAME	CLAIM NO.	DATE FILED	DEBTOR	PRIORITY STATUS	AMOUNT	DEBTOR	PRIORITY STATUS	AMOUNT
7	Kyle Brandon Allsbrook	2348	07/16/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	$ 1,653.23		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	$ 1,653.23		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtor's books and records reflect liability owed to Z. V. Pate, Inc. under Claim 2302.								
8	Lucille Paionk	2314	07/16/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	BLANK		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	BLANK		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
9	Mary Layden	2234	07/15/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	UNLIQUIDATED		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	UNLIQUIDATED		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
10	Mary Linda Blakey	865	06/25/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	UNLIQUIDATED		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	UNLIQUIDATED		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
11	Mary Linda Blakey	2577	07/20/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	UNLIQUIDATED		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	UNLIQUIDATED		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
12	MOREHEAD PLAZA LLC	2610	07/20/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	BLANK		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	BLANK		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtor's books and records do not reflect amounts owed to claimant.								

				ASSERTED CLAIMS			MODIFIED CLAIMS		
LINE	NAME	CLAIM NO.	DATE FILED	DEBTOR	PRIORITY STATUS	AMOUNT	DEBTOR	PRIORITY STATUS	AMOUNT
13	Noel Woolard	1311	07/06/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	BLANK		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	BLANK		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused merchansidise credit. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
14	Patricia Wood	1703	07/10/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	BLANK		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	BLANK		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
15	Phil Niemerg	1341	07/06/2020	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	$ 55,947.60		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	$ 55,947.60		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtor's books and records reflect invoices owed to CandleArt, LLC under Claim 340.								
16	Sandi Price	2694	07/21/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	UNLIQUIDATED		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	UNLIQUIDATED		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
17	STEVE Romano	1515	07/08/2020	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	$ 93,849.00		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	$ 93,849.00		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtor's books and records reflect invoices owed to Star Ride Kids, Inc. under Claim 1518.								
18	Steve Romano	1514	07/08/2020	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	$ 6,528.00		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	$ 6,528.00		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtor's books and records reflect invoices owed to Cloud Nine Clothing LLC under Claim 1517.								

				ASSERTED CLAIMS			MODIFIED CLAIMS		
LINE	NAME	CLAIM NO.	DATE FILED	DEBTOR	PRIORITY STATUS	AMOUNT	DEBTOR	PRIORITY STATUS	AMOUNT
19	Susan Ehlinger Burrier	1334	07/06/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	BLANK		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	BLANK		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtors are not liable for the asserted claim for unused gift card. See Store Closing Procedures [Docket No. 435] ¶ 45.								
20	TRALKA, JANE	2759	7/21/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ 1,500.00		Priority Unsecured	$0.00
					General Unsecured	$ -		General Unsecured	$ -
					Subtotal	$ 1,500.00		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, no liability. Debtors' books and records do not reflect amounts owed to claimant.								
21	William Vernon Paul	2321	07/16/2020	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -	Stage Stores, Inc.	Secured	$ -
					Administrative	$ -		Administrative	$ -
					Priority Unsecured	$ -		Priority Unsecured	$ -
					General Unsecured	$ 1,653.23		General Unsecured	$0.00
					Subtotal	$ 1,653.23		Subtotal	$0.00
	Reason: Objection, debtor not liable. Debtor's books and records reflect liability owed to Z. V. Pate, Inc. under Claim 2302.								