Docket #0925 Date Filed: 09/09/2026

THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re:	Chapter 11
Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC,[1]	Case No. 26-60110 (WAK)
Debtor.	**Hearing Date:** **September 30, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. (ET)**
	Objection Deadline: **September 23, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. (ET)**

SUMMARY SHEET FOR THE FIRST INTERIM FEE APPLICATION OF BROWN RUDNICK LLP, AS CO-COUNSEL FOR THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS FOR ALLOWANCE OF INTERIM COMPENSATION AND FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS INCURRED FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 5, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

Name of applicant:	Brown Rudnick LLP ("Brown Rudnick")
Authorized to provide professional services to:	Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee")
Date retention approved:	Order Entered May 4, 2026 [Docket No. 522]; *Nunc Pro Tunc* to March 5, 2026
Period for which compensation and reimbursement is sought:	March 5, 2026 through June 30, 2026
Amount of compensation sought as actual, reasonable, and necessary:	$5,225,859.50
Amount of reimbursement sought as actual, reasonable, and necessary:	$164,868.97
This is an _x_ interim application	____ final application

This is the First Interim Fee Application for Compensation and Reimbursement of Disbursements.

[1] The Debtor is Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC (EIN 13-1432885). The Debtor's noticing address in this chapter 11 case is 33 Winfield Street, Norwalk, Connecticut 06855.

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SUMMARY OF MONTHLY FEE STATEMENTS FOR COMPENSATION PERIOD

Date Filed and Docket No.	Filing Period	Requested Fees (100%)	Requested Expenses	80% Fees	CNO Date and Docket No.	Approved Fees	Approved Expenses	20% Holdback	Total Remaining to be Paid (Including 20% Holdback and Fees)
(First) 6/9/2026 D.I. 723	3/5/2026 through 4/30/2026	$3,499,574.50	$81,324.20	$2,799,659.60	6/24/2026 D.I. 754	$2,799,659.60	$81,324.20	$699,914.90	$699,914.90
(Second) 7/7/2026 D.I. 787	5/1/2026 through 5/31/2026	$1,006,528.50	$72,665.90	$805,222.80	7/28/2026 D.I. 835	$805,222.80	$72,665.90	$201,305.70	$201,305.70
(Third) 7/20/2026 D.I. 812	6/1/2026 through 6/30/2026	$719,756.50	$10,878.87	$575,805.20	8/10/2026 D.I. 862	$575,805.20	$10,878.87	$143,951.30	$730,635.37
TOTAL		$5,225,859.50	$164,868.97	$4,180,687.60		$4,180,687.60	$164,868.97	$1,045,171.90	$1,631,855.97

SUMMARY OF TIME & COMPENSATION

March 5, 2026 Through June 30, 2026

TIME AND COMPENSATION BREAKDOWN – PARTNERS				
Name of Professional Person	**Position; Admission Date; Specialty**	**Hourly Billing Rate**	**Total Hours Billed**	**Total Compensation**
Jeffrey L. Jonas	Partner; Admitted to Massachusetts Bar in 1988; New York Bar in 2021; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring	$2,600	233.3	$606,580.00
		$1,300[2]	18.0	$23,400.00
David Molton	Partner; Admitted to New York Bar in 1983; New Jersey Bar in 1990; California Bar in 2009; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring	$2,600	314.5	$817,700.00
		$1,300[3]	37.4	$48,620.00
Cathrine Castaldi	Partner; Admitted to California Bar in 1991; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring	$2,000	296.1	$592,200.00
Eric Goodman	Partner; Admitted to Ohio Bar in 2003; New York Bar in 2018; Illinois Bar in 2020; District Court of Columbia Bar in 2021; Massachusetts Bar in 2021; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring	$1,950	511.6	$997,620.00
		$975[4]	10.6	$10,335.00
Sigmund Wissner-Gross	Partner; Admitted to New York Bar in 1983; Litigation and Dispute Resolution	$1,810	74.4	$134,664.00
Gerard Cicero	Partner; Admitted to New York Bar in 2015; New Jersey Bar in 2016;	$1,775	83.6	$148,390.00

[2] Non-working travel time billed at 50% of standard rates.

[3] Non-working travel time billed at 50% of standard rates.

[4] Non-working travel time billed at 50% of standard rates.

TIME AND COMPENSATION BREAKDOWN – PARTNERS				
Name of Professional Person	**Position; Admission Date; Specialty**	**Hourly Billing Rate**	**Total Hours Billed**	**Total Compensation**
	Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring			
D. Cameron Moxley	Partner; Admitted to New York Bar in 2005; Litigation & Dispute Resolution	$1,775	162.6	$288,615.00
		$887.50[5]	8.7	$7,721.25
Susan Sieger-Grimm	Partner; Admitted to Virginia Bar in 1994; New York Bar in 1997; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring	$1,775	203.4	$361,035.00
		$887.50[6]	10.2	$9,052.50
TOTAL			**1964.4**	**$4,045,932.75**
PARTNER BLENDED RATE		**$2,059.63**		

[5] Non-working travel time billed at 50% of standard rates.

[6] Non-working travel time billed at 50% of standard rates.

TIME AND COMPENSATION BREAKDOWN – ASSOCIATES AND OTHER COUNSEL				
Name of Professional Person	**Position; Admission Date; Specialty**	**Hourly Billing Rate**	**Total Hours Billed**	**Total Compensation**
Adam Grandy	Counsel; Admitted to Massachusetts Bar in 2009; Finance	$1,075	1.1	$1,182.50
W. Lydell Benson	Associate; Admitted to New York Bar in 2022; Litigation & Dispute Resolution	$995	378.0	$376,110.00
		$497.50[7]	23.7	$11,790.75
Andrew Rizkalla	Associate; Admitted to Illinois Bar in 2021; Tennessee Bar in 2021; New York Bar in 2023; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring	$980	142.5	$139,650.00
Samuel Kahn	Associate; Admitted to New York Bar in 2025; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring	$755	230.8	$174,254.00
Erin Hunter	Associate; Admitted to Massachusetts Bar in 2025; Litigation & Dispute Resolution	$695	67.7	$47,051.50
Roshni Parikh	Associate; Admitted to New York Bar in 2025; Litigation and Dispute Resolution	$685	196.8	$134,808.00
David Maimon	Law Clerk; Admission to New York pending; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring	$470	194.4	$91,368.00
TOTAL			**1,235.0**	**$976,214.75**
ASSOCIATE & OTHER COUNSEL BLENDED RATE		**$790.46**		

[7] Non-working travel time billed at 50% of standard rates.

TIME AND COMPENSATION BREAKDOWN – PARAPROFESSIONALS / OTHER BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS				
Name of Professional Person	**Position/Numbers of Years**	**Hourly Billing Rate**	**Total Hours Billed**	**Total Compensation**
Gordon Morris	Technology Manager; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; over 20 years	$620	1.4	$868.00
Danesh Imran	Technology Specialist; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; over 20 years	$575	60.5	$34,787.50
Elizabeth Hosang	Paralegal; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; over 25 years	$560	8.7	$4,872.00
Brittany Veilleux	eDiscovery Analyst; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; over 8 years	$550	1.9	$1,045.00
Carlene Mercier	Paralegal; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; over 25 years	$525	26.4	$13,860.00
Duke Amponsah	Paralegal; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring; over 19 years	$515	214.1	$110,261.50
Nathanael Meyers	Paralegal; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring; over 32 years	$515	2.9	$1,493.50
Allison Regan	Paralegal; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; over 25 years	$515	60.0	$30,900.00
Kelcey Wells	Paralegal; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; over 25 years	$515	1.5	$772.50
Helen Vlachos	Business Professional	$475	2.4	$1,140.00
Benjamin Davies-Mathurin	eDiscovery Analyst; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; over 7	$440	1.8	$792.00

TIME AND COMPENSATION BREAKDOWN – PARAPROFESSIONALS / OTHER BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS				
Name of Professional Person	**Position/Numbers of Years**	**Hourly Billing Rate**	**Total Hours Billed**	**Total Compensation**
	years			
Jacob M. Rosner	Project Assistant; over 1 year	$415	4.0	$1,660.00
Sarah Green	Business Professional	$350	3.6	$1,260.00
TOTAL			**389.2**	**$203,712.00**
PARAPROFESSIONALS BLENDED RATE		**$523.41**		
GRAND TOTAL			**3,588.60**	**$5,225,859.50**
BLENDED RATE FOR ALL BROWN RUDNICK TIMEKEEPERS		**$1,456.24**		

COMPENSATION BY PROJECT CATEGORY

For the Period from March 5, 2026 Through June 30, 2026

Project Category	Total Hours	Total Fees
Asset Analysis and Recovery	8.4	$21,240.00
Asset Disposition	19.8	$37,365.00
Business Operations	1.7	$3,400.00
Case Administration and Disbursements	267.4	$143,661.00
Committee Governance and Organizational Matters	9.1	$12,467.00
Contested Matters/Litigation (Litigation)	2,664.9	$3,889,265.50
Court Attendance	153.8	$336,375.50
Dismissal/Trustee/Examiner Matters	102.6	$194,789.50
Fee/Employment Application	40.8	$43,275.00
Fee/Employment Objections	42.8	$91,722.50
Mediation Settlement	6.1	$15,680.00
Meetings And Communication with Co-Counsel	15.7	$34,042.50
Meetings and Communications with Committee	85.0	$158,191.50
Non-Working Travel (Billed At 50%)	108.6	$110,919.50
Plan and Disclosure Statement	58.5	$124,625.00
Relief From Stay/Adequate Protection Proceedings	3.4	$8,840.00
GRAND TOTAL	**3,588.6**	**$5,225,859.50**

SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS

The following is a breakdown of disbursements for the period March 5, 2026 through June 30, 2026:

Service	Cost
Airfare	$5,814.66
Cellular Telephone	$18.00
Copies (In-House @ 10 cents per page Color and B&W)	$3,385.50
Document Production	$168.45
eDiscovery Hosting	$1,549.48
Expert Fees	$2,305.00
Filing Fees	$2,400.00
Hotel	$9,918.69
Meals	$1,514.01
Messenger Services	$130.10
Mileage	$468.65
Outside Copies	$52,697.47
Overnight Delivery	$256.43
Pacer	$500.80
Parking and Tolls	$248.27
Searches	$81.25
Taxi	$11,964.94
Transcripts	$33,628.60
Travel Agent Fee	$1,466.81
Westlaw Online Transactional Searches	$36,162.10
Misc. Expenses	$18.97
Train Travel	$63.00
Lexis	$107.79
TOTAL	**$164,868.97**

THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re:	Chapter 11
Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC,[8]	Case No. 26-60110 (WAK)
Debtor.	

FIRST INTERIM FEE APPLICATION OF BROWN RUDNICK LLP, AS CO-COUNSEL FOR THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS FOR ALLOWANCE OF INTERIM COMPENSATION AND FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS INCURRED FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 5, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

Brown Rudnick LLP ("Brown Rudnick"), counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee"), hereby submits this First Interim Fee Application seeking interim approval and allowance of compensation in the amount of $5,225,859.50, and actual and necessary expenses in the amount of $164,868.97, incurred during the interim period from March 5, 2026 through June 30, 2026 (the "Application Period"), as set forth more particularly herein, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 328, 330, and 331, Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), Local Rule 2016-1 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of New York (the "Local Rules"), the Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses filed Under United States Code by Attorneys in Larger Chapter 11 Cases (the "UST Guidelines"), and the Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for Professionals and Members of Official Committees [Docket No.

[8] The Debtor is Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC (EIN 13-1432885). The Debtor's noticing address in this chapter 11 case is 33 Winfield Street, Norwalk, Connecticut 06855.

419] (the "Interim Compensation Order"). In support of this Application, Brown Rudnick hereby states as follows.

BACKGROUND

1. On February 16, 2026, the Debtor filed, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of New York (the "Court"), a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

2. As of the date hereof, the Debtor continues as debtor-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code, and no trustee or examiner has been appointed in this case.

3. On March 3, 2026, the Office of the United States Trustee (the "U.S. Trustee") filed the *Appointment of Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors* [Docket No. 111] appointing seven eligible creditors to the Committee. On March 5, 2026, the Committee selected Brown Rudnick to serve as its co-counsel in this case.

4. On April 2, 2026, the Committee filed its *Application for Order Authorizing the Employment and Retention of Brown Rudnick LLP as Co-Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC, Nunc pro Tunc to March 5, 2026* [Docket No. 274] (the "Retention Application").

5. On April 17, 2026, the Court entered the Interim Compensation Order. Pursuant to the Interim Compensation Order, the Court established a procedure for payment of interim compensation and reimbursement of disbursements for professionals retained in this case. In particular, the Court authorized the filing and service to certain notice parties of interim fee applications by professionals retained in these cases (including professionals employed by the

Committee) and payment by the Debtor of 80% of fees and 100% of expenses, in the absence of an objection made within fourteen (14) days of service of the pertinent application.

6. The Retention Application was approved by the Court on May 4, 2026 [Docket No. 522].

PAYMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTED

7. Brown Rudnick submits this Application for (a) payment of reasonable compensation for actual, reasonable, and necessary professional services performed by it as co-counsel for the Committee during the Application Period, and (b) reimbursement of actual, reasonable, and necessary disbursements made to pay expenses incurred in representing the Committee during the Application Period. This Application is made pursuant to the provisions of Sections 328, 330, and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, the UST Guidelines, and the Interim Compensation Order. This is Brown Rudnick's first interim fee application.

8. During the Application Period, Brown Rudnick rendered legal services to the Committee having a value of $5,225,859.50 in fees, calculated at Brown Rudnick's usual and customary hourly rates as more specifically set forth herein. In addition, Brown Rudnick made disbursements to pay expenses in the amount of $164,868.97 during the Application Period. Thus, the total amount of fees and disbursements for which Brown Rudnick seeks approval and payment on an interim basis for the Application Period is $5,390,728.47.

9. Professional services and disbursements for which compensation and reimbursement are sought were rendered and expended on behalf of the Committee pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Brown Rudnick requests that it be compensated for the time spent and expenses incurred in connection with this matter. All fees and disbursements sought to

be paid or reimbursed in this Application were actual, necessary, reasonable, and benefited both the Debtor's estate and creditors.

10. In accordance with Bankruptcy Code Section 504 and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2016(a), no agreement or understanding exists between Brown Rudnick and any other person for the sharing of compensation received or to be received for services rendered in or in connection with these cases.

11. No agreement or understanding prohibited by 18 U.S.C. § 155 has been or will be made by Brown Rudnick.

12. The undersigned has reviewed the requirements of Local Rule 2016-1 and certifies that this Application complies with that Local Rule.

13. Brown Rudnick reserves all rights and claims. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Brown Rudnick reserves its right to submit future monthly fee applications, interim fee applications, and final fee applications, including, without limitation, fee applications seeking final allowance of all amounts sought to be paid or reimbursed herein and in respect of any amounts held back pursuant to the Interim Compensation Order or otherwise.

DISCLOSURES PURSUANT TO THE REVISED U.S. TRUSTEE GUIDELINES

14. The following is provided in response to the request for additional information set forth in Paragraph C.5 of the Revised UST Guidelines:

Question:	Did you agree to any variations from, or alternatives to, your standard or customary billing arrangements for this engagement?
Response:	No.

Question If the fees sought in this fee application as compared to the fees budgeted for the time period covered by this fee application are higher by 10% or more, did you discuss the reasons for the variation with the client?

Response: The fees sought in this fee application were largely driven by the litigation and sale schedule established by the Debtor and its debtor-in-possession funder, which necessitated that the professionals in this case come up to speed and rapidly respond to urgent matters in the case, which had case determinative consequences. Given the emergent nature of the case, it was difficult to provide an accurate budget at the outset of the case. Applicant has discussed the fees and expenses in this matter with the Committee, which has approved the Committee professionals work with respect to the litigation and sale schedule described above.

Question: Have any of the professionals included in this fee application varied their hourly rate based on the geographic location of the bankruptcy case?

Response: No.

Question: Does the fee application include time or fees related to reviewing or revising time records or preparing, reviewing, or revising invoices?

Response: Yes.

Question: Does this fee application include time or fees for reviewing time records to redact any privileged or other confidential information?

Response: Yes.

Question: Does this fee application include rate increases since retention?

Response: No.

[*Remainder of this page intentionally left blank.*]

WHEREFORE, Brown Rudnick respectfully requests that the Court enter an Order (i) granting the First Interim Fee Application and authorizing interim allowance of compensation in the amount of $5,225,859.50 for professional services rendered on behalf of the Committee and reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses in the amount of $164,868.97; (ii) directing payment by the Debtors of $1,620,977.10 for professionals services rendered on behalf of the Committee and reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses in the amount of $10,878.87, which represents the unpaid portion of the fees and expenses covered by this First Interim Fee Application; and (iii) granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper:

Dated: September 9, 2026

BROWN RUDNICK LLP

/s/ *David J. Molton*

David J. Molton
Jeffrey L. Jonas (*pro hac vice*)
Eric R. Goodman (*pro hac vice*)
D. Cameron Moxley (*pro hac vice*)
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-AND-

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COUNSEL FOR THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS

THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re:	Chapter 11
Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC,[1]	Case No. 26-60110 (WAK)
Debtor.	

CERTIFICATION OF CATHRINE M. CASTALDI

I, Cathrine M. Castaldi, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, to the best of my knowledge and belief, and after reasonable inquiry, hereby certify that:

1. I am a partner of Brown Rudnick LLP ("Brown Rudnick"). Brown Rudnick was retained by the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC (the "Debtor"). I am an attorney-at-law, duly admitted and in good standing to practice in the State of California and am admitted *pro hac vice* in this Court. This certification is made in support of the *First Interim Fee Application of Brown Rudnick LLP, as Co-Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Allowance of Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Disbursements Incurred for the Period March 5, 2026 Through June 30, 2026* (the "Application").[2]

2. I have read the foregoing Application. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the statements contained in the Application are true and correct.

In addition, I believe that the Application complies with Local Rule 2016-1.

[1] The Debtor is Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC (EIN 13-1432885). The Debtor's noticing address in this chapter 11 case is 33 Winfield Street, Norwalk, Connecticut 06855.

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

Executed on September 9, 2026 in Irvine, California.

By: */s/ Cathrine M. Castaldi*

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