Docket #1058 Date Filed: 10/20/2026

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.	

SIXTH MONTHLY FEE APPLICATION OF COHEN ZIFFER FRENCHMAN & MCKENNA 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 SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Name of Applicant:	Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna LLP
Authorized to Provide Professional Services to:	Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee")
Date retention approved:	Order Entered May 12, 2026 [Docket No. 580]
Period for Which Compensation and Reimbursement is Sought:	September 1, 2026 through September 30, 2026
Amount of Compensation Sought as Actual, Reasonable and Necessary:	$37,116.00 (interim compensation sought for 80% of that amount, or $29,692.80)
Amount of Expense Reimbursement Sought as Actual, Reasonable and Necessary:	$0.00

This is a(n) ___Interim __X__ Monthly _____ Final Fee Application.

This is the Sixth Monthly 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 TIME & COMPENSATION
SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Name of Professional	Position	Department	Year Admitted	Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Total Compensation
Cohen, Robin L.	Partner	Litigation	1989	$1,950	1.5	$2,925.00
Frenchman, Kenneth	Partner	Litigation	2000	$1,500	10.3	$15,450.00
Maxwell, Nick	Partner	Litigation	2012	$1,100	15.3	$16,830.00
Total:					**27.1**	**$35,205.00**

The paraprofessional who rendered professional services during the Fee Period is:

Name of Paraprofessional	Position	Department	Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Total Compensation
Kacuba, Nicholas	Paralegal	Litigation	$390	4.9	$1,911.00
Total:				**4.9**	**$1,911.00**

The total fees for the Fee Period are:

Professionals	Blended Rate	Total Hours	Total Compensation
Partners and Counsel	$1,299.10	27.1	$35,205.00
Paraprofessionals	$390.00	4.9	$1,911.00
Total:	$1,159.88	**32.0**	**$37,116.00**

EXPENSE SUMMARY
SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

EXPENSE CATEGORY	AMOUNT
N/A	$0
Total:	**$0**

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

In re:	Chapter 11
Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC,[2]	Case No. 26-60110 (WAK)
Debtor.	

SIXTH MONTHLY FEE APPLICATION OF COHEN ZIFFER FRENCHMAN & MCKENNA 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 SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Pursuant to sections 327, 330 and 331 of title 11 of the United States Code §§ 101-1532 (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Rule 2016-1 of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of New York (the "Local Rules"), Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna LLP ("CZFM"), special counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee"), hereby submits its sixth monthly application (the "Application") for compensation and reimbursement of expenses for the period from September 1, 2026 through and including September 30, 2026 (the "Application Period"). By this Application, CZFM seeks a interim allowance of compensation in the amount of $37,116.00 and actual expenses in the amount of $0.00, for an aggregate total of $37,116.00 in accordance with the Order *(I) Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of for Professionals and Members of Official Committees* [Docket No. 419] entered April 17, 2026 (the "Interim Compensation Order"). CZFM hereby seeks payment of $29,692.80 (80% of the allowed

[2] 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.

fees) and reimbursement of $0.00, for an aggregate total payment of $29,692.80 for the Application Period upon the filing of a certificate of no objection. In support thereof, CZFM respectfully represents as follows:

BACKGROUND

1. On February 16, 2026, ("Petition Date"), Debtor filed a voluntary petition with this Court for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor is operating its businesses and managing its properties as debtor-in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 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.

4. On April 6, 2026, the Committee filed its Application for Order Authorizing the Employment and Retention of Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna LLP as Co-Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC, [Docket No. 287] (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 monthly 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. On May 12, 2026, the Court entered the *Order Granting Application to Employ Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna LLP as Special Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC* [Docket No. 580] (the "CZFM Retention Order").

PAYMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTED

7. CZFM 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 CZFM's fourth monthly fee application.

8. During the Application Period, CZFM rendered legal services to the Committee having a value of $37,116.00 in fees, calculated at CZFM's usual customary hourly rates as more specifically set forth herein. CZFM had expenses in the amount of $0.00 for the Application Period. Thus, the total amount of fees (80% of the aggregate amount of fees for the Application Period) and disbursements for which CZFN seeks approval and payment on an interim basis for the Application Period is $29,692.80.

9. A summary of the hours spent, the names of each professional and paraprofessional rendering services to the Committee during the Application Period, the regular customary billing

rates and the total value of time incurred by each of the CZFM attorneys rendering services to the Committee is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

10. A copy of the computer-generated time entries reflecting the time recorded for these services, organized in project billing categories in accordance with the *United States Trustee's Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330* (the "Guidelines"), is included in **Exhibit A**.

11. As confirmed by the statement included in Exhibit A, CZFM incurred out-of-pocket expenses during the Application Period in the amount of $0.00. All time entries and requested expenses are in compliance with Rule 2016-1 of the Local Rules.[3]

LEGAL STANDARD

12. Section 330(a)(l) of the Bankruptcy Code allows the payment of:

a. Reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services rendered by the trustee, examiner, professional person, or attorney and by any paraprofessional person employed by any such person; and

b. Reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses

11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1). Reasonableness of compensation is driven by the "market-driven approach" which considers the nature, extent and value of services provided by the professional and cost of comparable services in the non-bankruptcy contexts. See Zolfo Cooper & Co. v. Sunbeam-Oster Co., 50 F.3d 253, 258 (3d Cir. 1995); In re Busy Beaver Building Ctr., Inc., 19 F.3d 833, 849 (3d Cir. 1994). Thus, the "baseline rule is for firms to receive their customary rates." Zolfo Cooper, 50 F.3d at 259.

[3] CZFM has also attempted to ensure that this Application complies with the Guidelines. To the extent that the Guidelines conflict with the Local Rules, in particular, Local Rule 2016-1, CZFM has chosen to comply with such Local Rule. CZFM will supplement this Application with additional detail or information upon request.

13. In accordance with its practices in non-bankruptcy matters, CZFM has calculated its compensation requested in this Application by applying its standard hourly rates. CZFM's calculation is based upon hourly rates that are well within the range of rates that are charged by comparable firms in similar bankruptcy cases. Accordingly, CZFM's rates should be determined to be reasonable under section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code.

14. CZFM's fees during the Application Period are also reasonable under the prevailing legal standard and should be allowed. The amount of these fees is not unusual given the complexity, accelerated deadlines, and size of these Cases. CZFM's fees are commensurate with fees that other attorneys of comparable experience and expertise have charged and been awarded in similar chapter 11 cases. Accordingly, CZFM's fees are reasonable pursuant to section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code.

15. Section 330(a)(1)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code permits reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses. As stated above, CZFM incurred out-of-pocket expenses during this Application Period in the amount of $0.00.

16. Except as permitted by Bankruptcy Rule 2016, no agreement or understanding exists between CZFM and/or any third person for the sharing or division of compensation. All the services for which compensation is requested in this Application were rendered at the request of and solely on behalf of the Committee.

17. Pursuant to the standards set forth in sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, CZFM submits that the compensation requested is for actual and necessary services and expenses, and is reasonable, based upon the nature, extent and value of such services, the time spent thereon, and the costs of comparable services in a case under the Bankruptcy Code.

18. The time records annexed to this Application constitute only a general statement of the services rendered and time expended without description of the pressure and constraints under which CZFM actually rendered these services. The considerable challenges of this case have been attended to and managed by CZFM at all levels, promptly, expertly, and often to the exclusion of the other matters in CZFM's office. CZFM submits, therefore, that its fees and expenses were actual, necessary, reasonable, and justified, and should be allowed in full.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

19. To the extent time or disbursement charges for services rendered or disbursements incurred relate to the Application Period but were not processed prior to the preparation of this Application, or CZFM has for any other reason not sought compensation or reimbursement of expenses herein with respect to any services rendered or expenses incurred during the Application Period, CZFM reserves the right to request additional compensation for such services and reimbursement of such expenses in a future application.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, CZFM respectfully requests (a) that it be allowed compensation in the amount of $37,116.00 for professional services rendered (80% or $29,692.80); (b) allowed expense reimbursement in the amount of $0.00 (which is to be paid upon the filing of a certificate of no objection) for the Application Period; and (c) that the Court authorize and direct the Debtors to pay CZFM the amounts due and owing hereunder in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order.

Dated: October 20, 2026
New York, New York

COHEN ZIFFER FRENCHMAN & MCKENN LLP

/s/ Nicholas R. Maxwell

Robin L. Cohen
Kenneth H. Frenchman
Nicholas R Maxwell
1325 Avenue of the Americas, 31st Fl.
New York, NY 10019
Tel: (212) 584-1890
Fax: (212) 584-1891
rcohen@cohenziffer.com
kfrenchman@cohenziffer.com
nmaxwell@cohenziffer.com

Special Counsel to the Official Commit Unsecured Creditors

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

In re: Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC,[4] Debtor.	Chapter 11 Case No. 26-60110 (WAK)

CERTIFICATION OF NICHOLAS MAXWELL

I, Nicholas Maxwell, 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 with the applicant firm, Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna LLP ("CZFM"), CZFM 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 New York. This certification is made in support of the *Sixth Monthly Fee Application of Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna LLP, as Co-Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for Allowance of Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Disbursements Incurred for the Period September 1, 2026 Through September 30, 2026* (the "Application").

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.

[4] 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.

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

Dated: October 20, 2026
New York, New York

/s/ Nicholas Maxwell
Nicholas Maxwell

EXHIBIT A

In re Vanderbilt Minerals, LLC et al.

Bankruptcy Case No. 26-60110 (WAK)

Detailed Description of Fees, Expenses, and Disbursements
For the Fee Period of September 1, 2026 Through and Including September 30, 2026

COHEN ZIFFER FRENCHMAN & MCKENNA

1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019

Vanderbilt Minerals LLC
Raul Busto
1837 NY-812
Gouverneur, NY 13642

October 9, 2026
Invoice # 86713

INVOICE SUMMARY

For Professional Services Rendered for the period ending: September 30, 2026.

Client/Matter: 00543.0002

RE: Coverage for Talc Liabilities

Professional Services	$ 37,116.00
Costs & Expenses	$ .00
TOTAL THIS INVOICE	**$ 37,116.00**

Client/Matter: 00543.0002

October 9, 2026
Invoice # 86713

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Date	Tkpr	Description	Hours	Amount
9/01/26	KHF	Strategy for RTV insurers memo and assorted issues.	.80	1,200.00
9/01/26	NRM	Additional D/O coverage review.	1.00	1,100.00
9/01/26	NRM	Insurer background analysis, call with K. Frenchman re same.	1.10	1,210.00
9/02/26	NRM	Insurance policy review, memo draft.	2.50	2,750.00
9/03/26	KHF	Various issues regarding insurance availability, projections and remaining limits.	.80	1,200.00
9/03/26	NRM	Additional attention to settlement memo.	1.30	1,430.00
9/03/26	NRM	Prep/conduct committee mediation call.	.60	660.00
9/03/26	NK	Update CZFM Interim fee application, provide amounts to Brown Rudnick for review.	1.10	429.00
9/04/26	NRM	Finalize settlement analysis memo for K. Frenchman review.	1.50	1,650.00
9/08/26	KHF	Settlement communications with a carrier and strategy in connection with the same (.3); review of objection to plan and disclosure statement and strategy related to same (1.7).	2.00	3,000.00
9/08/26	NRM	Second settlement memo and review new Insurer filing.	1.00	1,100.00
9/08/26	NRM	Prep/conduct weekly committee call.	.40	440.00
9/09/26	NRM	Follow-up drafting of second settlement memo, review prior agreements re same.	.80	880.00
9/10/26	NK	Update draft of CZFM's first interim fee application, discuss re same with A. Scorese and prepare final version for filing.	.90	351.00
9/11/26	KHF	Strategy related to TDP in context of liquidating trust.	1.00	1,500.00
9/11/26	NRM	Review TDP issues, call with K. Frenchman re same.	.80	880.00
9/14/26	RLC	Provide strategic input into coverage in place analysis.	.50	975.00
9/14/26	KHF	Settlement recommendation issues, TDP issues and communications with bankruptcy counsel.	.70	1,050.00
9/14/26	NRM	Further review of TDP per insurance language, review committee correspondence re same.	.40	440.00
9/15/26	KHF	Strategy issues for settlement review.	.50	750.00
9/15/26	NRM	Insurer resolution strategy call with K. Frenchman.	.40	440.00
9/17/26	KHF	Attention to TDP and related communications.	.70	1,050.00
9/17/26	NK	Update draft to Certificate of No Objection to CZFM fourth monthly fee app and CZFM fifth monthly fee app, send re same for filing with the court.	1.40	546.00
9/18/26	NRM	Summary Whittaker cert review re liquidating trust strategy.	.30	330.00
9/21/26	NK	Update CZFM's fifth monthly application for filing with the court.	.50	195.00

Client/Matter: 00543.0002

October 9, 2026
Invoice # 86713

Date	Tkpr	Description	Hours	Amount
9/22/26	KHF	Insurer engagement strategy and assorted TDP issues.	.80	1,200.00
9/23/26	NRM	Exclusivity/motion to dismiss update re insurance strategy.	.30	330.00
9/23/26	NK	Review docket issue, address certificate of no objection, update files with re same.	1.00	390.00
9/29/26	RLC	Provide strategic input on coverage in place issues.	1.00	1,950.00
9/29/26	KHF	Insurer communications and TDP / CIP issues.	.50	750.00
9/30/26	KHF	Prepared for and conducted call with Bankruptcy counsel regarding insurance related issues relative to the TDP and follow up strategy in connection with the same.	2.50	3,750.00
9/30/26	NRM	Review insurer CIP issues (.9), correspondence/calls with K. Frenchman (1.7) professionals re same, follow up discussion of TDP/Trust issues forward (.3).	2.90	3,190.00

TOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES **$ 37,116.00**

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Name	Hours	Rate	Total
Robin L. Cohen	1.50	1,950.00	2,925.00
Kenneth H. Frenchman	10.30	1,500.00	15,450.00
Nick Maxwell	15.30	1,100.00	16,830.00
Nicholas Kacuba	4.90	390.00	1,911.00
Total	**32.00**		**$ 37,116.00**

TOTAL THIS INVOICE **$ 37,116.00**

COHEN ZIFFER FRENCHMAN & MCKENNA

1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019

Vanderbilt Minerals LLC
Raul Busto
1837 NY-812
Gouverneur, NY 13642

October 9, 2026
Invoice # 86713

REMITTANCE ADVICE

Client/Matter: 00543.0002

RE: Coverage for Talc Liabilities

BALANCE DUE THIS INVOICE	**$ 37,116.00**

All checks should be made payable to:
(Please return this advice with payment.)

Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna LLP
1325 Avenue of the Americas, 31st Floor
New York, NY 10019

For payment by wire or ACH in USD:

City National Bank
1140 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
ABA #026013958
Swift Code: CINAUS6L
Beneficiary: Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna LLP
Account #665806731

Please reference: Invoice 86713, Client/Matter: 00543.0002

Payment via ACH or wire transfer is strongly encouraged to avoid any issues with mis-directed mail and delays in posting payments to your account. Thank you for your cooperation!