Case 25-10292-LSS Doc 73 Filed 03/04/25 Page 1 of 13 Docket #0073 Date Filed: 03/04/2025

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

Chapter 11

Dynamic Aerostructures LLC, et al.,

Case No. 25-10292 (LSS)

Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

(Jointly Administered)

Hrg. Date: 3/25/2025 @ 11:00 a.m. (ET) Obj. Due: 3/18/2025 @ 4:00 p.m. (ET)

APPLICATION OF THE DEBTORS FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF CHIPMAN BROWN CICERO & COLE, LLP, AS CO-COUNSEL TO THE DEBTORS EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

The above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") in the above-captioned, jointly administered bankruptcy cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases"), hereby submit this application (the "Application") pursuant to sections 327(a), 328(a), and 1107(b) of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532 (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rules 2014(a), 2016(b), and 5002 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Rule 2014-1 of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Local Rules"), for entry of an order authorizing the retention and employment of Chipman Brown Cicero & Cole, LLP ("CBCC"), as co-counsel to the Debtors effective as of the Petition Date (as defined herein). The facts and circumstances supporting this Application are set forth herein and in the declaration of Mark L. Desgrosseilliers (the "Declaration"), attached hereto as Exhibit A, and the Declaration of Eric N. Ellis in support of this Application, attached hereto as Exhibit C, and incorporated herein by reference. In further support of this Application, the Debtors respectfully state as follows:

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number are: Dynamic Aerostructures LLC (3076); Dynamic Aerostructures Intermediate LLC (9800); and Forrest Machining LLC (3421). The Debtors' service address is 27756 Avenue Mentry, Valencia, California 91355.



## JURISDICTION, VENUE, AND STATUTORY PREDICATES

- 1. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court") has jurisdiction over the Chapter 11 Cases and this matter under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated as of February 29, 2012.
  - 2. This is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A).
- 3. Pursuant to Local Rule 9013-1(f), the Debtors consent to the entry of a final judgment or order with respect to this Application if it is determined that the Court, absent consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.
  - 4. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 5. The statutory predicates for the relief sought herein are sections 327(a), 328(a), and 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. The relief is also appropriate in accordance with Bankruptcy Rules 2014(a), 2016(b), and 5002, and Local Rule 2014-1.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 6. On February 26, 2025 (the "**Petition Date**"), the Debtors filed voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in this Court.
- 7. The Debtors have continued in possession of their properties and have continued to operate and manage their business as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 8. No request has been made for the appointment of a trustee or examiner. To date, no committee has been appointed in the Chapter 11 Cases.

- 9. The Debtors are a leading manufacturer and supplier of critical structural components and assemblies for the aerospace and defense industry. The Debtors specialize in complex, large-format structural airframe and wing components, large aluminum structures, and complex assemblies for key aerospace and defense customers such as Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, and Boeing, among others. The Debtors have one of the largest independent aerospace and defense manufacturing sites in North America, operating out of 226,000 square feet across two facilities in Southern California.
- 10. The factual background relating to the Debtors' commencement of these cases is set forth in detail in the *Declaration of Eric N. Ellis in Support of Debtors' Chapter 11 Petitions and First Day Motions* (Docket No. 2) (the "**First Day Declaration**"),<sup>2</sup> filed on the Petition Date and incorporated herein by reference.

### RELIEF REQUESTED

- 11. By this Application, the Debtors respectfully request that this Court enter an order, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, authorizing the employment and retention of CBCC as their Delaware co-counsel in these Chapter 11 Cases effective as of the Petition Date.
- 12. The Debtors also have sought to retain Ropes & Gray LLP ("R&G") as their counsel in these cases. CBCC will work closely with R&G and the Debtors' other professionals to take whatever steps are necessary and appropriate to implement a carefully constructed division of services and to avoid duplication of effort.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the First Day Declaration or the Declaration.

### **CBCC'S QUALIFICATIONS**

- 13. The Debtors recognize that the selection and managing of restructuring counsel requires a comprehensive process to ensure that restructuring professionals are subject to the same client-driven market forces, scrutiny, and accountability as professionals in non-restructuring engagements.
- 14. The Debtors seek to retain CBCC as their Delaware counsel in the Chapter 11 Cases because of the CBCC's extensive experience and knowledge in the fields of debtors' and creditors' rights, business reorganizations, and liquidations under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, its expertise, experience, and knowledge practicing before this Court, its proximity to the Court, and its ability to respond quickly to emergency hearings and other emergency matters in this Court. Accordingly, the Debtors have determined that CBCC has the resources and experience necessary to represent them in these cases. The Debtors considered only CBCC for the role as Delaware counsel in the Chapter 11 Cases. The Debtors believe that CBCC's employment is in the best interest of the Debtors, their estates and their creditors. Thus, the Debtors desire that CBCC represent them in connection with these Chapter 11 Cases, along with R&G.
- 15. The Debtors recognize that in large Chapter 11 Cases such as these, it is possible that there may be unforeseen fees and expenses that will need to be addressed by the Debtors and CBCC. The Debtors also recognize that it is their responsibility to monitor closely the billing practices of CBCC and their other professionals to ensure that fees and expenses paid by their estates remain consistent with the Debtors' expectations, taking into account the exigencies and other circumstances of the Chapter 11 Cases. To that end, the Debtors will continue to review and monitor the regular invoices submitted by CBCC.

16. As is the Debtors' historical practice, the Debtors will continue to monitor the fees and expense reimbursement process during the Chapter 11 Cases and ensure the Debtors are an active participant in that process. Recognizing that every chapter 11 case is unique, the Debtors, together with CBCC, will use the budgeting process to provide guidance on the period of time involved and the level of attorneys and professionals that will work on various matters, as well as the projection of average hourly rates for the attorneys and professionals for such matters.

### SCOPE OF EMPLOYMENT

- 17. The professional services that CBCC expects to render to the Debtors include, but shall not be limited to, the following:
  - (a) providing legal advice with respect to the Debtors' powers and duties as debtors in possession in the continued operation of their businesses and management of their properties;
  - (b) negotiating, drafting, and pursuing all documentation necessary in these Chapter 11 Cases;
  - (c) preparing on behalf of the Debtors all applications, motions, answers, orders, reports, and other legal papers necessary to the administration of the Debtors' estates;
  - (d) appearing in Court and protecting the interests of the Debtors before the Court;
  - (e) assisting with any disposition of the Debtors' assets, by sale or otherwise;
  - (f) negotiating and taking all necessary or appropriate actions in connection with a plan or plans of reorganization and all related documents thereunder and transactions contemplated therein;
  - (g) attending all meetings and negotiating with representatives of creditors, the United States Trustee, and other parties in interest;
  - (h) providing legal advice regarding bankruptcy law, corporate law, corporate governance, transactional, litigation, and other issues to the Debtors in connection with the Debtors' ongoing business operations; and
  - (i) performing all other legal services for, and providing all other necessary legal advice to, the Debtors that may be necessary and proper in these Chapter 11 Cases.

18. Subject to the Court's approval of this Application, CBCC has indicated that it is willing to serve as co-counsel to the Debtors in the Chapter 11 Cases with R&G and to perform the services described above.

#### PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION

19. Section 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the employment of a professional person on any reasonable terms and conditions of employment, including on an hourly basis. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 328(a). CBCC intends to apply for compensation for professional services rendered in connection with these Chapter 11 Cases subject to the approval of this Court and in compliance with applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and orders of this Court, on an hourly basis, plus reimbursement of actual, necessary expenses and other charges incurred by CBCC. CBCC has advised the Debtors that the current hourly rates applicable to the principal attorneys and paralegals proposed to represent the Debtors are as follows:

Professional	RATE PER HOUR
Robert A. Weber	\$875.00
Mark Desgrosseilliers	\$850.00
Daniel G. Egan	\$750.00
Renae M. Fusco	\$350.00

20. Other attorneys and paralegals will render services to the Debtors as needed. As of the date of the Declaration, CBCC's current hourly rates range from \$545.00 to \$950.00 per hour for partners, \$395.00 to \$595.00 per hour for associates and counsel, and \$300.00 to \$350.00 per hour for paralegals. The Debtors understand that the hourly rates set forth above are subject to periodic adjustments in the ordinary course of business.

21. The hourly rates set forth above are CBCC's standard hourly rates for work of this nature. These rates are set at a level designed to fairly compensate CBCC for its work and to cover fixed and routine overhead expenses. It is CBCC's policy to charge its clients in all areas of practice for expenses incurred in connection with the client's case. The expenses charged to clients include, among other things, photocopying, witness fees, travel expenses, certain secretarial and other overtime expenses, filing and recording fees, long distance telephone calls, postage, express mail and messenger charges, computerized legal research charges and other computer services, expenses for "working meals," and telecopier charges. CBCC will charge the Debtors for these expenses in a manner and at rates consistent with charges made generally to its other clients, subject to this Court's approval of such expenses pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code, such Bankruptcy Rules as may from time to time be applicable, such Local Rules as may from time to time be applicable, and such procedures as may be fixed by order of this Court. CBCC believes that failure to charge these expenses would require the firm to increase its current hourly rates.

#### PAYMENTS AND RETAINERS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE PETITION DATE

- 22. On December 4, 2024, CBCC received a retainer payment from the Debtors totaling \$150,000.00. That retainer was supplemented as follows:
  - 12/27/2024 \$31,395.00;
  - 1/10/2025 \$23,784.50;
  - 1/14/2025 \$29,831.00:
  - 1/29/2025 \$30,357.50;
  - 2/6/2025 \$26,040.00:
  - 2/14/2025 \$30,120.00;
  - 2/20/2025 \$75,000.00; and

- 2/25/2025 \$50,000.00 (collectively, the "Security Retainer").
- 23. Prior to the Petition Date, CBCC issued the following invoices to the Debtors, which invoices were drawn against the Security Retainer on the date of the invoice:
  - 12/23/2024 \$31,395.00;
  - 1/6/2025 \$23,784.50;
  - 1/13/2025 \$29,831.00;
  - 1/27/2025 \$30,357.50:
  - 2/3/2025 \$26,040.00;
  - 2/10/2025 \$30,120.00;
  - 2/17/2025 \$44,462.50; and
  - 2/25/2025 -\$117,962.50 (for \$77,962.50 in actual incurred fees and expenses and \$40,000.00 in additional estimated prepetition fees and expenses).
- 24. Following the Petition Date, CBCC reconciled the additional estimated fees and expenses incurred prior to the Petition Date (\$40,000.00) against the actual fees and expenses incurred (\$18,209.00). Following such reconciliation, CBCC continued to hold \$134,391.00 as a Security Retainer to be applied against approved unpaid fees and expenses following a final hearing with respect to the fees and expenses of CBCC in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 25. In the one-year period prior to the Petition Date, CBCC incurred no other fees and expenses in its representation of the Debtors with respect to the Debtors' efforts to pursue strategic alternatives and prepare for the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 26. The Firm's statement, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2016, of the compensation paid for services rendered by CBCC in the one-year period preceding the Petition Date, and the source of such compensation, is set forth in the Declaration.

#### STATEMENT REGARDING U.S. TRUSTEE GUIDELINES

- 27. The Debtors recognize that a comprehensive review process is necessary when selecting and managing restructuring counsel to ensure that restructuring professionals are subject to the same client-driven market forces, scrutiny, and accountability as professionals in non-restructuring engagements.
- 28. The Debtors considered only CBCC for the engagement as Delaware counsel for the Debtors in these Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. CBCC was selected because of the firm's extensive experience and knowledge in the fields of debtors and creditors' rights, business reorganizations and liquidations under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, its expertise, experience, and knowledge practicing before this Court, its proximity to the Court, and its ability to respond quickly to emergency hearings and other emergency matters in this Court. Accordingly, the Debtors have determined that CBCC has the resources and experience necessary to represent them in these cases. The Debtors believe that CBCC's employment is in the best interest of the Debtors, their estates and their creditors. Thus, the Debtors desire that CBCC represent them in connection with these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 29. CBCC has informed the Debtors that their hourly rates for bankruptcy representations are comparable to (a) the hourly rates they charge for the non-bankruptcy representations, and (b) the rates of other comparably skilled professionals in the national marketplace for legal services. Having had experience with large law firms, I can verify the rates charged by CBCC in connection with the representation are within the range typically charged by similar firms in complex matters.
- 30. The Debtors recognize that in large chapter 11 cases such as these, it is possible that there may be unforeseen fees and expenses that will need to be addressed by the Debtors and

CBCC. The Debtors also recognize that it is their responsibility to monitor closely the billing practices of CBCC and their other professionals to ensure that fees and expenses paid by their estates remain consistent with the Debtors' expectations taking into account the exigencies and other circumstances of these Chapter 11 Cases. To that end, the Debtors will continue to review and monitor the regular invoices submitted by CBCC.

31. As is the Debtors' historical practice, the Debtors will continue to monitor the fees and expense reimbursement process during these Chapter 11 Cases and ensure the Debtors are an active participant in that process. Recognizing that every chapter 11 case is unique, the Debtors, together with CBCC, will use the budgeting process to provide guidance on the period of time involved and the level of attorneys and professionals that will work on various matters, as well as the projection of average hourly rates for the attorneys and professionals for such matters.

#### **DISINTERESTEDNESS**

32. To the best of the Debtors' knowledge and as disclosed herein and in the Declaration: (a) CBCC is a "disinterested person" under section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code; (b) CBCC does not hold or represent an interest adverse to the Debtors' estates; and (c) CBCC's partners and associates have no connection to the Debtors, their creditors or their related parties except as may be disclosed in the Declaration.

## **BASIS FOR RELIEF**

33. Section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that:

Except as otherwise provided in this section, the trustee, with the court's approval, may employ one or more attorneys, accountants, appraisers, auctioneers, or other professional persons, that do not hold or represent an interest adverse to the estate, and that are disinterested persons, to represent or assist the trustee in carrying out the trustee's duties under this title.

11 U.S.C. § 327(a).

- 34. Moreover, Bankruptcy Rule 2014(a) requires that a retention application must state specific facts showing:
  - (A) the need for the employment;
  - (B) the name of the person to be employed;
  - (C) the reasons for the selection;
  - (D) the professional services to be rendered;
  - (E) any proposed arrangement for compensation; and
  - (F) to the best of the applicant's knowledge, all of the person's connections with: the debtor; creditors; any other party in interest; their respective attorneys and accountants; the United States trustee; and any person employed in the United States trustee's office.

Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2014(a)(2).

35. The Debtors have selected CBCC as their counsel with R&G because of CBCC's extensive experience and knowledge in the field of debtor and creditor rights and business reorganizations under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Thus, the Debtors believe that CBCC is the best qualified law firm to act as counsel for the Debtors with R&G in connection with these Chapter 11 Cases. As set forth in the Declaration: (a) CBCC does not represent or hold any interest adverse to the Debtors or their estates and (b) CBCC is "disinterested" for purposes of section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, the Debtors submit that the retention of CBCC effective as of the Petition Date is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, their creditors, and all other parties-in-interest.

#### **BANKRUPTCY RULE 5002**

36. As set forth in the Declaration, no partner or associate of CBCC is a relative of, or has been so connected with, any United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware, any of the District Court Judges for the District of Delaware who handle bankruptcy cases, the United

States Trustee for Region 3, the Assistant United States Trustee for the District of Delaware, the attorney for the U.S. Trustee assigned to the Chapter 11 Cases or any other employee of the U.S. Trustee. Accordingly, the appointment of CBCC is not prohibited by Bankruptcy Rule 5002.

## REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RETENTION OF CBCC EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

Date in order to allow CBCC to be compensated for the work it performs for the Debtors as of and following the Petition Date and prior to the Court's consideration of this Application. On the Petition Date, CBCC turned its attention to urgent matters including, but not limited to, finalizing and filing the Debtors' petitions and first-day pleadings and preparing for the first-day hearing. The Debtors submit that under the circumstances, and to avoid irreparable harm to the Debtors' estates that may occur if CBCC is not immediately retained, retroactive approval to the Petition Date is warranted. *See, e.g., Matter of Arkansas Co.*, 798 F.2d 645, 650 (3d Cir. 1986); *F/S Airlease II, Inc. v. Simon (In re F/S Airlease II, Inc.)*, 844 F.2d 99, 103 (3d Cir. 1988), cert. denied, 488 U.S. 852 (1988); *Indian River Homes, Inc. v. Sussex Trust Co.*, 108 B.R. 46, 51 (D. Del. 1989) (approval of debtor's employment of attorney and real estate agent as of a prior date was not an abuse of discretion).

## **NO PRIOR REQUEST**

38. No prior request for the relief sought in this Application has been made to this or any other court.

**WHEREFORE**, the Debtors respectfully request that this Court enter an order granting the relief requested herein and such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: March 4, 2025

DYNAMIC AEROSTRUCTURES LLC, AND ITS AFFILIATES THAT ARE DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION

/s/ Eric N. Ellis

Eric N. Ellis

President and Chief Executive Officer

## **EXHIBIT A**

Declaration

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

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Chapter 11

Dynamic Aerostructures LLC, et al.,

Case No. 25-10292 (LSS)

Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

(Jointly Administered)

DECLARATION OF MARK L. DESGROSSEILLIERS IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION OF THE DEBTORS FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF CHIPMAN BROWN CICERO & COLE, LLP, AS CO-COUNSEL TO THE DEBTORS EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

- I, Mark L. Desgrosseilliers, hereby declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, under penalty of perjury as follows:
- 1. I am a partner in the law firm of Chipman Brown Cicero & Cole, LLP ("CBCC"), which maintains its principal office at Hercules Plaza, 1313 North Market Street, Suite 5400, Wilmington, Delaware 19801. CBCC also maintains an office in New York, New York.
- 2. I submit this declaration (the "**Declaration**") on behalf of CBCC in support of the application (the "**Application**"),<sup>2</sup> of the Debtors for an order, pursuant to sections 327(a), 328(a), and 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 2014(a), 2016(b), and 5002, and Local Rule 2014-1, authorizing the retention and employment of CBCC as co-counsel to the Debtors in the Chapter 11 Cases effective as of the Petition Date. Except as otherwise indicated herein, I have

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number are: Dynamic Aerostructures LLC (3076); Dynamic Aerostructures Intermediate LLC (9800); and Forrest Machining LLC (3421). The Debtors' service address is 27756 Avenue Mentry, Valencia, California 91355.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Application.

personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein and, if called as a witness, would testify competently thereto.<sup>3</sup>

3. The facts set forth below are based either upon my personal knowledge, discussions with other partners and associates of CBCC, or review of the client/matter records of CBCC by me or by associates of CBCC acting under my supervision and direction.

#### **DEBTORS' RETENTION OF CBCC**

- 4. The Debtors have filed the Application to retain CBCC, subject to this Court's approval, as bankruptcy co-counsel to the Debtors. The professional services that CBCC expects to render to the Debtors include, but are not limited to:
  - (a) providing legal advice with respect to the Debtors' powers and duties as debtors in possession in the continued operation of their businesses and management of their properties;
  - (b) negotiating, drafting, and pursuing all documentation necessary in these Chapter 11 Cases;
  - (c) preparing on behalf of the Debtors all applications, motions, answers, orders, reports, and other legal papers necessary to the administration of the Debtors' estates;
  - (d) appearing in Court and protecting the interests of the Debtors before the Court;
  - (e) assisting with any disposition of the Debtors' assets, by sale or otherwise;
  - (f) negotiating and taking all necessary or appropriate actions in connection with a plan or plans of reorganization and all related documents thereunder and transactions contemplated therein;
  - (g) attending all meetings and negotiating with representatives of creditors, the United States Trustee, and other parties in interest;
  - (h) providing legal advice regarding bankruptcy law, corporate law, corporate governance, transactional, litigation, and other issues to the Debtors in connection with the Debtors' ongoing business operations; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Certain of the disclosures herein relate to matters within the knowledge of other attorneys at CBCC.

- (i) performing all other legal services for, and providing all other necessary legal advice to, the Debtors that may be necessary and proper in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 5. The professional services CBCC expects to render include matters that are not appropriately handled by R&G due to a potential or actual conflict of interest with certain creditors of the Debtors or are otherwise matters that CBCC is tasked to handle by the Debtors, and to perform such other discrete duties related to the administration of these Chapter 11 Cases described herein.
- 6. CBCC has the resources and experience necessary to represent the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases as bankruptcy co-counsel because of CBCC's extensive experience and knowledge in the fields of debtor and creditors' rights and business reorganizations under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

## PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION

7. Section 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the employment of a professional person on any reasonable terms and conditions of employment, including on an hourly basis. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 328(a). CBCC intends to apply for compensation for professional services rendered in connection with these Chapter 11 Cases subject to the approval of this Court and in compliance with applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and orders of this Court, on an hourly basis, plus reimbursement of actual, necessary expenses and other charges incurred by CBCC. CBCC has advised the Debtors that the current hourly rates applicable to the principal attorneys and paralegals proposed to represent the Debtors are as follows:

Professional	RATE PER HOUR
Robert A. Weber	\$875.00
Mark Desgrosseilliers	\$850.00
Daniel G. Egan	\$750.00
Renae M. Fusco	\$350.00

- 8. Other attorneys and paralegals will render services to the Debtors as needed. As of the date of the Declaration, CBCC's current hourly rates range from \$545.00 to \$950.00 per hour for partners, \$395.00 to \$595.00 per hour for associates and counsel, and \$300.00 to \$350.00 per hour for paralegals. The Debtors understand that the hourly rates set forth above are subject to periodic adjustments in the ordinary course of business.
- 9. The hourly rates set forth above are CBCC's standard hourly rates for work of this nature. These rates are set at a level designed to fairly compensate CBCC for its work and to cover fixed and routine overhead expenses. It is CBCC's policy to charge its clients in all areas of practice for expenses incurred in connection with the client's case. The expenses charged to clients include, among other things, photocopying, witness fees, travel expenses, certain secretarial and other overtime expenses, filing and recording fees, long distance telephone calls, postage, express mail and messenger charges, computerized legal research charges and other computer services, expenses for "working meals," and telecopier charges. CBCC will charge the Debtors for these expenses in a manner and at rates consistent with charges made generally to its other clients, subject to this Court's approval of such expenses pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code, such Bankruptcy Rules as may from time to time be applicable, such Local Rules as may from time to time be applicable, and such procedures as may be fixed by order of this Court. CBCC believes that failure to charge these expenses would require the firm to increase its current hourly rates.

## PAYMENTS AND RETAINERS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE PETITION DATE

- 10. On December 4, 2024, CBCC received a retainer payment from the Debtors totaling \$150,000.00. That retainer was supplemented as follows:
  - 12/27/2024 \$31,395.00;
  - 1/10/2025 \$23,784.50;
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  - 1/29/2025 \$30,357.50;
  - 2/6/2025 \$26,040.00:
  - 2/14/2025 \$30,120.00;
  - 2/20/2025 \$75,000.00; and
  - 2/25/2025 \$50,000.00 (collectively, the "Security Retainer").
- 11. Prior to the Petition Date, CBCC issued the following invoices to the Debtors, which invoices were drawn against the Security Retainer on the date of the invoice:
  - 12/23/2024 \$31,395.00;
  - 1/6/2025 \$23,784.50;
  - 1/13/2025 \$29,831.00;
  - 1/27/2025 \$30,357.50:
  - 2/3/2025 \$26,040.00;
  - 2/10/2025 \$30,120.00;
  - 2/17/2025 \$44,462.50; and

- 2/25/2025 -\$117,962.50 (for \$77,962.50 in actual incurred fees and expenses and \$40,000.00 in additional estimated prepetition fees and expenses).
- 12. Following the Petition Date, CBCC reconciled the additional estimated fees and expenses incurred prior to the Petition Date (\$40,000.00) against the actual fees and expenses incurred (\$18,209.00). Following such reconciliation, CBCC continued to hold \$134,391.00 as a Security Retainer to be applied against approved unpaid fees and expenses following a final hearing with respect to the fees and expenses of CBCC in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 13. In the one-year period prior to the Petition Date, CBCC incurred no other fees and expenses in its representation of the Debtors with respect to the Debtors' efforts to pursue strategic alternatives and prepare for the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 14. CBCC intends to seek compensation for all time and expenses associated with its retention in accordance with sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and any orders of this Court, including the preparation of the Application, this Declaration, and related documents, as well as any monthly fee statements or interim or final fee applications.
- 15. Other than as set forth herein, there is no proposed arrangement to compensate CBCC. CBCC has not shared, nor agreed to share: (a) any compensation it has received or may receive with any other party or person, other than with the partners and associates of CBCC; or (b) any compensation another person or party has received or may receive.
- 16. Consistent with the Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330 by Attorneys in Larger Chapter 11 Cases Effective as of November 1, 2013, I submit the following information:
  - (a) CBCC did not agree to any variations from, or alternatives to, its standard or customary billing arrangements for this engagement;
  - (b) None of CBCC's professionals included in this engagement have varied their rate based on the geographic location for these Chapter 11 Cases;

- (c) CBCC did not represent the Debtors prior to the Petition Date other than in connection with preparing the Chapter 11 Cases; and
- (d) CBCC, in conjunction with the Debtors' advisors, is working with our client on developing an estimated budget and staffing plan for approximately the first eight weeks of these proceedings.
- 17. By separate application, the Debtors will ask the Court to approve the retention of Ropes & Gray LLP as counsel to the Debtors. The Debtors will also file motions or applications to employ additional professionals and/or ordinary course professionals. CBCC will work closely with the Debtors' other professionals to avoid any unnecessary duplication of effort.
- 18. By reason of the foregoing, I believe CBCC is eligible for employment and retention by the Debtors pursuant to sections 327(a), 328(a), and 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and the applicable Bankruptcy Rules.

## **CBCC'S DISCLOSURE PROCEDURES**

- 19. To the best of my knowledge and information after due inquiry, and except as disclosed herein: (a) CBCC has no interest adverse to the Debtors or to the Debtors' estates; and (b) CBCC is a "disinterested person" for purposes of section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. For so long as CBCC represents the Debtors, and absent further order of this Court, CBCC will not represent any entity other than the Debtors in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 20. As more fully described hereinafter, CBCC maintains a computer client database (the "Client Database") containing the names of all of CBCC's current and former clients and, where practical, the known affiliates of those clients. In connection with preparing this Declaration, I caused to be submitted to, and caused to be checked against, the Client Database, those potentially interested parties in these cases listed on <u>Exhibit 1</u> hereto, which party names were provided to CBCC by the Debtors (collectively, the "Potentially Interested Parties"). CBCC compared the names of the Potentially Interested Parties against the Client Database. Based

upon my review of the Potentially Interested Parties and the report from CBCC's Client Database, I have determined that CBCC has or had a relationship with certain Potentially Interested Parties as identified in CBCC's conflict check and disclosed on **Exhibit 2** attached hereto.

- 21. Through a firm wide email, CBCC solicited information from its attorneys to determine whether any attorneys employed by CBCC are related to the Bankruptcy Judge presiding over these cases, the United States Trustee for Region 3, or any attorney known to CBCC to be employed in the Wilmington Office of the United States Trustee. CBCC also solicited information from its attorneys to determine if any attorneys employed by CBCC are equity security holders of the Debtors. Based upon this review, no such connections have been discovered to date. In the event that any additional information is received, CBCC will supplement this Declaration to the extent necessary.
- 22. CBCC maintains and systematically updates its Client Database in the ordinary course of business, and it is the regular practice of CBCC to make and maintain these records. The Client Database maintained by CBCC is designed to include every matter on which CBCC is now or has been engaged, the entity by which CBCC is now or has been engaged, and, in each instance, the identity of related parties, adverse parties, and the name of an attorney at CBCC who is knowledgeable about the matter. It is the policy of CBCC that no new matter may be accepted or opened without completing and submitting to those charged with maintaining the Client Database the information necessary to check each such matter for conflicts, including the identity of the prospective client, the matter, and related and adverse parties. Accordingly, the Client Database is regularly updated for every new matter undertaken by CBCC.
- 23. CBCC may have connections to certain creditors and other parties-in-interest in the Chapter 11 Cases. Those connections may include representation of the entity, an affiliate, or

related party, as well as representation of parties adverse to such parties, affiliates, or related parties in matters unrelated to these cases. In addition, it is possible that CBCC and certain of its partners and associates may have in the past represented, may currently represent, and may in the future represent parties-in-interest of the Debtors in connection with matters unrelated to the Debtors or these cases. Moreover, CBCC appears in many cases, proceedings, and transactions involving different attorneys, financial consultants, and investment bankers, some of which may now or in the future represent the Debtors, Potentially Interested Parties or other parties-in-interest in these cases. From time to time, CBCC will supplement this Declaration to the extent necessary.

- 24. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief, CBCC does not represent or hold any interest adverse to the Debtors or their estates. Accordingly, I believe that CBCC satisfies the requirements for employment as counsel to the Debtors pursuant to section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 25. CBCC is a "disinterested person" as that term is defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(14) in that CBCC, its partners, and associates:
  - are not creditors, equity security holders, or insiders of the Debtors;
  - are not and were not, within two (2) years before the date of the filing of the petitions, a director, officer, or employee of the Debtors; and
  - do not have an interest materially adverse to the interest of the estates or of any class of creditors or equity security holders, by reason of any direct or indirect relationship to, connection with, or interest in, the Debtors, or for any other reason.
- 26. CBCC and certain of its partners and associates may have in the past represented and may currently represent and likely in the future will represent creditors of the Debtors in connection with matters unrelated to the Debtors and the Chapter 11 Cases. At this time, CBCC is not aware of such representations, except as disclosed herein.
  - 27. No partner or associate of CBCC is a relative of, or has been so connected with,

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any United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware, any of the District Court Judges

for the District of Delaware who handle bankruptcy cases, the United States Trustee for Region 3,

the Assistant United States Trustee for the District of Delaware, the attorney for the U.S. Trustee

assigned to these Chapter 11 Cases, or any other employee of the U.S. Trustee, except as set forth

herein.

28. The facts set forth below are based either upon my personal knowledge, discussions

with other partners and associates of CBCC, and client/matter records of CBCC reviewed by me

or by professionals of CBCC acting under my supervision and direction.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RETENTION OF CBCC EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

29. For the reasons stated in the Application, CBCC has requested, and the Debtors

have agreed, that CBCC's retention be approved effective as of the Petition Date, in order to allow

CBCC to be compensated for the work it has performed for the Debtors prior to the Court's

consideration and approval of the Application.

30. By reason of the foregoing, I believe CBCC is eligible for employment and

retention by the Debtors pursuant to sections 327(a), 328(a), and 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code

and the applicable Bankruptcy Rules.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true

and correct, to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

Executed on March 4, 2025

/s/Mark L. Desgrosseilliers

Mark L. Desgrosseilliers

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## **EXHIBIT 1**

**Potential Parties in Interest** 

## Potential Parties in Interest<sup>1</sup>

## 1. <u>Debtors</u>

Dynamic Aerostructures LLC Forrest Machining LLC Dynamic Aerostructures Intermediate LLC

## 2. <u>Debtors' Restructuring Professionals</u>

Berkeley Research Group, LLC Configure Partners, LLC Ropes & Gray LLP Chipman Brown Cicero & Cole, LLP C Street Advisory Group, LLC Verita Global, LLC

# 3. Restructuring Professionals for Lenders, Trustees, Agents, and Other Secured Parties

King & Spalding LLP Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP Ernst & Young US LLP

## 4. Ordinary Course Professionals

Hedman Partners LLP
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Hackler Flynn & Associates, APC
RSM US LLP
Brewer & Tominaga LLP
Myers Widders Gibson Jones & Feingold LLP
McDermott & Bull

## 5. Lenders, Trustees, Agents, and Other Secured Parties

CRG Financial LLC BMO Bank N.A. Mitsubishi HC Capital America Global Finance Group, Inc. Ford Motor Credit Company Dell Financial Services LLC

This list (and the categories contained herein) are for purposes of a conflicts check and should not be relied upon by any party as a list of creditors or for any other purpose.

Leaf Capital Funding, LLC CDS (Complete Document Solutions) USbank (IOTEC)

## 6. Banks

BMO Bank N.A. Bank of America N.A.

## 7. Current and Former Directors and Officers

Eric Ellis
Steve Finley
Michael Zawalski
General Merrill McPeak
Derek Eve
Leland Jones
Tim Mickael
John Weyers
Theresa Johnson

## 8. **Equity Holders**

Endeavour Capital Fund VIII, L.P. Tim Mickael Endeavour Executive Fund VIII, L.P. NS Honeymoon Trust Grande Kinder Trust Michael Zawalski General Merrill McPeak Sevak Piry Jill Winkler John Weyers

## 9. <u>Landlords</u>

Rexford Industrial – 27712 Avenue Mentry, LLC Rexford Industrial – 27756 Avenue Mentry, LLC

## 10. Vendors & Contract Counterparties

194 Consulting Solutions
3M Technical Ceramics Inc.
A & M Welding Inc.
A&S Metal Recycling, Inc
A Tech Authority Inc.

A&A Aerospace Inc.

A.M. Castle and Company West

A.N. Deringer Inc.

AA Mar

AAA Plating & Inspection Inc.

Abrasive Finishing Company

**Accupost Corporation** 

ACE Clearwater Enterprises Inc.

Ace Paper

**Acromil Corporation** 

ACT Aerospace

ActiveCyber

Active Fasteners & Supply Inc.

Adept Fasteners

Adobe Creative

Advanced Technology Company Inc.

Aero Chip Inc.

Aero Technology Company

Aerocraft Heat Treating Company Inc.

Aerodyne Alloys LLC

Aerospace Multi-Axis Machining

Aerospace Process Distribution

Aerospace Technology

Aerotech Precision Machining

Air Components Inc.

Aircraft Crating Inc.

Aircraft X-Ray Laboratories Inc.

Airgas, Inc.

Alatec, Inc.

Alco Service and Supply Company

**Arconic Corporation** 

All Metals Processing Inc.

All Power Manufacturing Inc.

All Valley Hose & Industrial Supply

All World Machinery Supply

Alloy Machining Services, Inc.

Alloy Processing Inc.

AllTech Precision Manufacturing

Alta Foodcraft Refreshment Service

Altemp Alloys LLC

Aluminum Precision Products Inc.

Amamco Tool

Amazon.com

American Abrasive & Tool Inc.

American Aerospace Material Inc.

American Aircraft Products, Inc.

American Fiber & Finishing, Inc.

American Gear Manufacturing Company

American Handforge

American Lift & Equipment Inc.

American Rotary Tools Company

AMI Metals Inc.

Amtek LLC

Angeles Steel Services

Anodyne Inc.

Applied Tool and Supply Inc.

Arconic Corporation

Arlington International Aviation Products

Arro-Jet Engineering & Consulting

Arrow Thompson Metals Inc.

Arrowhead Engineering

**ASK** Corporation

Aspen Management Company

Associated Concrete Products Inc.

Associates Leasing Inc.

Astro Aluminum Treating Company Inc.

Astro Cut Engineering

Astromatic Inc.

Atlantic Mutual Company

Atlas Testing Laboratories Inc.

Aurora Bearing Company

Aurora Casting and Engineering Inc.

Automatic Data Processing Inc.

Avibank Manufacturing Inc.

Barnes Aerospace Inc.

Bellis Steel Company Inc.

BJG Electronics Inc.

Bluestreak Aerospace

Bodycote plc

Bonelli's Sandblasting

Borrmann Metal Center

Bourdelais Grinding Company Inc.

Bowman Plating Company Inc.

BRALCO Metals, Inc.

BrightView Landscape Services Inc.

Burbank Steel Treating Inc.

Busby Metals Inc.

Butler Compressor & Spray Equipment Co.

C3 Complete

C A C Deburring Corporation

CBT Nuggets, LLC

**C&G** Enterprise

C&H Hydraulics Inc.

CAD Manufacturing Inc.

California Broach Company

California Cooling & Consulting LLC

California Drop Forge Inc.

California Hobby Distributors

California-Sierra Transformer Inc.

California Technical Machining

Canyon Crane Service

Carlton Forge Works Inc.

Carr Lane Manufacturing Company

Cascade Industrial Services Corporation

CBC Cleaning and Construction Inc.

CCC Steel Inc.

CDW Computer Centers Inc.

Cena & Sons Manufacturing Company

Century Machinery Company Inc.

**CERTEX USA** 

Certified Steel Treating Corporation

City Plating and Metal Finishing LLC

Clark & Wheeler Engineering

Click Bond Inc.

**CNC Signs** 

CNC Surgeon Inc.

Coast Plating Inc.

Coastal Video Communications Corporation

College of the Canyons Employee Training Institute

**Command Tooling Systems** 

Complete Document Solutions

Compmedix LLC

Computerized R&D

Connell Processing Inc.

Continental Forge Company

Continental Heat Treating Inc.

**COR Aircraft Supply** 

Cortez Industrial CNC Repair

Craftech Metal Forming Inc.

Craig Numerical Control Programming

Creative Solutions

**Creform Corporation** 

Crown Lift Trucks

Custom Manufacturing Services, Inc.

**Custom Metal Fabrication** 

**Cybercut Precision Machining** 

Cygnus Inc.

D.A. Stuart Co.

Dasco Engineering Corporation

Daymark Ltd.

Decisive Testing Inc.

**Delafield Corporation** 

Dell Technologies Inc.

Deltek, Inc

Denson Sales Co.

Dieform LLC

**Digital Services Company** 

Dillon Aircraft Deburring Inc.

Dillon-Quality Plus Inc.

Dion & Sons Inc.

DiscountShopTowels.com

Dixie Aerospace Inc.

**DLX** Company

Docusign Inc.

DOX Calibration Inc.

DreamHost

Duhig & Company Inc.

Durkee Testing Laboratories Inc.

Eagle Cutting & Supply LLC

Eagle Eye Calibration Labs Inc.

Earle M. Jorgensen Company

Eci Software Solutions Inc.

Ecolab Inc.

**Edwards Lapping Company** 

Element Materials Technology

**Embee Processing LLC** 

EME Inc.

**Engineered Ceramics** 

EnMark & Associates Ltd.

Enterprise Holdings Inc.

Environmental HELP Inc.

**EOF Furniture Works** 

ETA Global Inc.

**EVJ Machine LLC** 

**Evoqua Water Technologies Corporation** 

Excel Aerospace Supply Inc.

Exostar LLC

Expo Propane

Falcon Manufacturing Corporation

Farrar Aerospace LLC

Fatigue Technology Inc.

Federal Express Corporation

Ferro Union Company

FGL Environmental Inc.

Fine Quality Metal Finishing Inc.

First Aid Direct of L.A. Inc.

First Care Occupational Medical Group

First Choice Machinery Service Inc.

Fisher Scientific International Inc.

Fives Machining Systems Inc.

Flexi-Liner Corporation

Fluid Tech Hydraulic Services

FLW Inc.

Fontal Controls Inc.

Fortinet Inc

Freshworks Inc

Fry Steel Company Inc.

FTI Services

FUCHS Lubricants Co.

G & G Machinery

G & M Grinding

G Target Manufacturing Group Inc.

**GBM Sales** 

Gerhardt Gear Company Inc.

GKN Aerospace Services Ltd.

Global Crating Inc.

GoDaddy Inc

Golden West Security Inc.

Goldenwest Manufacturing Inc.

Gosiger Inc.

GoToMyPC

GracoRoberts

GreatAmerica Financials Services

Greatglass LLC

GROB Systems Inc.

**GSR Technical Sales** 

Guhring Inc.

GW Richardson Heating & Air Conditioning Inc.

H2O Fire Protection Inc.

Hadco Metal Trading Company LLC

Hames Machine Products

Harvey Titanium Rolled Prod.

Helen Rose Studio

Hexagon AB

Hexagon Metrology

High Performance Alloys Inc.

High Temp Metals

Highland Plating Company Inc.

HITCO Carbon Composites Inc.

Hixson Metal Finishing

Home Depot Credit Services

Howmet Global Fastening Systems Inc.

HRM Machine Inc.

Hydro-Jet Abrasive Machining

Hydromach Inc.

Hyrize LLC

Hy-Speed Machining Inc.

IAPMO Research And Testing Inc.

Imagine That

Inceptra LLC

**Independent Measurements** 

**Industrial Steel Treating Company** 

Industrial Technical Services Inc.

**Infinity Precision Inc** 

Information Professionals Association

Ingersoll Cutting Tool Company

Innovative Machining LLC

InspectionXpert Corporation

Instrumart

Insurance Company of the West

**Integral Parts Machining Company** 

Integral Products Inc.

International Computer and Communications Inc.

Intrinsic Marks International LLC

J.G. Hot Heading Fasteners

Jack X Change

Jamaica Bearings Company Inc.

Jamar Packaging Inc.

Jarecc Company Inc.

Jarnagan & Son

JD2 Inc.

Jetroc Engineering

JJ's Hone Shop

JNC Josett Heating & Cooling

John Montilepre Ent.

John Murray Plumbing

Johns Manville

Johnson Controls Security

Jorgensen Forge Corporation

**Kamatics Corporation** 

Kennametal Inc.

Kennedy Manufacturing Company

Kilsby Roberts Company

Kinnen Supply

Kirkhill Inc.

Kluber Lubrications N.A.

Knight Industrial Supply Inc.

Kropp Forge

Kubo

L & H Engineering

L & M Precision Inc.

Laird Technologies Inc.

Laminated Shim Company Inc.

Lamsco West Inc.

Landsberg Orora

Lanic Aerospace

Larry A. Burkley

Laser Label Technologies

Laser Measurement Services Inc.

Laser Options Inc.

Lasers Inc.

Laurel Sheet Metal Products Inc.

Lawrence Patterson

Lawrence Ripak Company

Lean Manufacturing Group LLC

LeFiell Manufacturing Co

LensCrafters

Leon Mendoza Trucking

LHB Industries Inc.

**Lindberg Corporation** 

Linde Gas & Equipment

Lopez Burr-Bench

Lou Harris Industrial Tools

Luminescent Systems Inc.

M & C Manufacturing Company

M & E Precision Machining Company

M&M Fasteners Supply Inc.

M.F. Services Inc.

Mac Tools

Madden Machine Works

Magnaplate

Maintech Inc.

Maintenance Technologies Inc.

Marking Methods Inc.

Marpla Engineering

Marshall Tool & Supply Inc.

Martinelli's Office Machines

Master Research & Manufacturing Inc.

Max Industries Inc.

Mayday Manufacturing Company Inc.

Mclaughlin Industrial Distributors Inc.

McMaster-Carr Supply Company Inc.

Medina's Blanchard & Double Disc Grinding LLC

Melkes Machine Inc.

Merchants Centralized

Merco Manufacturing Company

Mercury General Corporation

Mesco Modern Engineered Services

Metal Cutting Service

Metal Improvement Company, LLC

Metal Surfaces Inc.

MetalCenter Inc.

Metals Aerospace International

Micro Quality Calibration, LLC

Mid-State Aerospace Inc.

Mike's Tire Man Inc.

MilCom Aerostructures LLC

Miracle Tools America LLC

MISTRAS Group Inc.

Mitchell Laboratories Inc.

Monlan Group

Morrell's Electro Plating Inc.

Mosier Fluid Power

Motion Industries Inc.

MS Inserts & Fasteners Corporation

MSC Industrial Supply Company Inc.

Mulgrew Aircraft Components Inc.

Multax Systems Inc.

Myersville Machine & Rigging Company

Nasa Ames Research Center

National Technical Systems

NC Dynamics Inc.

NDT Metrics Inc.

NDT Systems Inc.

Net-Inspect

New Hampshire Ball Bearings Inc.

NobleTek LLC

NS Manufacturing

**NSK** Corporation

Nu-Tech Industrial Sales Inc.

On the Road Again

Ong Group LLC

Orange County Broaching Inc.

Orange County Industrial Plastics

Orange County Materials Test Laboratory

Orange Hydraulics Inc.

**Orbital Sciences Corporation** 

Ortiz Tool LLC

Pacific Aerodyne

Pacific Oil Company

Packaging Systems Inc.

Paragon Metals LLC

Parisi Services Inc.

Particle Reduction Service

Patriot Sensors & Control Corporation

Paylocity Corporation

**PB** Fasteners

PBB USA Inc.

PCC Structurals Inc.

Pervan Industries

Petersen Inc.

Pierce Spafford Metals Company

Pillar Precision

Pioneer Broach Company

Pitt Auto Electric Company

Plasma Technology Inc.

Plas-Tech Resources Inc.

PlastiFab Inc

Pollution Control Specialists

Poly-Metal Finishing Inc.

Polyrock Equipment Company Inc.

Ponam Precision Gages

PPG Industries Inc.

Prairie Ceramics Corporation

PRC - Desoto International Inc.

Precision Aerospace Corporation

Precision Deburring Enterprises Inc.

Precision Instrument Correction Inc.

Premco Forge Inc.

Premier Printer Maintenance

Pride Plating Inc.

**Pro Coatings** 

Process Fab Inc.

**Professional Plastics** 

Professional Quality Non-Destructive Test

**Programming Specialties** 

Progressive Alloy Steels Unlimited

Protocast JLC

Prudential Overall Supply

**PTSolutions** 

QMI Inc.

Quadient Finance USA Inc.

Quadrant Automated Services Inc.

Quality Aluminum Forge LLC

Quality Control Company

Quality Forming Inc.

Quality Tech Manufacturing Inc.

Quality Turning Inc.

Quantum Enterprises

Quill Corporation

R.S. Hughes Company Inc.

RAH Industries Inc.

**RAND North America** 

RBC Bearings Inc.

ReadyRefresh

Reliance Steel & Aluminum Company

Richmond Aircraft Products Inc.

Rickard Matals Inc.

RJ's Work Boots LLC

RMI Titanium Company LLC

RMK Trucking LLC

**Rockwell International Corporation** 

Rohr Inc.

Ron Partain Company

Royal Wholesale Electric

RS Americas Inc.

RTI Advanced Forming Inc.

**Rubatex Corporation** 

Rubbercraft Company

Rutland Tool & Supply Company

**RVP** Industries

S.L. Fusco Inc.

Safety-Kleen Inc.

Sage IT Inc

Sager Electronics Supply Company

Sahar Laser & Welding Inc.

Salomon Mena

Samuel Airport Metals

Santa Clarita Bearing Company

Saratech

Scepko Tube Swaging & Machining

Schaeffer Manufacturing Company

Schienke Products Inc.

Scicon Technologies

Seal Science Inc.

Selco Products Company Inc.

Service Steel Aerospace Corporation

Servo Products Company

SeyTec Inc.

**Shaw Precision Grinding** 

Shelton Industrial Pattern Inc.

Shercon Inc.

Shop Floor Automations Inc.

Shultz Steel Company

Sid Street

Siemens Corporation

Sierra Alloys Company

Sierra Pacific Supply Company Inc.

Simi Tool Repairs

SMBC MANUBANK

SNK America Inc.

SoCal Pump and Vacuum

Solar Atmospheres of San Diego

Sonic Testing & Engineering

SonicWall, Inc

Southwest United Industries

Spacetron Titanium Chambers Inc.

Spectraforms

Standard Diamond Inc.

Steel Services Company

Stellex Bandy Machining Inc.

**Stretch Forming Corporation** 

Stroud Systems Inc.

Sumikin Bussan Aerospace Metals

Summer Systems Heating & Air Conditioning

**Summers Press** 

Sunshine Metals Inc.

Sunvair Aerospace Group

Superior Engineering

Superior Metal Stripping Company

**Swiss Precision Instruments** 

T&S NC Programming Service

Tail Light LLC

Take Care Health Plan

TechMet Carbides Inc.

Tecnara Tooling Systems Inc.

Temptrak Personnel Agency

Terry French Landscaping

**Textron Financial Corporation** 

The Dyer Company

The E. Jordan Brookes Co. Inc.

The Fitting Source Inc.

The Hartford

The Machine Group

Thomas Triffet Inc.

thyssenkrupp Materials Services GmbH

**Timet** 

Tiodize Company Inc.

Titanium Distribution Services Inc.

Titanium Industries Inc.

Titanium Services Inc.

Titanium Specialties Inc.

TMX Aerospace

Tooling & Equipment Inc.

Toyo Carriers Manufacturing Company Ltd.

Toyota Commercial Finance

**Toyota Material Handling Solutions** 

Tradco Inc.

Trans World Alloys Company

Trans-Pacific Aerospace Company Inc.

**Trident Company** 

**Triplett Corporation** 

Triumph Group

Tube Service Company Inc.

Tuffer Manufacturing Company

TW Metals Inc.

Twinstar Machining

U.S. Bank Equipment Finance

Udash Inc.

Uline Inc.

UMM Electronics Inc.

Unified Manufacturing Inc.

UnifyHR LLC

Union Aircraft Company Inc.

unipoint Software Inc.

United Imaging Inc.

United Technologies Hamilton Standard

Unity Engineering Inc.

Universal Alloy Corporation

Universal Metals

US Equipment Industrial

Vac-Hyd Los Angeles

Valence Surface Technologies

Valencia Gundrill

Valencia Welding Company

Valenite Inc.

Valley Engravers

Valley Seal Company

Vega Manufacturing Group Inc.

Vericut (CGTech)

Verified Processing

Verisurf Software, Inc.

Versaform Corporation

Vibra Finish Company USA

Vibra-Sonic Deburring

Vi-Cal Metals

VMware LLC

W L Gore & Associates Inc.

W. W. Grainger Inc.

W.S. Wilson Corporation

Walker Brothers Machinery Moving Inc.

Walter Grinders Inc.

Walter USA Inc.

Wave Communications Inc.

Waygate Technologies USA LP

Weber Metals Inc.

Webroot Inc.

Weldology

Wesco Aircraft Hardware Corporation

Western Aeromedical Consortium

Western American

Western Gage Corporation

Westlake Grinding Service

Westmoreland Mechanical Testing & Research Inc.

WEX Bank

Wind Craft Manufacturing

Wire Cut Company Inc.

World Wide Honing Inc.

Wright's Supply Inc.

W.S.Dodge Oil Company Inc.

### 11. Top 30 Unsecured Creditors

AMI Metals Inc.

Fives Machining Systems Inc.

Rexford Industrial – 27712 Avenue Mentry, LLC

Rexford Industrial – 27756 Avenue Mentry, LLC

Ernst & Young US LLP

Metal Improvement Company, LLC

Barnes Aerospace Inc.

G Target Manufacturing Group Inc.

**PTSolutions** 

Morrell's Electro Plating Inc.

Walker Brothers Machinery Moving Inc.

Amtek LLC

Astro Aluminum Treating Company Inc.

Lean Manufacturing Group LLC

NobleTek LLC

Valence Surface Technologies

**Arlington International Aviation Products** 

Unified Manufacturing Inc.

Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company

Carr Lane Manufacturing Company

Cygnus Inc.

American Fidelity Assurance Company

Adept Fasteners

Bowman Plating Company Inc.

A&A Aerospace Inc.

Aircraft Crating Inc.

RMI Titanium Company LLC California Cooling & Consulting LLC Hackler Flynn & Associates, APC Ingersoll Cutting Tool Company

### 12. <u>Taxing/Regulatory Authorities</u>

Internal Revenue Service
California Franchise Tax Board
California Department of Tax and Fee Administration
Los Angeles County Public Works
California Secretary of State
Systems Certification Body
Federal Aviation Administration

### 13. Insurance Providers, Brokers, and Benefits Administrators

Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services LLC
Insurance Company of the West
Allied World Surplus Lines Insurance Company
Federal Insurance Company
At-Bay Specialty Insurance Company
National Union Fire Insurance Company
Hartford Fire Insurance Company
UnitedHealth Group
American Fidelity Assurance Company
Anthem Blue Cross Blue ShieldChubb Group of Insurance Company

### 14. Major Customers

Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company Northrop Grumman Corporation Blue Origin Enterprises Space Exploration Technologies Corp. Spirit AeroSystems, Inc. The Boeing Company Mammoth Freighters LLC

### 15. Stalking Horse Purchaser and Professionals

FMI Holdco LLC Avem Partners Troutman Pepper Locke LLP

### **16.** Utility Providers

AT&T Inc.

Santa Clarita Valley Water Southern California Gas Company Southern California Edison Waste Management Inc. Inatel Communications Inc.

### 17. <u>U.S. Trustee Personnel, Judges and Staff for the District of Delaware</u>

John T. Dorsey

Craig T. Goldblatt

Thomas M. Horan

Karen B. Owens

Brendan L. Shannon

Laurie Selber Silverstein

J. Kate Stickles

Mary F. Walrath

Andrew R. Vara

Benjamin Hackman

Christine Green

Denis Cooke

Diane Giordano

Dion Wynn

Edith A. Serrano

Hannah M. McCollum

Holly Dice

James R. O'Malley

Jane Leamy

Joseph Cudia

Joseph McMahon

Juliet Sarkessian

Lauren Attix

Linda Casey

Linda Richenderfer

Michael Panacio

Nyanquoi Jones

Ramona Harris

Richard Schepacarter

Rosa Sierra-Fox Shakima L. Dortch Timothy J. Fox, Jr.

EXHIBIT 2
CBCC'S CONNECTIONS WITH POTENTIALLY INTERESTED PARTIES

Potential Party in Interest	Nature of Connection
National Union Fire Insurance	CBCC has in the past represented and
Company	continues to represent this entity in
	connection with matters unrelated to
	the Debtors.
	CBCC has in the past represented this
The Boeing Company	entity in connection with matters
	unrelated to the Debtors.
CRG Financial, LLC	CBCC has in the past represented and
	continues to represent this entity in
	connection with matters unrelated to
	the Debtors.
Federal Insurance Company	CBCC has in the past represented and
	continues to represent entities
	affiliated with this entity in matters
	unrelated to the Debtors.

### **EXHIBIT B**

**Proposed Form of Order** 

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

	Related Docket No.
Debtors. <sup>1</sup>	(Jointly Administered)
Dynamic Aerostructures LLC, et al.,	Case No. 25-10292 (LSS)
In re:	Chapter 11

## ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF CHIPMAN BROWN CICERO & COLE, LLP, AS CO-COUNSEL TO THE DEBTORS EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

Upon the application (the "Application")<sup>2</sup> filed by the Debtors for entry of an order, pursuant to sections 327(a), 328(a) and 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 2014(a), 2016(b), and 5002 and Local Rule 2014-1, authorizing the retention and employment of CBCC as co-counsel to the Debtors effective as of the Petition Date; the Court, having reviewed the Application and the Declaration, finds that the Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157 and 1334, that this is a core matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), that notice of the Application was sufficient under the circumstances, that no further notice need be given, and that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Application established just cause for the relief granted herein;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number are: Dynamic Aerostructures LLC (3076); Dynamic Aerostructures Intermediate LLC (9800); and Forrest Machining LLC (3421). The Debtors' service address is 27756 Avenue Mentry, Valencia, California 91355.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Application.

### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Application is GRANTED as set forth herein.
- 2. Pursuant to sections 327(a), 328(a), and 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 2014(a), 2016(b) and 5002, and Local Rule 2014-1, the Debtors are authorized to retain and employ CBCC as co-counsel with R&G effective as of the Petition Date.
- 3. CBCC shall be compensated in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Application, sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and orders of this Court.
- 4. CBCC shall make a reasonable effort to comply with the U.S. Trustee's requests for information and additional disclosures as set forth in the *Guidelines for Reviewing Applications* for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed under 11 U.S.C. § 330 by Attorneys in Larger Chapter 11 Cases Effective as of November 1, 2013, in connection with any interim or final fee applications that CBCC files in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 5. Notwithstanding anything in the Application to the contrary, CBCC shall not be entitled to recover any attorneys' fees or expenses for defending its fee applications in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 6. CBCC shall make reasonable efforts to avoid the duplication of services provided by any of the Debtors' other retained Professionals in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 7. The terms of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.
- 8. CBCC shall be permitted to hold the Security Retainer and apply such Security Retainer against any unpaid approved fees and expenses of CBCC following a final hearing with

respect to such fees and expenses, and promptly pay to the Debtors' estates any retainer remaining after such application.

- 9. CBCC shall provide ten (10) business days' notice to the Debtors and the U.S. Trustee in connection with any increase of the hourly rates listed in the Application. The U.S. Trustee and the Debtors retain all rights to object to any rate increase on all grounds, including, but not limited to, the reasonableness standard provided in section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, and the Court retains the right to review any rate increase pursuant to section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 10. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Order.

### EXHIBIT C

**Ellis Declaration** 

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	Chapter 11
Dynamic Aerostructures LLC, et al.,	Case No. 25-10292 (LSS)

Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

DECLARATION OF ERIC N. ELLIS, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE DEBTORS, IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION OF THE DEBTORS FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF CHIPMAN BROWN CICERO & COLE, LLP, AS CO-COUNSEL TO THE DEBTORS EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

(Jointly Administered)

I, Eric N. Ellis, hereby declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, as follows:

- 1. I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of Forrest Machining LLC, one of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>" or the "<u>Company</u>").
- 2. I have served as the Debtors' President and Chief Executive Officer since May 2023.
- 3. I submit this declaration (the "<u>Declaration</u>") in further support of the *Application* of the Debtors for Entry of an Order Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Chipman Brown Cicero & Cole, LLP, as Co-Counsel to the Debtors Effective as of the Petition Date (the "Application").<sup>2</sup>
- 4. Except as otherwise noted, all facts in this Declaration are based on my personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein, information gathered from my review of relevant

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number are: Dynamic Aerostructures LLC (3076); Dynamic Aerostructures Intermediate LLC (9800); and Forrest Machining LLC (3421). The Debtors' service address is 27756 Avenue Mentry, Valencia, California 91355.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Application.

documents and information supplied to me by other members of the Debtors' management and the Debtors' advisors.

- 5. The Debtors recognize that a comprehensive review process is necessary when selecting and managing restructuring counsel to ensure that restructuring professionals are subject to the same client-driven market forces, scrutiny, and accountability as professionals in non-restructuring engagements.
- 6. The Debtors considered only CBCC for the engagement as Delaware counsel for the Debtors in these Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. CBCC was selected because of the firm's extensive experience and knowledge in the fields of debtors and creditors' rights, business reorganizations and liquidations under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, its expertise, experience, and knowledge practicing before this Court, its proximity to the Court, and its ability to respond quickly to emergency hearings and other emergency matters in this Court. Accordingly, the Debtors have determined that CBCC has the resources and experience necessary to represent them in these cases. The Debtors believe that CBCC's employment is in the best interest of the Debtors, their estates and their creditors. Thus, the Debtors desire that CBCC represent them in connection with these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 7. CBCC has informed the Debtors that their hourly rates for bankruptcy representations are comparable to (a) the hourly rates they charge for the non-bankruptcy representations: and (b) the rates of other comparably skilled professionals in the nation marketplace for legal services. Having had experience with large law firms, I can verify the rates charged by CBCC in connection with the representation are within the range typically charged by similar firms in complex matters.

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8. The Debtors recognize that in large Chapter 11 Cases such as these, it is possible

that there may be unforeseen fees and expenses that will need to be addressed by the Debtors

and CBCC. The Debtors also recognize that it is their responsibility to closely monitor the billing

practices of CBCC and their other professionals to ensure that fees and expenses paid by their

estates remain consistent with the Debtors' expectations taking into account the exigencies and

other circumstances of these Chapter 11 Cases. To that end, the Debtors will continue to review

and monitor the regular invoices submitted by CBCC.

9. As is the Debtors' historical practice, the Debtors will continue to monitor the fees

and expense reimbursement process during these Chapter 11 Cases and ensure the Debtors are

an active participant in that process. Recognizing that every chapter 11 case is unique, the

Debtors, together with CBCC, will use the budgeting process to provide guidance on the period

of time involved and the level of attorneys and professionals that will work on various matters,

as well as the projection of average hourly rates for the attorneys and professionals for such

matter.

Pursuant to 28 U. S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true

and correct.

Dated: March 4, 2025

DYNAMIC AEROSTRUCTURES LLC, ET AL.

By: /s/ Eric N. Ellis

Eric N. Ellis

President and Chief Executive Officer of the

**Debtors** 

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## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re: Chapter
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Dynamic Aerostructures LLC, et al., Case No. 25-10292 (LSS)

Debtors. (Jointly Administered)

Hearing Date: 3/25/25 @ 11:00 a.m. (ET) Objection Deadline: 3/18/25 @ 4:00 p.m. (ET)

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF THE DEBTORS FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF CHIPMAN BROWN CICERO & COLE, LLP, AS CO-COUNSEL TO THE DEBTORS EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on March 4, 2025, the above-captioned debtors and debtors-in-possession (the "**Debtors**") filed the attached *Application of the Debtors for Entry of an Order Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Chipman Brown Cicero & Cole, LLP, as Co-Counsel to the Debtors Effective as of the Petition Date* (the "**Application**") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "**Court**").

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that responses, if any, to the relief requested by the Application, must be filed on or before March 18, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. (ET) (the "Objection Deadline") with the Court, 824 North Market Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that at the same time, you must serve a copy of the response on: (i) proposed co-counsel to the Debtors, Ropes & Gray LLP, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036 (Attn: Gregg M. Galardi; email: gregg.galardi@ropesgray.com) and Chipman Brown Cicero & Cole LLP, 1313 N. Market Street, Suite 5400, Wilmington, DE Desgrosseilliers 19801 (Attn: Mark L. and Robert Weber; email: desgross@chipmanbrown.com and weber@chipmanbrown.com) and Chipman Brown Cicero & Cole LLP, 501 5th Ave., 15th Floor, New York, NY 10017 (Attn: Daniel G. Egan; email: egan@chipmanbrown.com); (ii) counsel to the DIP Lender, King & Spalding LLP, 1100 Louisiana St., Suite 4100, Houston, TX 77002 (Attn: Michael Fishel; email: mfishel@kslaw.com) and Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, Rodney Square, 1000 North King Street, Wilmington, DE 19801 (Attn: Kenneth J. Enos; email: kenos@ycst.com); (iii) the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lock Box 35, Wilmington, DE 19801 (Attn: Rosa Sierra-Fox; email: Rosa.Sierra-Fox@usdoi.gov); and (iv) counsel for any

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number are: Dynamic Aerostructures LLC (3076); Dynamic Aerostructures Intermediate LLC (9800); and Forrest Machining LLC (3421). The Debtors' service address is 27756 Avenue Mentry, Valencia, California 91355.

statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases, so as to be received on or before the Objection Deadline.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a hearing on the relief requested by the Application will be held on March 25, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. (ET) before the Honorable Laurie Selber Silverstein, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, 824 North Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Courtroom 2, Wilmington, Delaware 19801.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT IF NO OBJECTIONS TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED BY THE APPLICATION ARE TIMELY FILED, SERVED, AND RECEIVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BANKRUPTCY COURT MAY GRANT THE BID PROCEDURES RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE APPLICATION WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE OR HEARING.

Dated: March 4, 2025 Wilmington, Delaware

### CHIPMAN BROWN CICERO & COLE, LLP

/s/ Mark L. Desgrosseilliers

Robert A. Weber (I.D. No. 4013) Mark L. Desgrosseilliers (No. 4083) Hercules Plaza 1313 North Market Street, Suite 5400 Wilmington, Delaware 19801 Telephone: (302) 295-0192 weber@chipmanbrown.com desgross@chipmanbrown.com

Daniel G. Egan (admitted *pro hac vice*) 501 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. 15<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10017 Telephone: (646) 741-5529 egan@chipmanbrown.com

-and-

#### **ROPES & GRAY LLP**

Gregg M. Galardi (No. 2991) 1211 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036 Telephone: (212) 596-9000 Facsimile: (212) 596-9090 gregg.galardi@ropesgray.com

Proposed Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession