Jason S. Brookner (Texas Bar No. 240033684) Andrew K. York (Texas Bar No. 24051554) Joshua D. Smeltzer (Texas Bar No. 24113859) Drake M. Rayshell (Texas Bar No. 24118507)

**GRAY REED** 

1601 Elm Street, Suite 4600

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone: (214) 954-4135 Facsimile: (214) 953-1332

jbrookner@grayreed.com Email:

dyork@grayreed.com jsmeltzer@grayreed.com drayshell@grayreed.com

Counsel to Patrick Daugherty

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In man	§	Chanton 11
In re:	8 §	Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., <sup>1</sup>	§	Case No. 19-34054 (SGJ)
Reorganized Debtor.	§ §	
	§	

### NOTICE OF APPEAL

Highland's last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (8357). The headquarters and service address for Highland is 100 Crescent Court, Suite 1850, Dallas, TX 75201.



4912-7936-3669

# Part 1: Identify the appellant(s)

1.	Name(s) of appellant(s): Patrick Daugherty
2.	Position of appellant(s) in the adversary proceeding or bankruptcy case that is the subject of this appeal:
	For appeals in a bankruptcy case and not in an adversary proceeding.
	☐ Debtor
	□ Trustee

#### Part 2: Identify the subject of this appeal

Other (describe):

- 1. Describe the judgment, order, or decree appealed: Order Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and 11 U.S.C. § 363 Approving Settlement Between the Highland Entities and the HMIT Entities and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith [Docket No. 4297], attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 2. State the date on which the judgment, order, or decree was entered: June 30, 2025

#### Part 3: Identify the other parties to the appeal

List the names of all parties to the judgment, order, or decree appealed from and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of their attorneys (attach additional pages if necessary):

1. Patrick Daugherty

Jason S. Brookner Texas Bar No. 24033684 Andrew K. York Texas Bar No. 24051554 Joshua D. Smeltzer Texas Bar No. 24113859 Drake M. Rayshell Texas Bar No. 24118507 **GRAY REED** 

1601 Elm Street, Suite 4600

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone: (214) 954-4135 Facsimile: (214) 953-1332

Email: jbrookner@grayreed.com dyork@grayreed.com jsmeltzer@grayreed.com drayshell@grayreed.com

2. Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Highland Claimant Trust

Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (admitted pro hac vice) John A. Morris (admitted pro hac vice) Gregory V. Dmo (admitted pro hac vice) Hayley R. Winograd (admitted pro hac vice) PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, California 90067 Telephone: (310) 277-6910

Facsimile: (310) 201-0760

Email: jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com jmorris@pszjlaw.com gdemo@pszjlaw.com hwinograd@pszjlaw.com

-and-

Melissa S. Hayward Texas Bar No. 24044908 Zachery Z. Annable Texas Bar No. 24053075

#### **HAYWARD PLLC**

10501 N. Central Expwy., Suite 106

Dallas, Texas 75231

Telephone: (972) 755-7100 Facsimile: (972) 75507110

Email: mhayward@haywardfirm.com zannble@haywardfirm.com

3. Highland Litigation Sub-Trust Deborah J. Newman (admitted *pro hac vice*) Robert S. Loigman (admitted *pro hac vice*) **QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART** 

& SULLIVAN LLP

51 Madison Avenue, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor New York, New York 10010 Telephone: (212) 849-7000

Email: deborahnewman@quinnemanuel.com robertloigman@quinnemanuel.com

-and-

Paige Holden Montgomery SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP

2021 McKinney Avenue, suite 2000

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone: (214) 981-3300 Email: pmontgomery@sidley.com

4. Hunter Mountain Investment Trust, Beacon Mountain LLC, Rand Advisors, LLC, Rand PE Fund I, LP, Rand PE Fund Management, LLC, Atlas IDF, LP, and Atlas IDF GP, LLC

Louis M. Phillips (#10505)

KELLY HART PITRE

One American Place 301 Main Street, Suite 1600

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801-1916

Telephone: (225) 381-9643 Facsimile: (225) 336-9763

Email: louis.phillips@kellyhart.com

-and-

Amelia L. Hurt (LA #36817, TX #24092553 **KELLY HART PITRE** 400 Poydras Street, Suite 1812

400 Poydras Street, Suite 1812 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130 Telephone: (504) 522-1812 Facsimile: (504) 522-1813

Email: amelia.hurt @kellyhart.com

# <u>Part 4: Optional election to have appeal heard by District Court (applicable only in certain districts)</u>

If a Bankruptcy Appellate Panel is available in this judicial district, the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel will hear this appeal unless, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 158(c)(1), a party elects to have the appeal heard by the United States District Court. If an appellant filing this notice wishes to have the appeal heard by the United States District Court, check below. Do not check the box if the appellant wishes the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel to hear the appeal.

☐ Appellant(s) elect to have the appeal heard by the United States District Co	ourt
rather than by the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel.	

# Part 5: Sign Below

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of July, 2025.

#### **GRAY REED**

By: <u>/s/ Andrew K. York</u>

Jason S. Brookner

Texas Bar No. 240033684

Andrew K. York

Texas Bar No. 24051554

Joshua D. Smeltzer

Texas Bar No. 24113859

Drake M. Rayshell

Texas Bar No. 24118507

1601 Elm Street, Suite 4600

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone: (214) 954-4135 Facsimile: (214) 953-1332

Email: jbrookner@grayreed.com

dyork@grayreed.com jsmeltzer@grayreed.com drayshell@grayreed.com

Counsel to Patrick Daugherty

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing instrument was served on all Parties or counsel of record herein on this 14th day of July, 2025, via the CM/ECF system and/or email.

/s/ Andrew K. York

ANDREW K. YORK

# **EXHIBIT A**

# Judgment/Order Being Appealed

Docket No. 4297, Order Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and 11 U.S.C. § 363 Approving Settlement Between the Highland Entities and the HMIT Entities and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith



CLERK, U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS ENTERED

THE COURT'S DOCKET

The following constitutes the ruling of the court and has the force and effect therein described.

**Signed June 30, 2025** 

United States Bankruptcy Judge

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	§ §	Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,1	§ §	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Reorganized Debtor.	§ §	

# ORDER PURSUANT TO BANKRUPTCY RULE 9019 AND 11 U.S.C. § 363 APPROVING SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE HIGHLAND ENTITIES AND THE HMIT ENTITIES AND AUTHORIZING ACTIONS CONSISTENT THEREWITH

This matter having come before the Court on the *Motion for Entry of an Order Pursuant* to Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and 11 U.S.C. § 363 Approving Settlement with the HMIT Entities and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith [Docket No. 4216] (the "Motion")<sup>2</sup> filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P., the reorganized debtor (the "Debtor" or "Highland") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "Bankruptcy Case"), the Highland Claimant Trust (the "Claimant")

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the Reorganized Debtor's taxpayer identification number are 8357. The headquarters and service address for the Highland is 100 Crescent Court, Suite 1850, Dallas, TX 75201.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Motion or the Settlement Agreement, as applicable.

Trust"), and the Highland Litigation Sub-Trust (the "Litigation Sub-Trust," and together with Highland and the Claimant Trust, the "Movants"); and the Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 as well as the retention of jurisdiction provisions of the Plan; and the Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and venue in this District being proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and the Court having considered (a) the Motion, (b) Patrick Daugherty's Objection to Motion for Entry of an Order Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and 11 U.S.C. § 363 Approving Settlement with the HMIT Entities and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith [Docket No. 4229] (the "Daugherty Objection") filed by Patrick Daugherty, (c) the Preliminary Objection of the Dugaboy Investment Trust to the Motion for Entry of an Order Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and 11 U.S.C. § 363 Approving Settlement with the HMIT Entities [Docket No. 4230] (the "Dugaboy Objection," and together with the Daugherty Objection, the "Objections"), filed by The Dugaboy Investment Trust, (d) the Objection of the Dallas Foundation and Crown Global Life Insurance Ltd. to Motion for Entry of an Order Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and 11 U.S.C. § 363 Approving Settlement with the HMIT Entities and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith [Docket No. 4231] (the "Charitable Foundation Objection"), filed by The Dallas Foundation (the "Dallas Foundation") (on behalf of Empower Dallas Foundation ("EDF") and The Okada Family Foundation ("Okada Family"), and Crown Global Life Insurance, Ltd., not individually, but solely in respect of Segregated Accounts 30218 and 30219 ("Crown"), (e) the evidence admitted into the record during the hearing on the Motion on June 25, 2025 (the "Hearing") in support of, and in opposition to, the Motion, including the Court's assessment of the witnesses' credibility, and (f) all arguments heard at the Hearing in connection therewith; and the Court having found that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish sufficient cause for the relief granted herein; and adequate notice of the Motion having been given; and after due deliberation and good cause appearing therefor,

#### THE COURT HEREBY FINDS THAT:

- 1. The Court's findings of fact and conclusions of law set forth on the record at the conclusion of the Hearing are incorporated by reference except as supplemented in this Order, and as may be further supplemented by the Court.
- 2. Entry into the Settlement Agreement is an appropriate exercise of the Movants' business judgment.
- 3. The Settlement Agreement is fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of each of the Highland Entities and their creditors and constituents.
- 4. The Settlement Agreement was negotiated and entered into by the Highland Entities and the HMIT Entities without collusion or fraud, in good faith, and was the product of arm's- length negotiations.
- 5. The HMIT Entities are not "insiders" or "affiliates" of Highland as those terms are defined in Bankruptcy Code sections 101(31) and 101(2).
- 6. The HMIT Entities entered into the Settlement Agreement, are acquiring the Transferred Claims and Dugaboy Note in good faith, and have proceeded with all aspects of the Settlement Agreement in good faith, and have received fair value in consideration of their entry into the Settlement Agreement.
- 7. The Transferred Claims and Dugaboy Note are property of the estate, and the Highland Entities' sale of those assets free and clear of all liens and encumbrances but otherwise subject to the Settlement Agreement is a proper exercise of their business judgment.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED THAT:

8. The Motion is **GRANTED**.

- 9. As stated on the record during the Hearing, The Charitable Foundation Objection is withdrawn with prejudice.
  - 10. All other Objections to the Motion are overruled.
- 11. The Settlement Agreement attached as **Exhibit 1** to the Demo Declaration is approved in all respects pursuant to Rule 9019 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and section 363(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.
  - 12. HMIT's Class 10 Interest is Allowed in the amount of \$336,940,230.58.
- 13. The HMIT Entities, as good faith purchasers of Estate assets in the Settlement, are entitled to the protections contained in section 363(m) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 14. The Highland Entities and their agents are authorized to take any and all actions necessary or desirable to implement the Settlement Agreement without further notice or further Court approval.
- 15. Notwithstanding anything in the Settlement Agreement to the contrary, none of the Dallas Foundation, EDF, Okada Family, or Crown (collectively, the "Foundation Parties") are or will be included in the definitions of "HMIT Releasors" or "Highland Releasors." For the avoidance of doubt, however, any attempt by the Foundation Parties to assert a Claim against a HMIT Released Party by, through, or under, including derivatively, a Highland Entity, or against a Highland Released Party by, through, or under, including derivatively, a HMIT Entity is barred by this Order and the Settlement Agreement.
- 16. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, or enforcement of this Order.

### END OF ORDER ###