IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

: Chapter 11

F21 OPCO, LLC, *et al.*, ¹ : Case No. 25-10469 (MFW)

Debtors. : (Jointly Administered)

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APPLICATION AND REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES BY SIMON PROPERTY GROUP

Simon Property Group, Inc., for itself and on behalf of its related entities (collectively, "Simon") hereby submits this application and request for payment of administrative expenses (this "Application") arising under leases between Simon and the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (the "Debtors"). In support of this Application, Simon respectfully states as follows:

RELIEF REQUESTED

1. Simon seeks entry of an order, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, allowing and directing prompt payment of the Administrative Claims (as defined below).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The Court has jurisdiction to consider this matter pursuant to 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 February 29, 2012.

The Debtors in these cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: F21 OpCo, LLC (8773); F21 Puerto Rico, LLC (5906); and F21 GiftCo Management, LLC (6412). The Debtors' address for purposes of service in these Chapter 11 Cases is 110 East 9th Street, Suite A500, Los Angeles, CA 90079.



- 3. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Pursuant to Rule 9013-1(f) of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "*Local Rules*"), Simon consents to the entry of a final order by the Court in connection with this Application to the extent it is later 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 before the Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 5. The statutory and legal predicate for the relief requested herein is section 503(b)(1) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "*Bankruptcy Code*").

BACKGROUND

- 6. On June 24, 2025, the Court confirmed the *Debtors' Amended Joint Plan Pursuant* to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Plan") with its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Confirming the Debtors' Amended Joint Plan Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [D.I. 493] (the "Confirmation Order"). On June 30, 2025, the Plan became effective [D.I. 514]. Accordingly, under the Plan and Confirmation Order, the deadline for parties to file applications and requests for payment of administrative expense claims is July 30, 2025. Simon submits this Application accordingly.
- 7. Simon was one of the Debtors' most significant landlords, holding 109 leases with the Debtors as of the filing date of March 16, 2025 (the "*Petition Date*"). These leases all were rejected during the course of these cases in the following sequence:
 - Seven leases were rejected under the Court's order of April 8, 2025, with a rejection effective date of March 16, 2025 (the "*Petition Date Rejected Leases*") [D.I. 165];

- Forty-six (46) leases were rejected under the Court's orders of April 11, 2025 [D.I. 192] and April 14, 2025 [D.I. 206], with a rejection effective date of March 31, 2025 (the "*March 31 Rejected Leases*"); and
- Fifty-six (56) leases were rejected under the Court's orders of May 12, 2025 [D.I. 330, 331, 332], with a rejection effective date of April 30, 2025, or otherwise pursuant to the Plan and Confirmation Order (the "April 30 Rejected Leases," and collectively with the March 31 Rejected Leases, the "Subject Leases").
- 8. All of these leases included "percentage rent," which is rent due monthly and calculated as a percentage of sales at the applicable store. For the Petition Date Rejected Leases, the Debtors had completed their liquidation sales at those stores as of the Petition Date. Simon does not assert any administrative expense claims under the Petition Date Rejected Leases.
- 9. On the other hand, liquidation sales continued after the Petition Date at the stores governed by the Subject Leases. For the Subject Leases, then, administrative expense claims accrued for the percentage rent resulting from those liquidation sales from the Petition Date through the effective date of rejection (the "Administrative Claims"). These Administrative Claims total \$1,038,149.98, which amount is tabulated on a store-by-store basis in a chart attached hereto as Exhibit B. Simon is entitled to full payment of the Administrative Claims in cash under the Plan. See Plan, Art. II.A.

ARGUMENT

10. Section 503(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code provides, in relevant part, that, "there shall be allowed administrative expenses . . . including . . . the actual, necessary costs and expenses of preserving the estate." 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(A). In order to be entitled to administrative claim status, "the claimant must typically show there was a [postpetition] transaction between the claimant and the estate and the expenses yielded a benefit to the estate." *Ellis v. Westinghouse Elec. Co.*, LLC, 11 F.4th 221, 230 (3d Cir. 2021) (internal quotation marks omitted). And in turn,

a debtor's "retaining possession of the [leased] premises, thereby inducing post-petition services from the [landlord], is sufficient...to be a transaction justifying administrative priority." *In re Goody's Family Clothing Inc.*, 610 F.3d 812, 819 (3d Cir. 2010).

- 11. Goody's controls and is perfectly on point. The debtor was a retailer liquidating its inventory in chapter 11. Prepetition, the debtor had skipped its June 1 rent payment (covering the month of June) to the landlords. Then the debtor filed its petition on June 9. While the debtor paid rent in full for July (pursuant to section 365(d)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, it asserted that it did not owe a full rent payment for the period from June 9 through June 30, and instead those claims should be treated as non-priority. The courts disagreed, including the Third Circuit which ruled that section 503(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code affords administrative priority for rent for the postpetition period in which the debtor "continued to occupy the Landlords' properties to conduct store-closing sales." See id. at 818.
- 12. The same facts exist here. The Subject Leases were not rejected as of the Petition Date, and the Debtors occupied the stores and conducted liquidation sales there from the Petition Date through the applicable rejection effective date. Accordingly, under controlling law, there can be no dispute the percentage rent owed to Simon under the Subject Leases during that period is an administrative expense. The Administrative Claims reflect precisely that amount.

NOTICE

13. Notice of this Motion has been provided to the following parties or, in lieu thereof, their counsel: (a) the Plan Administrator and counsel; (b) the U.S. Trustee; and (c) any such other party entitled to receive notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. Simon submits that, under the circumstances, no other or further notice need be provided.

NO PRIOR REQUEST

14. No previous request for the relief sought herein has been made by the Reorganized Debtor to this Court or any other court.

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WHEREFORE, Simon respectfully requests entry of order, substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, granting the relief requested herein and such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: July 30, 2025 Respectfully submitted,

Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ Laurel D. Roglen

Leslie C. Heilman Laurel D. Roglen

BALLARD SPAHR LLP

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- and -

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Chicago, IL 60611

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Counsel to Simon Property Group, Inc.

Exhibit A

Proposed Order

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

| | X | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| In re | : : | Chapter 11 |
| F21 OPCO, LLC, et al., ¹ | : | Case No. 25-10469 (MFW) |
| Debtors. | : | (Jointly Administered) |

ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION AND REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES BY SIMON PROPERTY GROUP, INC.

Upon the application (the "Application")² of Simon for entry of an order (this "Order") granting administrative priority to and directing payment in full of the Administrative Expenses, all as more fully set forth in the Application; and this Court having jurisdiction to consider the Motion and the relief requested therein in accordance with 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; and consideration of the Application and the relief requested therein being a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and venue being proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due, sufficient and proper notice of the Application having been provided under the circumstances, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and the Court having reviewed the Application; and upon all

The Debtors in these cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: F21 OpCo, LLC (8773); F21 Puerto Rico, LLC (5906); and F21 GiftCo Management, LLC (6412). The Debtors' address for purposes of service in these Chapter 11 Cases is 110 East 9th Street, Suite A500, Los Angeles, CA 90079.

Unless otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Application.

of the proceedings had before the Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Application is GRANTED as set forth herein.
- 2. All responses and objections not heretofore withdrawn or resolved by this Order are overruled in all respects.
- 3. The Administrative Claims in the amount of \$1,038,149.98 are hereby allowed as administrative expenses under section 503(b)(1) and shall have priority under section 507(a)(2).
- 4. The Plan Administrator is directed to remit \$1,038,149.98 to Simon within five (5) business days of entry of this Order.
- 5. The Plan Administrator and his agents are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order.
- 6. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon entry.
- 7. This Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

Exhibit B

Administrative Claims Detail

| Property Name | Rejection Date | Store # | Unit # | Administrative Claim |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------|----------------------|
| Battlefield Mall | 3/31/2025 | 0211 | S03B | \$12,829.32 |
| Briarwood Mall | 3/31/2025 | 100 | D101A | \$7,129.70 |
| Camarillo Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 351 | 1202A | \$10,927.76 |
| Cape Cod Mall | 3/31/2025 | 335 | S160A | \$8,070.79 |
| Castleton Square | 3/31/2025 | 134 | 1515 | \$23,039.11 |
| Chicago Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 2188 | 0525 | \$50,252.45 |
| Columbia Center | 3/31/2025 | 2163 | 325A | \$53,266.87 |
| Dover Mall | 3/31/2025 | 0451 | 4004A | \$2,974.60 |
| Empire Mall | 3/31/2025 | 2116 | 0324 | \$5,670.41 |
| Florida Keys Outlet Marketplace | 3/31/2025 | 2190 | 335A | \$45,811.67 |
| Folsom Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 427 | 0607 | \$4,234.49 |
| Gilroy Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 381 | A001 | \$5,275.99 |
| Greenwood Park Mall | 3/31/2025 | 417 | 0G15 | \$25,873.28 |
| Grove City Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 2155 | 1280 | \$328.08 |
| Las Vegas North Prem Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 2186 | 3299 | \$29,364.51 |
| Leesburg Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 2191 | 0841 | \$213.30 |
| Lehigh Valley Electric | 3/31/2025 | 269 | 2087A | \$638.12 |
| Lehigh Valley Mall | 3/31/2025 | 269 | 2087A | \$16,777.89 |
| Meadowood Mall | 3/31/2025 | 0436 | F112 | \$21,357.16 |
| Norfolk Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 2157 | 650 | \$12,099.47 |
| North East Mall | 3/31/2025 | 396 | 0G06B | \$5,049.08 |
| Opry Mills | 3/31/2025 | 414 | XHA | \$10,572.04 |
| Orland Square | 3/31/2025 | 235 | 0D13H | \$3,054.86 |
| Oxford Valley Mall | 3/31/2025 | 141 | 2012 | \$14,027.36 |
| Philadelphia Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 378 | 0101 | \$7,194.83 |
| Pier Park | 3/31/2025 | 421 | XD | \$12,100.10 |
| Pocono Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 379 | G200 | \$4,863.54 |
| Puerto Rico Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 611 | 915 | \$16,359.62 |
| Rio Grande Valley Prem Outlet | 3/31/2025 | 0438 | A0080 | \$13,368.74 |
| San Francisco Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 0613 | 1320 | \$9,104.25 |
| Seattle Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 437 | 0924 | \$9,947.14 |
| South Hills Village | 3/31/2025 | 0462 | 2330A | \$9,721.39 |
| Stoneridge Shopping Center | 3/31/2025 | 40 | C122A | \$12,023.16 |
| Tacoma Mall | 3/31/2025 | 3534 | 426B | \$15,155.47 |
| The Mall of New Hampshire | 3/31/2025 | 186 | W113A | \$9,216.58 |
| The Outlets at Orange | 3/31/2025 | 295 | R011 | \$18,991.13 |
| The Shops at Mission Viejo | 3/31/2025 | 3539 | 126A | \$436.49 |
| The Westchester | 3/31/2025 | | 2010 | \$13,833.07 |
| Towne East Square | 3/31/2025 | 320 | 0F12A | \$8,500.01 |
| Twelve Oaks Mall | 3/31/2025 | 796 | B223 | \$11,867.91 |

| Property Name | Rejection Date | Store # | Unit # | Administrative Claim |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Tucson Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 0637 | 815 | \$3,537.51 |
| University Park Mall | 3/31/2025 | 273 | 594A | \$13,648.40 |
| Wolfchase Galleria | 3/31/2025 | 276 | 1560A | \$20,311.61 |
| Woodburn Premium Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 432 | 1000 | \$4,435.44 |
| Woodbury Common Prem Outlets | 3/31/2025 | 2154 | 0223 | \$10,641.74 |
| Woodland Hills Mall | 3/31/2025 | 305 | 0143B | \$13,395.19 |
| | | | 3/31/2025 Total | \$607,491.63 |
| Allen Premium Outlets | 4/30/2025 | 2153 | 0600B | \$46.93 |
| Arizona Mills | 4/30/2025 | 228 | XQ | \$4,244.52 |
| Arundel Mills | 4/30/2025 | 453 | XQ | \$0.00 |
| Auburn Mall | 4/30/2025 | 318 | N500A | \$17,848.92 |
| Barton Creek Square | 4/30/2025 | 790 | M06A | \$3,464.86 |
| Burlington Mall | 4/30/2025 | 783 | 1065A | \$3,106.97 |
| Cielo Vista Mall | 4/30/2025 | 114 | Q01B | \$3,185.13 |
| Colorado Mills | 4/30/2025 | 230 | XA | \$0.00 |
| Concord Mills | 4/30/2025 | 143 | XQA | \$0.00 |
| Del Amo Fashion Center | 4/30/2025 | 720 | 88 | \$15,993.06 |
| Denver Premium Outlets | 4/30/2025 | 2152 | 550 | \$142.01 |
| Desert Hills Premium Outlets | 4/30/2025 | 0602 | 0900 | \$56.43 |
| Fashion Ctr at Pentagon City | 4/30/2025 | 713 | 0A01A | \$9,754.65 |
| Florida Mall | 4/30/2025 | 793 | 1546A | \$126,356.41 |
| Grapevine Mills | 4/30/2025 | 184 | XO | \$0.00 |
| Great Mall | 4/30/2025 | 136 | XN | \$3,315.82 |
| Gurnee Mills | 4/30/2025 | 142 | 501A | \$0.00 |
| Haywood Mall | 4/30/2025 | 445 | 1067A | \$0.00 |
| Houston Galleria | 4/30/2025 | 418 | B8020 | \$7,446.37 |
| Katy Mills | 4/30/2025 | 775 | 330C | \$7,094.21 |
| King of Prussia The Plaza | 4/30/2025 | 0156 | 1306A | \$23,031.25 |
| La Plaza Mall | 4/30/2025 | 2113 | B48 | \$783.95 |
| Las Americas Premium Outlets | 4/30/2025 | 264 | 0138 | \$22.31 |
| Lenox Square | 4/30/2025 | 394 | 3136 | \$4,653.34 |
| Mall at Rockingham Park | 4/30/2025 | 236 | W143B | \$66,174.07 |
| Mall of Georgia | 4/30/2025 | 234 | 1058A | \$2,235.72 |
| Menlo Park Mall | 4/30/2025 | 391 | 1614A | \$6,920.80 |
| Miami International Mall | 4/30/2025 | 233 | 560A | \$0.00 |
| Newport Centre | 4/30/2025 | 69 | 0B54B | \$21,961.46 |
| Northshore Mall | 4/30/2025 | 771 | W169E | \$380.91 |
| Ocean County Mall | 4/30/2025 | 210 | 1087A | \$41.46 |
| Ontario Mills | 4/30/2025 | 15 | XGA | \$7,443.65 |
| Orlando Intl Prem Outlets | 4/30/2025 | 315 | 1C06 | \$3,311.91 |
| Orlando Vineland Prem Outlets | 4/30/2025 | 449 | 2201 | \$1,127.64 |
| Penn Square Mall | 4/30/2025 | 0424 | 1001D | \$3,018.07 |
| Pheasant Lane Mall | 4/30/2025 | 2122 | E117A | \$912.68 |
| Plaza Carolina | 4/30/2025 | 397 | 411A | \$0.00 |

| Property Name | Rejection Date | Store # | Unit # | Administrative Claim |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Potomac Mills | 4/30/2025 | 791 | XJA | \$981.61 |
| Quaker Bridge Mall | 4/30/2025 | 106 | 1003B | \$648.75 |
| Rockaway Townsquare | 4/30/2025 | 386 | 2094A | \$2,149.97 |
| Roosevelt Field | 4/30/2025 | 786 | 1124C | \$8,566.69 |
| Sawgrass Mills | 4/30/2025 | 200 | XV | \$5,222.57 |
| Smith Haven Mall | 4/30/2025 | 712 | M05 | \$2,477.23 |
| South Shore Plaza | 4/30/2025 | 370 | 1300 | \$2,793.24 |
| Square One Mall | 4/30/2025 | 191 | W132 | \$506.71 |
| Sugarloaf Mills | 4/30/2025 | 231 | XK | \$0.00 |
| Sunvalley Shopping Center | 4/30/2025 | 6006 | B121 | \$5,496.10 |
| The Domain | 4/30/2025 | 345 | P05A | \$0.00 |
| The Mall at University Town Center | 4/30/2025 | 479 | 215 | \$668.79 |
| The Mills at Jersey Gardens | 4/30/2025 | 0078 | XO | \$1,970.02 |
| Town Center at Boca Raton | 4/30/2025 | 232 | 1166E | \$1,970.02 |
| Treasure Coast Square | 4/30/2025 | 446 | 3080C | \$12,093.11 |
| Westfarms | 4/30/2025 | 101 | F112 | \$40,972.72 |
| Woodfield Mall | 4/30/2025 | 707 | D116 | \$65.31 |
| | | | 4/30/2025 Total | \$430,658.35 |
| | | | Grand Total | \$1,038,149.98 |

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Laurel D. Roglen, Esquire hereby certify that on this 30th day of July, 2025, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing pleading to be served electronically upon all parties that have opted in to receive notice via CM/ECF, as well as upon the following parties via electronic mail:

Steven Balasiano, Plan Administrator (steven@mhradvisory.com)

Justin R. Alberto (jalberto@coleschotz.com)
COLE SCHOTZ P.C.
500 Delaware Avenue, Suite 600
Wilmington, DE 19801
Counsel to Plan Administrator

Sarah A. Carnes (scarnes@coleschotz.com) COLE SCHOTZ P.C. 1325 Avenue of the Americas, 19th Flr. New York, NY 10019 Counsel to Plan Administrator James S. Carr (jcarr@kelleydrye.com) Dana P. Kane (dkane@kelleydrye.com) KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP 3 World Trade Center 175 Greenwich Street New York, NY 10007 Counsel to Plan Administrator

Jane Leamy (jane.m.leamy@usdoj.gov) Office of the United States Trustee 844 King Street, Suite 2207 Lockbox 35 Wilmington, DE 19801

Dated: July 30, 2025 Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ Laurel D. Roglen

Laurel D. Roglen (DE Bar No. 5759) BALLARD SPAHR LLP