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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,¹

Debtor.

Chapter 11

Case No. 19-12239 (CSS)

Objection Deadline: November 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. (ET) Hearing Date: November 19, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. (ET)

DEBTOR'S MOTION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 105(a), 330 AND 331 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR INTERIM COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES OF PROFESSIONALS

The above-captioned debtor and debtor in possession (the "Debtor") hereby

submits this motion (the "Motion") for the entry of an order, substantially in the form annexed

hereto as Exhibit A, establishing procedures for interim compensation and reimbursement of

expenses for professionals and official committee members. In support of this Motion, the

Debtor respectfully states as follows:

Jurisdiction and Venue

1. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the

"<u>Court</u>") has jurisdiction over 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. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), and the Debtor confirms its consent pursuant to Rule 9013-1(f) of the Local

¹ The Debtor's last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (6725). The headquarters and service address for the above-captioned Debtor is 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201.



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Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Local Rules") to the entry of a final order by the Court in connection with this Motion to the extent that it is later determined that the Court, absent consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments in connection herewith consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.

2. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

3. The statutory bases for the relief sought herein are sections 105(a), 330, and 331 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>"), Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "<u>Bankruptcy Rules</u>"), and Rule 2016-2 of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "<u>Local Rules</u>").

Background

4. On the date hereof (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), the Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor has continued in the possession of its property and has continued to operate and manage its business as a debtor in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee, examiner, or committee has been appointed in this chapter 11 case.

5. A more detailed description of the business and operations of the Debtor, and the events leading to the commencement of this chapter 11 case, is provided in the

Declaration of Frank Waterhouse in Support of First Day Motions, filed concurrently herewith (the "Declaration") and incorporated herein by reference.²

Relief Requested

6. By this Motion, the Debtor requests the entry of an order approving the Compensation Procedures (as defined herein) for an orderly, regular process for the allowance and payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses for attorneys and other professionals whose retentions are approved by this Court pursuant to sections 327 or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code and who will be required to file applications for allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code. The entry of such an order will streamline the professional compensation process and allow the Court and other parties to more effectively monitor the professional fees and expenses incurred in this case. This Motion further seeks approval of a procedure for reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by committee members of any statutorily appointed committee (the "Committee").

Retention of Professionals

7. The Debtor has retained Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP as the Debtor's bankruptcy counsel and Kurtzman Carson Consultants, LLC as the claims and noticing agent and administrative advisor. The Debtor may seek to retain other professionals ("<u>Professionals</u>") during the course of this case if the need arises. The Committee may also seek to retain other professionals during the course of this case if the need arises.

² Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Declaration.

Proposed Compensation and Reimbursement Procedures

8. By this Motion, the Debtor proposes that, except as otherwise provided in

an order of the Court authorizing the retention of a particular Professional, that Professionals be

permitted to seek interim payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses in

accordance with the procedures set forth below (the "Compensation Procedures"):

- a. On or before the 25th day of each calendar month, or as soon as practicable thereafter (but not earlier than the 15th day of each calendar month), each Professional may file an application (a "<u>Monthly Fee Application</u>") with the Court for interim approval and allowance of compensation for services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred during any preceding month or months, and serve a copy of such Monthly Fee Application by first class mail on each of the following parties (collectively, the "<u>Notice Parties</u>"):
 - i. the Debtor, Highland Capital Management, L.P., 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201, Attn: Isaac Leventon, Esq. (ileventon@highlandcapital.com);
 - ii. counsel to the Debtor, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 919 N. Market Street, 17th Floor, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn.: James E. O'Neill, Esq. (joneill@pszjlaw.com) and Pachulski Stang Ziehl &Jones LLP, 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor, Attn: Jeffrey N. Pomerantz, Esq. (jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com);
 - iii. counsel to the Committee, Lowenstein Sandler, One Lowenstein Drive, Roseland, NJ 07068, Attn: Jeffrey D. Prol, Esq. (jprol@lowenstein.com); and Potter Anderson Corroon LLP, Hercules Plaza, 1313 North Market Street, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 952, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Christopher M. Samis, Esq. (csamis@potteranderson.com)
 - iv. the Office of the United States Trustee, 844 King Street, Suite 2207 Lockbox 35, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn.: Jane Leamy, Esq. (Jane.M.Leamy@usdoj.gov).
- b. Any Professional that fails to file a Monthly Fee Application for a particular month or months may subsequently submit a consolidated Monthly Fee Application including any prior month or months. All Monthly Fee Applications shall comply with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, applicable Third Circuit law, and Local Rule 2016-2.
- c. Each Notice Party will have 21 days after service of a Monthly Fee Application to review the request (the "<u>Review Period</u>"). If any Notice Party wishes to object to a Professional's Monthly Fee Application, the

objecting party shall serve a written notice (a "<u>Notice of Objection</u>") so that it is received by the end of the Review Period by the applicable Professional and each of the Notice Parties. A Notice of Objection shall set forth the precise nature of the objection and the amount of fees and expenses at issue.

- d. Upon the expiration of the Review Period, if a Notice of Objection has not been served with respect to a Monthly Fee Application, a Professional may file a certificate of no objection with the Court with respect to the unopposed portion of the fees and expenses requested in their Monthly Fee Application (each, a "<u>CNO</u>"). After a CNO is filed, the Debtor is authorized to pay the Professional an amount equal to 80% of the fees and 100% of the expenses requested in the applicable Monthly Fee Application (the "<u>Maximum Monthly Payment</u>"). If a Notice of Objection was timely received and remains unresolved, the Debtor is authorized to pay the Professional an amount (the "<u>Reduced Monthly Payment</u>") equal to the lesser of (i) the Maximum Monthly Payment and (ii) 80% of the fees and 100% of the expenses not subject to a Notice of Objection.
- If a Notice of Objection is timely served in response to a Monthly Fee e. Application, the objecting party and the Professional shall attempt to resolve the objection on a consensual basis. If and to the extent that the parties reach an agreement, the Debtor shall promptly pay 80% of the agreed-upon fees and 100% of the agreed-upon expenses, to the extent not already included in a Reduced Monthly Payment (an "Incremental Resolution Payment"). If, however, the parties are unable to reach a complete resolution of the objection within ten days after service of the Notice of Objection, the objecting party shall file their objection (the "Objection") with the Court within three business days after such ten-day period and serve such Objection on the respective Professional and each of the Notice Parties. Thereafter, the Professional may either (i) file with the Court a response to the Objection, together with a request for payment of the difference, if any, between (A) the Maximum Monthly Payment and (B) the Reduced Monthly Payment and any Incremental Resolution Payment made to the affected Professional (the "Incremental Amount") or (ii) forego payment of the Incremental Amount until the next interim or final fee application hearing, at which time the Court will consider the Objection, if requested by the parties.
- f. At three-month intervals or such other intervals convenient to the Court (the "<u>Interim Fee Period</u>"), each of the Professionals may file with the Court and serve on the Notice Parties a request (an "<u>Interim Fee</u> <u>Application Request</u>") for interim Court approval and allowance of the payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses sought by such Professional in their Monthly Fee Applications, including any holdbacks, filed during the Interim Fee Period, pursuant to section 331 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Interim Fee Application Request must include a brief description identifying the following:
 - v. the Monthly Fee Applications that are the subject of the request;
 - vi. the amount of fees and expenses requested;

- vii. the amount of fees and expenses paid to date or subject to an Objection;
- viii. the deadline for parties to file objections (the "<u>Additional</u> Objections") to the Interim Fee Application Request; and
- ix. any other information requested by the Court or required by the Local Rules.
- g. Objections, if any, to the Interim Fee Application Requests shall be filed and served upon the Professional that filed the Interim Fee Application and the other Notice Parties so as to be received on or before 4:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern Time on the 21st day (or the next business day if such day is not a business day) following service of the applicable Interim Fee Application Request.
- h. The Debtor will request that the Court schedule a hearing on the Interim Fee Application Requests at least once every six months. The Debtor, however, may request that a hearing be held every three months or at such other intervals as the Court deems appropriate. If no Objections are pending and no Additional Objections are timely filed, the Court may grant an Interim Fee Application Request without a hearing.
- i. The first Interim Fee Period will cover the month in which the Petition Date occurs and the two full months immediately following such month. Thus, as applicable to this chapter 11 case, the first Interim Fee Period will cover the Petition Date through December 31, 2019.
- j. The pendency of an Objection to payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses will not disqualify a Professional from the future payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses under the Interim Compensation Procedures.
- k. Neither (i) the payment of or the failure to pay, in whole or in part, interim compensation and/or the reimbursement of or the failure to reimburse, in whole or in part, expenses under the Interim Compensation Procedures nor (ii) the filing of or failure to file an Objection will bind any party in interest or the Court with respect to the final allowance of applications for payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses of Professionals. All fees and expenses paid to Professionals under the Interim Compensation Procedures are subject to disgorgement until final allowance by the Court.

9. By this Motion, the Debtor also requests that each member of any

appointed committee be permitted to submit statements of expenses (excluding third-party counsel expenses of individual Committee members) with supporting documentation to any committee counsel, which counsel shall collect and submit the Committee member's request for

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reimbursement in accordance with the Compensation Procedures. Approval of these Compensation Procedures, however, will not authorize payment of such expenses to the extent that such payment is not authorized under the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, Local Rules, or the practice of this Court.

10. By this Motion, the Debtor further requests that the Court limit the notice of interim and final fee application requests to (i) the Notice Parties and (ii) parties that have filed with the Clerk of this Court a request for special notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. The Debtor further requests that (i) the Notice Parties be entitled to receive the Monthly Fee Applications, any Interim Fee Application, any final fee applications (the "<u>Final Fee</u> <u>Applications</u>"), and any notices of hearing on Interim Fee Applications and Final Fee Applications (the "<u>Hearing Notices</u>") and (ii) all other parties entitled to notice be entitled to receive only the Hearing Notices. Providing notice of interim and final fee applications in such manner will allow the parties most active in this Chapter 11 case to review and object to professional fees and will save the expense that would be incurred in duplication and mailing costs.

11. The Debtor shall include all payments made to Professionals in accordance with the Compensation Procedures in their monthly operating report, identifying the amount paid to each of the Professionals.

12. The procedures proposed herein will enable the Debtor to closely monitor the costs of administration and implement efficient cost management procedures. In addition, these proposed Compensation Procedures will allow the Court and the key parties in interest,

including the Office of the United States Trustee, to more efficiently monitor the compensation and reimbursement of Professionals.

Applicable Authority

13. Pursuant to section 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, all Professionals are entitled to submit applications for interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses every 120 days, or more often if the Court permits. Moreover, section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the Court to issue any order "that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this title." 11 U.S.C. § 105(a).

14. Courts have generally recognized that in large cases it is appropriate to allow payment of professionals more frequently. *In re Mariner Post-Acute Network Inc.*, 257 B.R. 723, 727 (Bankr. D. Del. 2000). Courts have regularly entered orders allowing professional compensation procedures that provide for interim compensation and expense reimbursement on a monthly basis. In fact, this Court has approved similar compensation procedures in many cases within this District. *See, e.g., In re Tintri Inc.*, Case No. 18-11625 (KJC) (Bankr. D. Del. Aug. 8, 2018); *In re The Walking Company Holdings, Inc. et al.*, Case No. 18-10474 (LSS) (Bankr. D. Del. Aug. 8, 2018); *In re True Religion Apparel, Inc. et al.*, Case No. 17-11460 (CSS) (Bankr. D. Del. Dec. 8, 2016); *In re Emerald Oil, Inc.* Case No. 16-10704 (KG) (Bankr. D. Del. May 11, 2016); *In re The Wet Seal, Inc.*, Case No. 15-10081 (CSS) (Bankr. D. Del. Feb. 10, 2015). Accordingly, this Court has authority to enter an order authorizing the Compensation Procedures requested herein.

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15. Implementation of the proposed Compensation Procedures is justified and in the best interests of the Debtor's estate and its creditors. Factors to consider in deciding whether to establish interim compensation procedures include the size of the case, the complexity of the issues involved and the time required on part of the attorneys for the Debtor in providing services necessary to administer the chapter 11 case. The Debtor has limited staff and resources to deal with the extra burdens imposed by the filing of this case. Moreover, the Debtor is aware that several Professionals have been retained in this case, and others may be retained in the future. Without the streamlined compensation procedures requested herein, the professional fee application process and review of the professional fee applications would be overly burdensome on the Debtor, the Professionals, the Court, the Office of the United States Trustee, and other parties in interest. The Debtor believes that the proposed Compensation Procedures are necessary to ensure that the Professionals are fairly and timely compensated for their services and that such Professionals are not forced to bear undue financial burden or risk caused by delays in payment.

16. The Debtor believes that the Compensation Procedures requested herein will: (i) enable the Debtor and parties in interest to closely monitor costs of administration relating to this case; (ii) allow the Court and parties in interest to ensure the reasonableness and necessity of the compensation and reimbursement of expenses; (iii) substantially reduce the burden imposed on the Court by avoiding the need for immediate review of Monthly Fee Applications; and (iv) eliminate undue financial burdens on the Professionals and avoid having the Professionals fund the costs of the Debtor's case.

17. Based on the foregoing, the Debtor submits that the relief requested by this Motion is necessary, appropriate and in the best interests of their estates and creditors and should therefore be granted.

<u>Notice</u>

18. Notice of this Motion shall be given to the following parties or, in lieu thereof, to their counsel, if known: (a) the Office of the United States Trustee; (b) the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Delaware; (c) the Debtor's principal secured parties; (d) counsel to any statutory committee appointed in the case; and (e) parties requesting notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. The Debtor submits that, in light of the nature of the relief requested, no other or further notice need be given.

No Prior Request

19. No previous motion or application for the relief sought herein has been made to this or any other court.

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WHEREFORE the Debtor respectfully requests the entry of an order,

substantially in the form annexed hereto as **Exhibit A**, granting the relief requested herein and such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: October 29, 2019

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

/s/ James E. O'Neill

Richard M. Pachulski (CA Bar No. 62337) Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (CA Bar No.143717) Ira D. Kharasch (CA Bar No. 109084) Maxim B. Litvak (CA Bar No. 215852) James E. O'Neill (DE Bar No. 4042) 919 North Market Street, 17th Floor Wilmington, DE 19899 (Courier 19801) Telephone: (302) 652-4100 Facsimile: (302) 652-4400 E-mail: rpachulski@pszjlaw.com jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com mlitvak@pszjlaw.com joneill@pszjlaw.com

Proposed Counsel for the Debtor and Debtor in Possession

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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

Chapter 11

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,¹

Debtor.

Case No. 19-12239 (CSS)

Objection Deadline: November 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. (ET) Hearing Date: November 19, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. (ET)

NOTICE OF DEBTOR'S MOTION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 105(a), 330 AND 331 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR INTERIM COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES OF PROFESSIONALS

TO: (a) the Office of the United States Trustee; (b) the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Delaware; (c) the Debtor's principal secured parties; (d) counsel to any statutory committee appointed in the case; and (e) any party that has requested notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that on October 29, 2019, the above-

captioned debtor and debtor in possession (collectively, the "Debtor"), filed the Debtor's Motion

Pursuant to Sections 105(a), 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code for Administrative Order

Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of

Professionals (the "Motion") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of

Delaware, 824 Market Street, 3rd Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801 (the "Bankruptcy Court").

A copy of the Motion is attached hereto.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any response or objection to the

Motion must be filed with the Bankruptcy Court on or before November 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

(Eastern Time).

¹ The Debtor's last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (6725). The headquarters and service address for the above-captioned Debtor is 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that at the same time, you must also serve a copy of the response or objection upon: (i) proposed counsel for the Debtor: Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 919 N. Market Street, 17th Floor, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: James E. O'Neill, Esq. (joneill@pszjlaw.com) and Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067, Attn: Jeffrey N. Pomerantz, Esq. (jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com); and (ii) the Office of the United States Trustee: 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Jane M. Leamy, Esq. (jane.m.leamy@usdoj.gov).

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT IF YOU FAIL TO RESPOND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE COURT MAY GRANT THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE MOTION WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE OR HEARING.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT A HEARING TO CONSIDER THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE MOTION WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 19, 2019 AT 12:00 P.M. (EASTERN TIME) BEFORE THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER S. SONTCHI, CHIEF UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT JUDGE, AT THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE, 824 NORTH MARKET STREET, 5TH FLOOR, COURTROOM NO. 6, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801.

Dated: October 29, 2019

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

/s/ James E. O'Neill

Richard M. Pachulski (CA Bar No. 62337) Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (CA Bar No.143717) Ira D. Kharasch (CA Bar No. 109084) Maxim B. Litvak (CA Bar No. 215852) James E. O'Neill (DE Bar No. 4042) 919 North Market Street, 17th Floor P.O. Box 8705 Wilmington, DE 19899-8705 (Courier 19801) Telephone: (302) 652-4100 Facsimile: (302) 652-4400 rpachulski@pszjlaw.com E-mail: jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com ikharasch@pszjlaw.com mlitvak@pszjlaw.com joneill@pszjlaw.com

Proposed Counsel for the Debtor and Debtor in Possession

<u>Exhibit A</u>

Proposed Order

DOCS_DE:225660.1 36027/001

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

Chapter 11

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,¹

Debtor.

Re: Docket No.

Case No. 19-12239 (CSS)

ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR INTERIM COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES OF PROFESSIONALS

Upon the motion (the "<u>Motion</u>")² of the above-captioned debtor and debtor in possession (the "<u>Debtor</u>") for the entry of an order (this "<u>Order</u>"), authorizing the Debtor to establish procedures for interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses for professionals and official committee members, as more fully set forth in the Motion; and the Court having found that the Court has jurisdiction to consider the Motion; and due and proper notice of the Motion having been provided, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and the Court having reviewed the Motion and having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish good and just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all the proceedings had before the Court and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion is GRANTED.

¹ The Debtor's last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (6725). The headquarters and service address for the above-captioned Debtor is 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201.

² Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

2. Except as may otherwise be provided in an order of this Court authorizing

the retention of specific Professionals, all Professionals in this chapter 11 case retained by the

Debtor or any statutorily appointed committee may seek interim payment of compensation and

reimbursement of expenses in accordance with the following procedures (collectively, the

"Compensation Procedures"):

- a. On or before the 25th day of each calendar month, or as soon as practicable thereafter (but not earlier than the 15th day of each calendar month), each Professional may file an application (a "<u>Monthly Fee Application</u>") with the Court for interim approval and allowance of compensation for services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred during any preceding month or months, and serve a copy of such Monthly Fee Application by first class mail on each of the following parties (collectively, the "<u>Notice Parties</u>"):
 - x. the Debtor, Highland Capital Management, L.P., 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201, Attn: Isaac Leventon, Esq. (ileventon@highlandcapital.com);
 - xi. counsel to the Debtor, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 919 N. Market Street, 17th Floor, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn.: James E. O'Neill, Esq. (joneill@pszjlaw.com) and Pachulski Stang Ziehl &Jones LLP, 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor, Attn: Jeffrey N. Pomerantz, Esq. (jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com);
 - xii. counsel to the Committee, Lowenstein Sandler, One Lowenstein Drive, Roseland, NJ 07068, Attn: Jeffrey D. Prol, Esq. (jprol@lowenstein.com); and Potter Anderson Corroon LLP, Hercules Plaza, 1313 North Market Street, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 952, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Christopher M. Samis, Esq. (csamis@potteranderson.com) and
 - xiii. the Office of the United States Trustee, 844 King Street, Suite 2207 Lockbox 35, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn.: Jane Leamy, Esq. (Jane.M.Leamy@usdoj.gov).
- b. Any Professional that fails to file a Monthly Fee Application for a particular month or months may subsequently submit a consolidated Monthly Fee Application including any prior month or months. All Monthly Fee Applications shall comply with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, applicable Third Circuit law, and Local Rule 2016-2.
- c. Each Notice Party will have 21 days after service of a Monthly Fee Application to review the request (the "<u>Review Period</u>"). If any Notice

Party wishes to object to a Professional's Monthly Fee Application, the objecting party shall serve a written notice (a "<u>Notice of Objection</u>") so that it is received by the end of the Review Period by the applicable Professional and each of the Notice Parties. A Notice of Objection shall set forth the precise nature of the objection and the amount of fees and expenses at issue.

- d. Upon the expiration of the Review Period, if a Notice of Objection has not been served with respect to a Monthly Fee Application, a Professional may file a certificate of no objection with the Court with respect to the unopposed portion of the fees and expenses requested in their Monthly Fee Application (each, a "<u>CNO</u>"). After a CNO is filed, the Debtor is authorized to pay the Professional an amount equal to 80% of the fees and 100% of the expenses requested in the applicable Monthly Fee Application (the "<u>Maximum Monthly Payment</u>"). If a Notice of Objection was timely received and remains unresolved, the Debtor is authorized to pay the Professional an amount (the "<u>Reduced Monthly Payment</u>") equal to the lesser of (i) the Maximum Monthly Payment and (ii) 80% of the fees and 100% of the expenses not subject to a Notice of Objection.
- If a Notice of Objection is timely served in response to a Monthly Fee e. Application, the objecting party and the Professional shall attempt to resolve the objection on a consensual basis. If and to the extent that the parties reach an agreement, the Debtor shall promptly pay 80% of the agreed-upon fees and 100% of the agreed-upon expenses, to the extent not already included in a Reduced Monthly Payment (an "Incremental Resolution Payment"). If, however, the parties are unable to reach a complete resolution of the objection within ten days after service of the Notice of Objection, the objecting party shall file their objection (the "Objection") with the Court within three business days after such ten-day period and serve such Objection on the respective Professional and each of the Notice Parties. Thereafter, the Professional may either (i) file with the Court a response to the Objection, together with a request for payment of the difference, if any, between (A) the Maximum Monthly Payment and (B) the Reduced Monthly Payment and any Incremental Resolution Payment made to the affected Professional (the "Incremental Amount") or (ii) forego payment of the Incremental Amount until the next interim or final fee application hearing, at which time the Court will consider the Objection, if requested by the parties.
- f. At three-month intervals or such other intervals convenient to the Court (the "<u>Interim Fee Period</u>"), each of the Professionals may file with the Court and serve on the Notice Parties a request (an "<u>Interim Fee</u> <u>Application Request</u>") for interim Court approval and allowance of the payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses sought by such Professional in their Monthly Fee Applications, including any holdbacks, filed during the Interim Fee Period, pursuant to section 331 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Interim Fee Application Request must include a brief description identifying the following:
 - xiv. the Monthly Fee Applications that are the subject of the request;

xv. the amount of fees and expenses requested;

- xvi. the amount of fees and expenses paid to date or subject to an Objection;
- xvii. the deadline for parties to file objections (the "<u>Additional</u> <u>Objections</u>") to the Interim Fee Application Request; and
- xviii. any other information requested by the Court or required by the Local Rules.
- g. Objections, if any, to the Interim Fee Application Requests shall be filed and served upon the Professional that filed the Interim Fee Application and the other Notice Parties so as to be received on or before 4:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern Time on the 21st day (or the next business day if such day is not a business day) following service of the applicable Interim Fee Application Request.
- h. The Debtor will request that the Court schedule a hearing on the Interim Fee Application Requests at least once every six months. The Debtor, however, may request that a hearing be held every three months or at such other intervals as the Court deems appropriate. If no Objections are pending and no Additional Objections are timely filed, the Court may grant an Interim Fee Application Request without a hearing.
- i. The first Interim Fee Period will cover the month in which the Petition Date occurs and the two full months immediately following such month. Thus, as applicable to this chapter 11 case, the first Interim Fee Period will cover the Petition Date through December 31, 2019.
- j. The pendency of an Objection to payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses will not disqualify a Professional from the future payment of compensation or reimbursement of expenses under the Interim Compensation Procedures.
- k. Neither (i) the payment of or the failure to pay, in whole or in part, interim compensation and/or the reimbursement of or the failure to reimburse, in whole or in part, expenses under the Interim Compensation Procedures nor (ii) the filing of or failure to file an Objection will bind any party in interest or the Court with respect to the final allowance of applications for payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses of Professionals. All fees and expenses paid to Professionals under the Interim Compensation Procedures are subject to disgorgement until final allowance by the Court.

3. Each member of any appointed committee is permitted to submit

statements of expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of the committee (excluding third-party counsel expenses of individual committee members) with supporting vouchers to committee counsel, which counsel shall collect and submit the committee member's request for

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reimbursement in accordance with the Compensation Procedures. Approval of the Compensation Procedures, however, will not authorize payment of such expenses to the extent that such payment is not authorized under the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, Local Rules, or the practice of this Court.

4. Approval of the Compensation Procedures does not authorize payment of such expenses to the extent that such payment is not authorized under the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, Local Rules, or the practice of this Court.

5. The Professionals shall be required to serve the Interim Fee Applications and the Final Fee Applications only on the Notice Parties, and all other parties that have filed a request for special notice with the Clerk of this Court pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 shall be entitled to receive only notice of hearings on the Interim Fee Applications and Final Fee Applications.

6. In each Interim Fee Application and Final Fee Application, all attorneys (collectively, the "<u>Attorneys</u>") who have been or are hereafter retained pursuant to sections 327, 363, or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code, unless such Attorney is an ordinary course professional, shall apply for compensation for professional services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with the Debtor's Chapter 11 case in compliance with sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Rules, Local Rules, and any other applicable procedures and orders of the Court.

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7. All notices given in accordance with the Compensation Procedures as set forth herein shall be deemed sufficient and adequate notice and in full compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, and Local Rules.

8. The Debtor shall include all payments made to Professionals in accordance with the Compensation Procedures in their monthly operating report(s), identifying the amount paid to each of the Professionals.

9. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice as such motion and the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and the Local Bankruptcy Rules are satisfied by such notice.

10. The Debtor is authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted pursuant to this Order in accordance with the Motion.

11. The Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation of this Order.

DATED: _____,

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

Chapter 11

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,¹

Case No. 19-12239 (CSS)

Debtor.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, James E. O'Neill, hereby certify that on the 29th day of October, 2019, I caused

a copy of the following document(s) to be served on the individual(s) on the attached service

list(s) in the manner indicated:

Notice of Debtor's Motion Pursuant to Sections 105(a), 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code for Administrative Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals

Debtor's Motion Pursuant to Sections 105(a), 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code for Administrative Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals

> /s/ James E. O'Neill James E. O'Neill (Bar No. 4042)

¹ The Debtor's last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (6725). The headquarters and service address for the above-captioned Debtor is 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201.

Highland Capital 2002 Service List FCM Case No. 19-12239 (CSS) Document No. 225797 01 – Interoffice Mail 09 – Hand Delivery 51 – First Class Mail

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