



Exhibit	Document	App. Page(s)
A	<b>Declaration of Brian D. Glueckstein in Support of the Limited Objection of the Okada Parties to Report and Recommendation of Bankruptcy Court Regarding Motion to Withdraw the Reference, dated April 15, 2022</b>	App. 1
1	Hearing Transcript Regarding Motions for Withdrawal of Reference, held on March 17, 2022 in <i>Kirschner v. Dondero</i> , Adv. Proc. No. 21-03076-sgj11 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.)	App. 4
2	Proof of Claim No. 252, filed October 6, 2021 by the Internal Revenue Service, in <i>In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.</i> , No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.)	App. 86
3	Proof of Claim No. 32, filed February 13, 2020 by the Internal Revenue Service, in <i>In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.</i> , No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.)	App. 91
4	Order (I) Confirming the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (As Modified) and (II) Granting Related Relief, filed February 22, 2021, in <i>In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.</i> , No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.) [Dkt. 1943]	App. 97

Dated: April 15, 2022  
New York, New York

/s/ Brian D. Glueckstein

Brian D. Glueckstein (*pro hac vice* pending)  
New York Bar No. 4227005  
gluecksteinb@sullcrom.com  
SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP  
125 Broad Street  
New York, New York 10004  
Telephone: (212) 558-4000  
Facsimile: (212) 558-3588

Cortney C. Thomas  
Texas Bar No. 24075153  
cort@brownfoxlaw.com  
BROWN FOX PLLC  
8111 Preston Road, Suite 300  
Dallas, Texas 75225  
Telephone: (214) 327-5000  
Facsimile: (214) 327-5001

*Counsel for Defendants Mark K. Okada,  
The Mark and Pamela Okada Family Trust –  
Exempt Trust #1 and Lawrence Tonomura as  
Trustee, and The Mark and Pamela Okada  
Family Trust – Exempt Trust #2 and  
Lawrence Tonomura as Trustee*

**EXHIBIT A**

**Declaration of Brian D. Glueckstein in Support of the Limited Objection of the Okada Parties to Report and Recommendation of Bankruptcy Court Regarding Motion to Withdraw the Reference, dated April 15, 2022**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
DALLAS DIVISION

-----	X	
	:	
MARC S. KIRSCHNER, <i>as Litigation Trustee of the</i>	:	
<i>Litigation Subtrust,</i>	:	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	Civil Action No. 3:22-CV-203-S
	:	
v.	:	Adv. Proc. No. 21-03076-sgj11
	:	
CPCM, LLC, <i>et al.,</i>	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	
	:	
-----	X	
	:	
In re:	:	
	:	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., <sup>1</sup>	:	
	:	
Reorganized Debtor.	:	

**DECLARATION OF BRIAN D. GLUECKSTEIN IN SUPPORT OF THE  
LIMITED OBJECTION OF THE OKADA PARTIES TO REPORT  
AND RECOMMENDATION OF BANKRUPTCY COURT  
REGARDING MOTION TO WITHDRAW THE REFERENCE**

1. I, Brian D. Glueckstein, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(a), under penalty of perjury, declare that the following is true and correct:

2. I am a partner in the law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, counsel to Mark K. Okada, The Mark & Pamela Okada Family Trust – Exempt Trust #1 and Lawrence Tonomura in his Capacity as Trustee, and The Mark & Pamela Okada Family Trust – Exempt Trust #2 and Lawrence Tonomura in his Capacity as Trustee (collectively, the “Okada Parties”).

<sup>1</sup> The Reorganized Debtor’s last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (8357). The headquarters and service address for the above-captioned Reorganized Debtor is 100 Crescent Court, Suite 1850, Dallas, TX 75201.

3. I submit this declaration to place before the Court certain documents referenced in the *Limited Objection of the Okada Parties to Report and Recommendation of Bankruptcy Court Regarding Motion to Withdraw the Reference*, filed on April 15, 2022.

4. Attached hereto are true and correct copies of the following:

Hearing Transcript Regarding Motions for Withdrawal of Reference, held on March 17, 2022 in *Kirschner v. Dondero*, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03076-sgj11 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.) Exhibit 1

Proof of Claim No. 252, filed October 6, 2021 by the Internal Revenue Service, in *In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.*, No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.) Exhibit 2

Proof of Claim No. 32, filed on February 13, 2020 by the Internal Revenue Service, in *In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.*, No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.) Exhibit 3

Order (I) Confirming the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (As Modified) and (II) Granting Related Relief, filed February 22, 2021, in *In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.*, No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.) [Dkt. 1943] Exhibit 4

Executed on April 15, 2022 in New York, New York.

/s/ Brian D. Glueckstein

Brian D. Glueckstein (*pro hac vice* pending)

New York Bar No. 4227005

gluecksteinb@sullcrom.com

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP

125 Broad Street

New York, New York 10004

Telephone: (212) 558-4000

Facsimile: (212) 558-3588

*Counsel for Defendants Mark K. Okada, The Mark and Pamela Okada Family Trust – Exempt Trust #1 and Lawrence Tonomura as Trustee, and The Mark and Pamela Okada Family Trust – Exempt Trust #2 and Lawrence Tonomura as Trustee*

**EXHIBIT 1**

**Hearing Transcript Regarding Motions for Withdrawal of Reference, held on March 17, 2022 in *Kirschner v. Dondero*, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03076-sgj11 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.)**

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

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

	)	<b>Case No. 19-34054-sgj11</b>
In Re:	)	Chapter 11
	)	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL	)	Dallas, Texas
MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	)	March 17, 2022
	)	1:30 p.m. Docket
Debtor.	)	
<hr/>		
	)	
KIRSCHNER, et al.,	)	<b>Adversary Proceeding 21-3076-sgj</b>
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	STATUS CONFERENCE - MOTIONS
v.	)	FOR WITHDRAWAL OF REFERENCE
	)	
DONDERO, et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
<hr/>		

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
BEFORE THE HONORABLE STACEY G.C. JERNIGAN,  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE.

APPEARANCES:

For Marc Kirschner, Litigation Trustee of the Litigation Sub-Trust:	Deborah J. Newman QUINN EMANUEL 51 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor New York, NY 10010 (212) 849-7000
---	---

For Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, LP, et al.:	Deborah Rose Deitsch-Perez STINSON LEONARD STREET 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777 Dallas, TX 75219 (214) 560-2201
--	---

For the Former Employee Defendants:	Debra A. Dandeneau BAKER & MCKENZIE, LLP 452 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10018 (212) 626-4875
--	---

1 APPEARANCES, cont'd.:

2 For Mark Okada, et al.: Brian D. Glueckstein  
3 SULLIVAN & CROMWELL, LLP  
4 125 Broad Street  
New York, NY 10004  
(212) 558-4000

5 For James Dondero, et  
6 al.: Amy L. Ruhland  
DLA PIPER LLP (US)  
7 303 Colorado Street, Suite 3000  
Austin, TX 78701-4653  
(512) 457-7220

8 For CLO Holdco, et al.: Louis M. Phillips  
9 KELLY HART  
400 Poydras Street, Suite 1812  
10 New Orleans, LA 70130  
(504) 434-6742

11 For Grant James Scott,  
12 III: S. Kyle Woodard  
KANE RUSSELL COLEMAN LOGAN, P.C.  
901 Main Street, Suite 5200  
13 Dallas, TX 75202  
(214) 777-4296

14 For Hunter Mountain  
15 Investment Trust, et  
al.: Zachary Levick  
16 ROCHELLE MCCULLOUGH, LLP  
325 North Saint Paul Street,  
Suite 4500  
17 Dallas, TX 75201  
(214) 580-2525

18 For the Debtor: Jeffrey Nathan Pomerantz  
PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES, LLP  
19 10100 Santa Monica Blvd.,  
13th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90067-4003  
20 (310) 277-6910

21 For the Debtor: Gregory V. Demo  
22 PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES, LLP  
780 Third Avenue, 34th Floor  
23 New York, NY 10017-2024  
(212) 561-7700

24  
25

1 Recorded by: Michael F. Edmond, Sr.  
2 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
3 1100 Commerce Street, 12th Floor  
4 Dallas, TX 75242  
5 (214) 753-2062

6 Transcribed by: Kathy Rehling  
7 311 Paradise Cove  
8 Shady Shores, TX 76208  
9 (972) 786-3063  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24

25 Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording;  
transcript produced by transcription service.

1 DALLAS, TEXAS - MARCH 17, 2022 - 1:41 P.M.

2 THE COURT: We can now turn to the Highland  
3 adversary, 21-3076. We have six Motions to Withdraw the  
4 Reference. So I am going to do a roll call to get  
5 appearances. I think that'll be the quickest way. So, first,  
6 appearing for the Plaintiff, Mr. Kirschner, who do we have  
7 appearing?

8 MS. NEWMAN: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Deborah  
9 Newman from Quinn Emanuel on behalf of Marc Kirschner, the  
10 Litigation Trustee.

11 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Now for the  
12 various Defendants/Movants. I'll start with the Former  
13 Employees that are represented by Baker & McKenzie and Ross &  
14 Smith. Who do we have appearing?

15 MS. DANDENEAU: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Debra  
16 Dandeneau appearing on behalf of Scott Ellington and Isaac  
17 Leventon, the Former Employee Defendants.

18 Just so Your Honor is aware, since the last hearing we did  
19 reach an agreement in principle to withdraw the remaining  
20 claims of CPCM and amend the Waterhouse Stipulation. So  
21 that's why I'm saying I'm appearing on behalf of Scott  
22 Ellington and Isaac Leventon, because, pursuant to that  
23 agreement, we expect the counts against CPCM and Mr.  
24 Waterhouse in this action to be withdrawn as part of that  
25 agreement.

1 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. All right. Now  
2 for the Okada Parties, who do we have appearing?

3 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: Good afternoon, Your Honor. This  
4 is Brian Glueckstein of Sullivan & Cromwell on behalf of Mark  
5 Okada and his family trusts.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Now for the Advisors,  
7 who do we have appearing?

8 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Good afternoon, Your Honor. This  
9 is Deborah Deitsch-Perez from Stinson appearing on behalf of  
10 HCMFA and NPA, the Advisors.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. What about the Dondero  
12 Defendants? Who do we have appearing?

13 MS. RUHLAND: Good afternoon, Your Honor. This is  
14 Amy Ruhland from DLA Piper appearing on behalf of James  
15 Dondero, Strand Advisors, Dugaboy Investment Trust, and Get  
16 Good Trust.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. For Grant Scott, who  
18 do we have appearing?

19 MR. WOODARD: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Kyle  
20 Woodard with Kane Russell Coleman Logan on behalf of Grant  
21 Scott.

22 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. What about  
23 Charitable DAF and CLO Holdco Defendants?

24 MR. PHILLIPS: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Louis M.  
25 Phillips on behalf of CLO Holdco, Ltd., Charitable DAF Holdco,

1 Ltd., Charitable DAF Fund, LP, and Highland Dallas Foundation.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: We'll just call ourselves the  
4 Charitable Defendants.

5 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. All right. I think I  
6 covered all of the parties, but if there's any lawyer who  
7 wishes to appear that has not appeared, go ahead.

8 MR. LEVICK: Zachary Levick of Rochelle McCullough on  
9 behalf of Defendants Hunter Mountain Investment Trust and Rand  
10 PE Fund I, LP. Mr. Keiffer is currently on an airplane right  
11 now.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 MR. LEVICK: Thank you.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. I'm sorry about  
15 missing that. Okay.

16 MR. LEVICK: No problem.

17 THE COURT: Any other defendant lawyer appearances?

18 (No response.)

19 THE COURT: All right. I think we've got them all  
20 now.

21 All right. When we were here a week or two ago on the  
22 motion for stay, I had requested that you all be as efficient  
23 as possible at today's hearing, and I didn't want to have six  
24 different very duplicative arguments. I realize different  
25 defendants may have unique things they want to argue, but I

1 had hoped that you all would coordinate as best you could so  
2 we don't have six very similar, duplicative arguments.

3 And I think I also asked you, you know, if there was any  
4 way you could work this out. I think I gave you a hint at  
5 where I was leaning, that I thought it was pretty clear cut  
6 that the reference would have to be withdrawn at some point  
7 because it looked like we had a lot of noncore claims mixed in  
8 with core claims and a lot of people entitled to a jury trial,  
9 because I think I heard that only two or three pending proofs  
10 of claim were involved at this point.

11 But I had announced that it was my typical practice to  
12 suggest that a district court wait until certification in an  
13 adversary proceeding such as this, certification that the  
14 matter is trial-ready, and just use the bankruptcy court as a  
15 magistrate.

16 So I let all know where I was leaning and encouraged you  
17 all to talk through this to see if anything could be worked  
18 out.

19 I also mentioned the annoying problem we had, not caused  
20 by you all but just a matter of Clerk Office procedure, we  
21 have six different adversary proceedings pending before five  
22 different district judges because a new civil action was  
23 created every time a motion to withdraw the reference was  
24 filed. So I had hoped maybe you all could move jointly to  
25 consolidate. But if I need to do that through my Report &

1 Recommendation, whatever it says, I can do that.

2 So, anyway, who wants to first announce where things  
3 stand? I guess I'll start with the Plaintiff. Do we have any  
4 agreements at this point?

5 MS. NEWMAN: No, Your Honor. We did reach out to  
6 Defendants to suggest something that we believed was  
7 consistent with what Your Honor had suggested or outlined for  
8 us, but they were not receptive to that suggestion, and so  
9 here we are today.

10 On the consolidation point, I believe the Defendants  
11 jointly moved to consolidate, and we gave them a  
12 representation that we, of course, do not oppose that relief.  
13 And I believe that some of that consolidation had already  
14 started. I've seen some notices come across. So I believe  
15 that process is in motion.

16 THE COURT: Okay. For the different movants, who  
17 wants to start us out with -- perhaps Ms. Dandeneau, is there  
18 a consolidation motion that's being considered, we think, or  
19 is in front of the different district judges?

20 MS. DANDENEAU: Yes, Your Honor. So, we filed our  
21 motion to consolidate before Judge Scholer as the first-filed  
22 judge. And as Ms. Newman points out, that was not opposed by  
23 the Litigation Trustee. We've already seen some of the other  
24 judges transfer their cases to Judge Scholer. So I believe  
25 that is in process and Ms. Newman's representation is

1 accurate.

2 I would also say, Your Honor, that, as we did in  
3 connection with the motion to stay, we have coordinated in an  
4 effort to streamline the presentation before the Court today.

5 THE COURT: Okay. All right.

6 MS. DANDENEAU: And --

7 THE COURT: Well, if there are no other housekeeping  
8 matters, I'm ready to hear the argument on the motion to  
9 withdraw the reference. Are you going to go first, Ms.  
10 Dandeneau?

11 MS. DANDENEAU: Yes, I am, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 MS. DANDENEAU: And just so Your Honor knows how  
14 we've structured this, I will address the post-confirmation  
15 jurisdiction issues. Mr. Glueckstein, who represents the  
16 Okada Defendants, will address the issue of mandatory  
17 withdrawal of the reference as a result of the Litigation  
18 Trustee's reliance on 28 U.S.C. Section 6502. And Ms.  
19 Deitsch-Perez, who represents HCMFA and NPA, will address the  
20 issue of mandatory withdrawal of the reference as a result of  
21 the securities law issues raised by the complaint.

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 MS. DANDENEAU: I'm not aware of any other counsel  
24 specifically who will want to address the Court, but, of  
25 course, all counsel, as you know, are available to address any

1 questions Your Honor may have. And I'm sure they're not  
2 waiving any right to weigh in on certain issues, depending  
3 upon the questions that the Court has.

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 MS. DANDENEAU: With that, Your Honor, I would note  
6 that we filed a witness and exhibit list that references  
7 exhibits that have been marked FE-1 through FE-4. Those can  
8 be found at Adversary Proceeding Docket 109. And before I  
9 begin, Your Honor -- and these really actually relate more to  
10 the mandatory withdrawal of the reference points -- but we  
11 would respectfully ask that those exhibits be admitted.

12 THE COURT: All right. Is there any objection?

13 MS. NEWMAN: Your Honor, can I have some time to just  
14 take a look at them and respond shortly to the Court? I  
15 didn't understand this to be an evidentiary hearing, but I'd  
16 -- I need to look at the exhibits and see if we have any  
17 objection to their admission.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Well, indeed, usually these are  
19 considered status conferences, a status conference to kind of  
20 hear everyone's legal argument and then make a report to the  
21 district court. I'm not going to say I've never seen exhibits  
22 at a hearing like this, but tell me again the docket entry  
23 number, Ms. Dandeneau.

24 MS. DANDENEAU: It's Docket 109. And Your Honor, I  
25 would submit that these are simply -- I would be surprised if

1 Ms. Newman hasn't seen these exhibits. These are simply the  
2 proofs of claim that the IRS filed in the Chapter 11 case.  
3 And so -- if -- we're only seeking admission for the purposes  
4 of -- and, frankly, I think only the last proof of claim is  
5 relevant -- just so in case somebody doesn't want to take our  
6 word for it. It appears that the last or the earliest claim  
7 that's asserted with -- by the IRS relates, I believe, to like  
8 2015. But certainly we've stated in our pleadings, as have  
9 some of the other Defendants, that the Plaintiff is asserting  
10 claims and using the IRS as the "golden creditor" for claims  
11 that -- to go back much before, to attack transfers that  
12 occurred well before the IRS was ever a creditor of Highland  
13 Capital.

14 So if we can stipulate to that point, I don't think -- I  
15 don't really think we need to make this an evidentiary  
16 hearing, but that's the only reason why we sought admission of  
17 those proofs of claim.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 MS. NEWMAN: I think -- I think the Court can take  
20 judicial notice of the claims that have been filed on the  
21 claims registry. We have no objection to that. Obviously,  
22 they're not coming in for the truth of the matter asserted,  
23 but we have no issue with the Court taking judicial notice of  
24 the fact that the proofs of claim were filed.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I will consider these proofs

1 of claim of the IRS at Docket Entry 109. I think I have to,  
2 as a technical matter, look at them as exhibits, because I --  
3 I'm sure we had a claims agent in this case. I'm not sure I  
4 have the claims register to quickly access and take judicial  
5 notice of. So, anyway, six of one, half a dozen of the other,  
6 as the saying goes. So, anyway, they're in front of the  
7 Court, being considered.

8 (Former Employees' Exhibits FE-1 through FE-4 at Docket  
9 109 are received into evidence.)

10 THE COURT: All right. Ms. Dandeneau?

11 MS. DANDENEAU: All right. Thank you, Your Honor.  
12 What I'm really going to focus on is, to sum it up, why your  
13 typical practice does not work here. In our brief on the  
14 motion to withdraw the reference, we lay out a construct for  
15 applying what has been termed the *Craig's Stores* factors. And  
16 I know Your Honor is very familiar with them, but I will, for  
17 the record, just restate them. Which is, number one, whether  
18 the claims in the action arose prior to confirmation. Two,  
19 whether antagonism existed with respect to such claims prior  
20 to confirmation. And three, whether the claims involved  
21 interpretation or implementation of the plan.

22 As to the last prong, this is what the Fifth Circuit in  
23 *Craig's Stores* framed as whether any facts or law deriving  
24 from the reorganization or the plan are necessary to address  
25 the claims being asserted.

1           It's important to note at the outset that the Fifth  
2 Circuit has never stated that the factors identified in  
3 *Craig's Stores* and its progeny are to be applied in some kind  
4 of balancing fashion. In fact, I think this is undisputed,  
5 the Litigation Trustee in his response acknowledges this.  
6 And, indeed, the Fifth Circuit's decisions demonstrate that  
7 some factors are dispositive while others may be necessary but  
8 not sufficient.

9           For example, if a post-confirmation action requires the  
10 interpretation of the plan, interpretation or enforcement of  
11 an order of the Court, the bankruptcy court, involves a  
12 potential modification of the plan, or requires enforcement of  
13 the plan, then the cases demonstrate that the Court need not  
14 engage in any real further inquiry because the bankruptcy  
15 court clearly has jurisdiction in those -- in that situation.

16           This was most evident in the *U.S. Brass* case in which the  
17 Fifth Circuit held that the bankruptcy court had jurisdiction  
18 to determine whether a post-confirmation settlement under  
19 which the debtor had agreed to arbitrate certain claims  
20 constituted an impermissible plan modification.

21           And so we can also put the following decisions in that  
22 bucket. And these are district -- Northern District of Texas  
23 district court decisions and Fifth Circuit decisions: *Baker*  
24 *v. Baker*; *Burch v. Chase Bank*; *Burch v. Freedom Mortgage*;  
25 *Galaz v. Katona*; *Lycoming Engines*; *Seven Seas Petroleum*;

1 *Texas Commercial Energy*; and *Weaver v. Texas Capital Bank*.

2       It's interesting that in the *Seven Seas Petroleum* case --  
3 and the cite, Your Honor, is -- these are cited in our brief,  
4 but it's 522 F.2d. 575. That's Fifth Circuit 2008. The Fifth  
5 Circuit characterized this prong as matters that impact  
6 compliance with or completion of the reorganization plan, and  
7 held that, because bankruptcy court jurisdiction would exist  
8 over a matter that attempted to, and as it phrased it, subvert  
9 a confirmed Chapter 11 plan, bankruptcy court jurisdiction  
10 existed to determine whether the claims brought by the  
11 bondholders in that case constituted property of the estate.

12       And moreover, that case involved the interpretation of the  
13 plan to determine whether certain causes of action had been  
14 released by the debtor.

15       Now, on the flip side, unless that prong is involved,  
16 *Craig's Stores* has also made it clear that the bankruptcy  
17 court has no jurisdiction over claims arising post-  
18 confirmation. In fact, that's essentially the holding of  
19 *Craig's Stores*. Even though, in passing, the Court does note  
20 that there are some alleged pre-confirmation claims, it kind  
21 of glosses over that.

22       The Fifth Circuit has never found that the requirement  
23 that the claims arose pre-confirmation by itself is sufficient  
24 to confer post-confirmation jurisdiction. Indeed, the only  
25 other bucket of cases in which we can kind of immediately go

1 to bankruptcy jurisdiction are those that were commenced  
2 before confirmation of the plan and that were pending at the  
3 time of confirmation. So these cases, of course, necessarily  
4 also satisfy the prong of dealing with pre-confirmation  
5 claims. Otherwise, they would not have been able to have been  
6 brought.

7 This is the basis for the Fifth Circuit's decision in  
8 *Newby v. Enron* and that a bankruptcy court is not divested of  
9 jurisdiction over a pending action as a result of confirmation  
10 of a plan. And therefore we can put *AE Marketing, Earthwise*  
11 *Energy*, and *OCA* -- again, Northern District of Texas and Fifth  
12 Circuit decisions -- into that bucket.

13 In our brief, Your Honor, we analyze each and every  
14 published Fifth Circuit case dealing with post-confirmation  
15 jurisdiction under *Craig's Stores*, and then we set forth a  
16 framework for analyzing post-confirmation jurisdiction. And,  
17 remarkably, with one exception, which I will discuss, all the  
18 published district court cases in the Northern District of  
19 Texas that interpret post-confirmation jurisdiction are  
20 consistent with the framework that we set forth.

21 Now, what's somewhat even more remarkable is that the  
22 Litigation Trustee in his response does not even attempt to  
23 address the Fifth Circuit or the Northern District of Texas  
24 jurisprudence on this issue. Instead, the Litigation Trustee  
25 cites to bankruptcy court decisions or decisions outside the

1 Northern District of Texas that collapse the *Craig's Stores*  
2 test into whether the claims arose pre-confirmation and were  
3 preserved under the plan such that they would enhance  
4 creditors' recoveries.

5 Well, that test is nothing more than a restatement of the  
6 related-to test that the Fifth Circuit expressly rejected in  
7 *Craig's Stores*. And it really represents a retreat by some  
8 courts away from the cold, cruel, post-confirmation world  
9 envisioned by the Fifth Circuit in *Craig's Stores* back to the  
10 comfort of the pre-confirmation bankruptcy court jurisdiction  
11 in which the bankruptcy court has at least related-to  
12 jurisdiction over any action that has a possible effect on the  
13 estate.

14 Now, I want to talk a little bit about the antagonism  
15 prong and how the Litigation Trustee has framed it. We  
16 acknowledge that the Fifth Circuit chose the word antagonism  
17 as one of the prongs of its analysis but chose not to define  
18 it. It's important to note, though, that, with the one  
19 exception that I will address, there is no published Fifth  
20 Circuit or Northern District of Texas decision that basically  
21 suggests antagonism exists without some affirmative pre-  
22 confirmation litigation relating to the issues that were the  
23 subject of the post-confirmation action.

24 Indeed, today I went to dictionary.com and Merriam Webster  
25 because I was like, well, what is the definition of

1 antagonism? And I didn't actually know. And it is defined as  
2 an act of hostility or opposition as between unfriendly or  
3 conflicting groups. And that's dictionary.com. Merriam  
4 Webster says actively expressed opposition or hostility.

5 In short, in the context of the *Craig's Stores* analysis,  
6 antagonism must require that the parties are or have been  
7 engaged in active hostility before confirmation that directly  
8 relates to the claims at issue. And now with the exceptions  
9 of the claims raised in the CLO Holdco litigation, none of the  
10 Moving Defendants was engaged in any active hostility with the  
11 Debtor on any of the claims at issue in this action prior to  
12 the confirmation of the plan. Indeed, the Litigation Trustee  
13 does not even make an effort to point to any such activity.

14 Active hostility, again, does not have to mean that the  
15 exact case was brought. It does mean, though, that the issue  
16 was somehow litigated in the case prior to confirmation. And  
17 I believe, Your Honor, that Your Honor's decision in *Senior*  
18 *Care Centers* is a good example of that, even though Your Honor  
19 relied upon the *U.S. Brass* reasoning to reach the conclusion  
20 that the Court had post-confirmation jurisdiction because it  
21 involved an interpretation of the plan.

22 But that case involved a motion for relief from stay, and  
23 I think Your Honor went on to say that there was an objection  
24 to confirmation on those issues that, again, were the subject  
25 of the post-confirmation litigation that required six to seven

1 pages of modifications to the confirmation order. That's the  
2 kind of active hostility, the active affirmative action, which  
3 is not necessarily the bringing of the cause of action, that I  
4 believe is intended by the term antagonism.

5 Now, what the Litigation Trustee has said is that, well,  
6 we should interpret antagonism to mean that, well, it exists  
7 if the parties kind of knew before confirmation that the  
8 estate would be coming after them for something. That in no  
9 way is consistent with the concept of antagonism as applied by  
10 the Fifth Circuit or even the cases -- the district courts in  
11 the Northern District of Texas.

12 The only facts that the Litigation Trustee cites for  
13 antagonism are, number one, the existence of the CLO Holdco  
14 action -- again, our clients are not a party to that action --  
15 and the broad preservation of claims under the plan. Whatever  
16 the definition of antagonism is, neither of these supports a  
17 determination that pre-confirmation antagonism existed under  
18 the *Craig's Stores* test.

19 Now, the Litigation Trustee relies upon an exhibit to the  
20 plan supplement that contains what I will call a textbook  
21 laundry list of every type of conceivable cause of action that  
22 might be brought against any party in any kind of case and  
23 then contains a list of -- and I am not exaggerating -- over  
24 1,100 possible named defendants, and that's not counting  
25 additional possible defendants that are included within

1 catchall phrases such as any insider of any such named  
2 defendant.

3 This hardly exhibits the kind of specific direct  
4 antagonism that the district courts in the Northern District  
5 of Texas or the Fifth Circuit reference when applying *Craig's*  
6 *Stores*.

7 Moreover, this idea that the causes of action that are the  
8 subject of the complaint somehow were known to everyone all  
9 along -- again, putting aside that that's not the test for  
10 antagonism -- that's completely inconsistent with the  
11 statements made by the Litigation Trustee five months after  
12 confirmation of the plan.

13 Indeed, one need only look to the Litigation Trustee's  
14 request to conduct broad 2004 examinations against a variety  
15 of parties which is brought in August of 2021. That's five  
16 months after confirmation. In the Litigation Trustee's  
17 omnibus reply to the objections that were filed to that 2004  
18 request, the Litigation Trustee said the following. And Your  
19 Honor, this is actually Exhibit 9 to CLO Holdco's witness and  
20 exhibit list, which is Docket 107-9. And I'm reading from  
21 Pages 5 to 6 of the PDF.

22 The Litigation Trustee enters this case cognizant of its  
23 peculiar procedural posture wherein the Committee has  
24 commenced one action, the CLO Holdco action, focused on a  
25 small subset of the potential estate causes of action that the

1 Litigation Trustee may assert in furtherance of his mandate to  
2 monetize estate claims for the benefit of the beneficiaries of  
3 the Litigation Sub-Trust.

4 The Committee's investigation to date has been limited.  
5 Further, while the Committee and the Litigation Sub-Trust have  
6 identified certain suspicious transactions through the review  
7 of documents produced by the Debtor, their understanding of  
8 these transactions is limited to the Debtor's perspective  
9 only, and discovery from nondebtor entities and individuals  
10 will allow the Litigation Trustee to better understand the  
11 purpose and impact of these transactions and to fill in the  
12 gaps in the Debtor's information before he is required to  
13 prosecute claims.

14 Again, Your Honor, these statements are made five months  
15 after confirmation of the plan and two months prior to the  
16 commencement of this action.

17 The Litigation Trustee's own statements belie any  
18 suggestion that there was any antagonism, much less some  
19 affirmative act of litigation pre-confirmation five months  
20 before the Trustee made these statements.

21 Now, the Litigation Trustee also suggests that the  
22 granting of the right to pursue claims under a Chapter 11 plan  
23 somehow helps the Litigation Trustee satisfy either the  
24 antagonism prong or makes the pursuit of those claims fall  
25 under the category of interpretation or implementation of the

1 plan.

2 I would just point out that if that were the case, every  
3 single pre-confirmation claim preserved under a plan, whether  
4 to be pursued by a reorganized debtor or a litigation trustee,  
5 would fall within bankruptcy jurisdiction. That's because,  
6 under separate Fifth Circuit precedent, post-confirmation  
7 claims must be identified in the plan in order to be preserved  
8 post-confirmation. That's the Fifth Circuit's decision in  
9 *Dynasty Oil & Gas v. Citizens Bank (In re United Operating,*  
10 *LLC)*, and that's found at 540 F.3d 351.

11 This identification requirement is a separate  
12 jurisdictional requirement relating to standing to bring a  
13 cause of action, and without such preservation in a plan no  
14 claims would even exist for anybody to pursue.

15 And I do think that the fact that the claims are being  
16 brought by the Litigation Trust created under a plan versus  
17 the Reorganized Debtor should not make any substantive  
18 difference here.

19 Moreover, the argument somehow suggests that allowing the  
20 mere preservation of claims under a plan then creates post-  
21 confirmation jurisdiction. Well, that's in direct conflict  
22 with black letter law that says that jurisdiction can only be  
23 retained but it cannot be created by a plan. Indeed, I think  
24 that the cases really say you can only lose jurisdiction if  
25 you don't keep it, but you certainly can't create it under a

1 plan. But the Litigation Trustee's argument would do  
2 precisely that.

3 The Fifth Circuit has never suggested in *Craig's Stores* or  
4 any of its progeny that the Fifth Circuit's rejection of  
5 related-to jurisdiction was subject to the simple fix of  
6 generically preserving post-confirmation right to pursue  
7 claims that had never been asserted pre-confirmation by just  
8 putting it in the plan. Otherwise, the Fifth Circuit never  
9 would have been -- had to lay out the test that it did in  
10 *Craig's Stores*.

11 THE COURT: Ms. Dandeneau, let me --

12 MS. DANDENEAU: And moreover, with one exception --

13 THE COURT: I'm sorry to interrupt.

14 MS. DANDENEAU: Yes.

15 THE COURT: But --

16 MS. DANDENEAU: No. Please.

17 THE COURT: -- I had a question. You know, you've  
18 mentioned *Enron*, the *Newby* litigation. Is it your position or  
19 your interpretation of Fifth Circuit law that if this  
20 adversary proceeding had been brought prior to confirmation  
21 you wouldn't be here making this argument, that it's the magic  
22 act of filing it pre-confirmation that makes *Enron* kick in and  
23 means there's related-to or at least related-to bankruptcy  
24 subject matter jurisdiction?

25 MS. DANDENEAU: Your Honor, I do agree that if this

1 action had been commenced pre-confirmation, then *Enron v.*  
2 *Newby* would control and those -- the different tests, the  
3 related-to, the easier, related-to jurisdiction tests would  
4 apply to determine the bankruptcy court's subject matter  
5 jurisdiction.

6 But, again, this action was not commenced pre-  
7 confirmation, and there really was no other litigation  
8 relating to these claims --

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 MS. DANDENEAU: -- that was commenced pre-  
11 confirmation.

12 THE COURT: Then my next question is, do you think  
13 antagonism is some sort of sliding scale here, fact-specific  
14 sliding scale? Because I listened carefully to your argument:  
15 You know, it's not defined in the case law; you're looking in  
16 a dictionary.

17 But looking back over the history of this case, we had,  
18 immediately after the filing -- well, January 2020, after the  
19 October 2019 filing -- we had this corporate governance  
20 settlement with the Unsecured Creditors' Committee that  
21 provided many things, among them that the Committee would have  
22 standing to pursue causes of action, the thought being there  
23 might be insider causes of action that the debtor-in-  
24 possession was conflicted.

25 So we had that issue early on. We're concerned there

1 might be causes of action -- we, the UCC -- so the order was  
2 negotiated and approved by the Court.

3 And then we had, what I recall, litigation hold letters,  
4 because I remember that because in summer of 2020 is when we  
5 started having discovery fights regarding, among other things,  
6 ESI and preservation and electronic information and the  
7 different Debtor employees and Debtor affiliates.

8 Then I ordered global mediation, and kind of everybody  
9 stand down while we see if these two mediators can help you  
10 all get to a global settlement of everything in this case.

11 And then we had -- then we had a plan with preservation of  
12 claims and causes of action.

13 I guess my point is, going back to my question, is  
14 antagonism a sliding scale? Because all of this history to me  
15 might be interpreted as early antagonism, early shots over the  
16 bow that we might be suing the Former Employees and these  
17 different Defendants.

18 MS. DANDENEAU: Well, Your Honor, respectfully, I  
19 don't think that antagonism in the way you've framed it, the  
20 fact that the case was a hotly-contested, disputed case and  
21 there was a lot of fighting, I don't think that that level of  
22 -- I mean, the fact that this was a -- there was -- were  
23 disputes in the case, that's not relevant unless those  
24 disputes were really directly related to some specific  
25 litigation action that occurred specifically relating to the

1 claims at issue.

2 And, again, I would note that the Litigation Trustee,  
3 whose burden it is to prove the existence of bankruptcy court  
4 jurisdiction, has not pointed to a single specific action, and  
5 certainly, I mean, my clients, who are the Former Employees,  
6 there was no -- certainly no litigation action referencing my  
7 clients that occurred pre-confirmation.

8 And I would say even with respect to getting standing to  
9 pursue generic causes of action, even the cases that have  
10 said, oh, the creditors -- there's one case, Your Honor, where  
11 the creditors' committee obtained standing before confirmation  
12 to bring the very specific causes of action that they ended up  
13 bringing post-confirmation. That's not what happened. Okay.  
14 There was discovery. There was a lot of noise in this case.  
15 But what there wasn't was any specific allegations of specific  
16 actions that would form the basis of the Trustee's complaint.

17 And by the way, if there were, then the Litigation Trustee  
18 did not ever need to have conducted those 2004 examinations  
19 and really should never have had to say what the Litigation  
20 Trustee said five months after confirmation of the plan if  
21 everything had already been decided. There has to be an  
22 affirmative litigation step. And, again, the fact that -- the  
23 fact that there were --

24 THE COURT: What is that? What -- and I go back to  
25 sliding scale.

1 MS. DANDENEAU: Right.

2 THE COURT: What is an affirmative litigation step?

3 MS. DANDENEAU: Well, as I noted, Your Honor, I think  
4 that Your Honor's decision, even though it didn't rely upon  
5 that, in *Senior Care Centers* is a very good example of that.  
6 There was -- the very nature of the litigation that occurred,  
7 dealing with one particular -- I believe it was a -- it was a  
8 landlord who came in and argued and sought relief from the  
9 automatic stay and then argued about whether assumption of the  
10 landlord's lease could occur, and then required another party,  
11 as part of the confirmation hearing and confirmation of the  
12 plan and settling their objections to the plan, to become a  
13 party to the lease. And then all of a sudden, after  
14 confirmation, tried to block the debtor from selling its  
15 equity interests, or I guess the trusts that succeeded to it,  
16 on the ground that there was a change of control under the  
17 lease.

18 Again, Your Honor didn't rest your opinion on that ground,  
19 but I think it's a very good example of that there was very  
20 specific litigation that was geared, that was specifically  
21 geared toward that lease, that kind of dispute with the  
22 landlord. And the Litigation Trustee has not pointed to  
23 anything in this case that rises to that level.

24 THE COURT: Okay. What about the cases out there --  
25 not Northern District, but Southern District, Judge Isgur;

1 Western District, Judge Mott -- that are factually really  
2 similar, unlike maybe *Senior Care* or some of the others, by  
3 that, you know, post-confirmation liquidating trustee bringing  
4 causes of action, a mixture of core and noncore causes of  
5 action, where Judge Isgur or Judge Mott said, of course  
6 there's related-to jurisdiction. Of course this bears on the  
7 implementation of a plan. Do you think they're just wrong, or  
8 -- or are those cases different somehow that I'm not  
9 appreciating?

10 MS. DANDENEAU: Well, Your Honor, as I stated before,  
11 again, with all due respect to those Courts and those judges,  
12 and I acknowledge that Your Honor has said this also, simply  
13 preserving claims under a plan through the creation of a  
14 litigation trust, that's required to have standing. That  
15 cannot be what implementation or interpretation of a plan is.  
16 And if that is the standard, if that is the test, then we're  
17 really right back to related-to jurisdiction.

18 And, in fact, what the -- what the Fifth Circuit said when  
19 it rejected -- when it -- in *United States Brass*, it referred  
20 to an action that would -- it basically said in *U.S. Brass*  
21 that it rejected an action that would have a conceivable  
22 effect on the debtor's ability to consummate a confirmed plan.  
23 I mean, and in *Craig's Stores*, there's -- the Fifth Circuit  
24 specifically rejected a test that was based upon, well, if  
25 we're successful here, we're going to bring money into the

1 estate.

2 And that's what these cases -- that's what these cases  
3 stand for the proposition. Because, again, you don't have any  
4 claims if you don't preserve them under the plan. The mere  
5 act of preserving them cannot be, well, that's implementation  
6 of the plan. That, that's fulfilling a very separate  
7 jurisdictional requirement.

8 So, and we believe, Your Honor, that was part of the  
9 problem with, again, respectfully, Judge Fitzwater's decision  
10 in *Daisytek*. And he's the only one in the Northern District  
11 of Texas to have really kind of collapsed this test into,  
12 well, you know, it's under the plan and it might bring money  
13 into the estate. Certainly sounds a lot like related-to  
14 jurisdiction.

15 And what we've noted in our brief with respect to that  
16 *Daisytek* decision is if that's the case, where Judge Fitzwater  
17 held that the Court had post-confirmation jurisdiction to  
18 enter an order authorizing Rule 2004 examination, and he based  
19 it upon the fact that the litigation trustee had the right to  
20 pursue claims under the confirmed plan, and such claims, if  
21 successful, would augment the estate.

22 Now, putting aside that actually what Judge Fitzwater then  
23 proceeded to do was vacate and reverse the bankruptcy court's  
24 decision allowing the Rule 2004 exam, but it's hard to say  
25 how, if that test is adopted, and the test that Your Honor

1 seems to be proposing, well, how is that different from the  
2 related-to test that the Fifth Circuit rejected? And that's  
3 what we struggled. The Fifth Circuit has been clear, not just  
4 in *Craig's Stores* but in *U.S. Brass*, that it has -- that it is  
5 applying a more exacting standard of post-confirmation  
6 jurisdiction.

7 And yet if you're going to say that, well, the fact that  
8 the plan preserved those claims, as it's required to do, and  
9 those claims could help increase distribution to creditors,  
10 well, that's really -- and by the way, not necessary to  
11 consummate the plan, because the plan's already been  
12 substantially consummated. And even if the Litigation Trustee  
13 brings in zero dollars for the estate, the plan is still  
14 substantially consummated.

15 So, Your Honor, we respectfully submit this Court has no  
16 jurisdiction to preside over these claims, other than the core  
17 fraudulent transfer and preference claims. And I'm happy to  
18 answer any other question, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Well, I haven't had time to go back and  
20 look at these cases yet, but I remember somewhere somebody  
21 cited -- probably the Liquidating Trustee -- a couple of  
22 Northern District cases. *Kaye, K-A-Y-E, versus DuPree*. That  
23 was out of the *Avado Brands* bankruptcy case, 2006. And also  
24 *Coho Oil & Gas*, 309 B.R. 217, a 2004 case.

25 I think these are cited as courts determining related-to

1 bankruptcy jurisdiction in a post-confirmation suit by a plan  
2 trustee involving breach of fiduciary duty and other state law  
3 claims.

4 So I think you were saying earlier only the Fitzwater  
5 *Daisytek* case seems supportive of the Liquidating Trustee's  
6 position. What about these two Northern District cases?

7 MS. DANDENEAU: Well, Your Honor, with all due  
8 respect, both of those are bankruptcy court decisions, and  
9 we've been made -- we've been very clear that we make the  
10 distinction that, with all due respect, a lot of bankruptcy  
11 court decisions seem to be a little bit result-oriented in  
12 basically applying this test, but that's not been what we've  
13 -- that's not what we've seen with the district court  
14 decisions or the Fifth Circuit decisions.

15 *Kaye v. DuPree*, the *Avado Brands* case, was a Judge Hale  
16 decision in 2006. And then I believe that *Coho* was a decision  
17 of Judge Houser. So those are -- again, Your Honor, we have  
18 been clear that to the extent that those cases stand for the  
19 proposition that merely preserving the claims is sufficient,  
20 we believe that that is not the test, either in the Fifth  
21 Circuit, and certainly not the test that the Northern District  
22 of Texas district courts have adopted.

23 THE COURT: Okay. And I think there was also a Judge  
24 Jones opinion. I can't remember the name. Judge Robert Jones  
25 from the Northern District.

1 MS. DANDENEAU: Yeah, I believe that was -- that was  
2 *Faulkner v. Lane (In re Reagor-Dykes Motors, LP)*.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Same thing? He held related-to  
4 jurisdiction. But you're saying bankruptcy judge; what I  
5 should do is actually look for district court opinions?

6 MS. DANDENEAU: Yes, Your Honor. And we believe that  
7 -- I mean, what Judge Jones said in that case is, where the  
8 claims are based on prepetition conduct and the cause of  
9 action appears to have accrued before bankruptcy, the  
10 antagonism factor is satisfied.

11 Again, Your Honor, that basically -- if that were the test  
12 for the antagonism factor, then that would really render the  
13 antagonism factor irrelevant because that just says, so long  
14 as the claims accrued pre-confirmation, you have antagonism.  
15 And that is what Judge Jones said in that case.

16 THE COURT: Well, that's why I'm struggling so much  
17 with how to interpret the word antagonism, because, you know,  
18 when has a prepetition, pre-confirmation claim risen to the  
19 point of there being antagonism?

20 MS. DANDENEAU: Well, Your Honor, the Fifth Circuit  
21 did set those out as separate prongs.

22 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

23 MS. DANDENEAU: And so because the Fifth Circuit set  
24 those out as separate prongs, we do believe that they require  
25 separate and different facts. And those facts do not exist

1 here, and require something more than the fact that the claims  
2 arose prior to confirmation.

3 And, again, there's nothing -- if -- or, the fact that if  
4 the claims are successful they will augment the estate, again,  
5 which is the related-to jurisdiction test that the Fifth  
6 Circuit rejected.

7 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

8 MS. DANDENEAU: Well, Your Honor, I do want to -- I  
9 mean, Your Honor, if I may, I would like to address why this  
10 is important. I mean, this -- in his response, the Litigation  
11 Trustee has conceded that the Moving Defendants have jury  
12 trial rights applicable to these claims, including the claims  
13 over which we concede bankruptcy court jurisdiction exists.

14 Indeed, the Litigation Trustee has not referred to a  
15 single claim of the Moving Defendants as to which a jury trial  
16 right does not exist.

17 So, putting aside the mandatory withdrawal issues, which  
18 Mr. Glueckstein and Ms. Deitsch-Perez will address, the sole  
19 issue before this Court is not whether to withdraw the  
20 reference but when. And what we're seeing here is, and this  
21 is where I started with, this is not your typical case.  
22 There's a significant issue raised by the lack of bankruptcy  
23 court jurisdiction. And the consequences of keeping this case  
24 in the bankruptcy court, only to find out, well, that the  
25 bankruptcy court really had no jurisdiction, given that, and

1 given the difficulty with this issue -- and I don't think  
2 anybody would dispute that we, I mean, our analysis is  
3 thorough and thoughtful -- one has to ask why wouldn't this  
4 Court recommend to the district court that the district court  
5 withdraw the reference immediately? For that matter, why  
6 hasn't the Litigation Trustee agreed to immediate withdrawal  
7 of the reference? The Litigation Trustee never answers the  
8 question of why.

9 In light of these -- I mean, these are important  
10 jurisdictional concerns, and the inevitability that the  
11 district court will be the trier of this case, why should this  
12 Court hold on to this case now?

13 The issue of bankruptcy court jurisdiction is important,  
14 because without bankruptcy court jurisdiction, under 28 U.S.C.  
15 Section 1334, this Court does not have the authority to do  
16 anything with respect to the noncore claims. If this Court  
17 lacks jurisdiction under Section 1334, this Court cannot even  
18 recommend to the district court that it should act as a  
19 magistrate, because the bankruptcy court only derives its  
20 authority to take actions, even acting as a magistrate,  
21 because of the order of referral of matters to the bankruptcy  
22 court over which the bankruptcy court has at least related-to  
23 jurisdiction.

24 It would also mean that if this Court is determined -- is  
25 determined ultimately not to have subject matter jurisdiction

1 over claims in this action, then any action that the Court  
2 takes, the Court cannot have authority to issue any order,  
3 even a nondispositive order, in this case.

4 And again, we acknowledge that the construct that we've  
5 laid out for analyzing post-confirmation jurisdiction differs  
6 from what this Court and other bankruptcy courts in this  
7 district and outside have done in the past. But the  
8 Litigation Trustee does not even attempt to address our  
9 analysis. Instead, simply references the bankruptcy court  
10 decisions and decisions from outside the Northern District of  
11 Texas.

12 Our view is that, given this Court's lack of jurisdiction,  
13 or even the potential for this Court not having jurisdiction,  
14 the district court must withdraw the case immediately, because  
15 a district court exercising its diversity jurisdiction does  
16 have the authority to preside over all the issues.

17 Now, Your Honor, I would note that at the stay hearing I  
18 misspoke, because I did make a reference to potentially there  
19 not being complete diversity in this action. We now  
20 understand -- we went back and we looked at this issue, and we  
21 now understand that, for diversity purposes, the domicile of  
22 the Litigation Trustee, which I believe is in New York, is the  
23 applicable domicile.

24 We confirmed with counsel for the Dondero -- what I'll  
25 call the Dondero Defendants, counsel for the Advisors, and

1 counsel for the Okada Defendants -- certainly, our clients are  
2 Texas residents -- that they do not represent any non-diverse  
3 defendants.

4       So, Your Honor, sitting here today, there is no question  
5 about the ability of the district court in our mind to  
6 exercise federal diversity jurisdiction over this matter. And  
7 given that grounds exist for withdrawal of the reference, for  
8 mandatory withdrawal on federal question grounds, the district  
9 court should conclude and this Court should recommend that  
10 immediate withdrawal of the reference is preferable. Because,  
11 if nothing else, Your Honor, it eliminates significant legal  
12 challenges that would be rendered totally unnecessary if the  
13 district court determined immediately to exercise its  
14 jurisdiction as an Article I court.

15       So, Your Honor, I'm happy to address any other questions.  
16 But if Your Honor has no further questions, I would like to  
17 turn the virtual podium over to Mr. Glueckstein, who will  
18 address the issue of mandatory withdrawal of the reference as  
19 a result of the use of 28 U.S.C. Section 6502.

20               THE COURT: All right. Mr. Glueckstein?

21               MR. GLUECKSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor. Good  
22 afternoon. Again, for the record, Brian Glueckstein, Sullivan  
23 & Cromwell. I represent the Okada Parties.

24       I'm not going to duplicate any of the ground covered by  
25 Ms. Dandeneau, but I will submit, Your Honor, that we do

1 believe that the fraudulent transfer counts that are asserted  
2 by the Litigation Trustee satisfy the governing standard in  
3 this circuit for mandatory and thus immediate withdrawal of  
4 the reference pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 157(d).

5 And Your Honor, on that basis, if the Court agrees, as we  
6 believe it should, the Court doesn't need to reach the  
7 jurisdictional questions that we've been discussing that  
8 certainly there's a difference of opinion with the Litigation  
9 Trustee over. Congress has provided that the district court  
10 shall withdraw the reference where the Court determines  
11 resolution of the litigation requires consideration of both  
12 bankruptcy and other nonbankruptcy federal laws. That  
13 standard, as the Court is well aware, in this circuit has been  
14 interpreted to mean resolution of the claims at issue require  
15 substantial and material consideration of nonbankruptcy  
16 federal law.

17 Here, Your Honor, the Litigation Trustee has sought to  
18 invoke an alleged ability to step into the shoes of the IRS  
19 and take advantage of Internal Revenue Code Section 6502 in  
20 order to extend the applicable statutes of limitations all the  
21 way back to distributions made in 2010, many years beyond  
22 otherwise-applicable statutes of limitation.

23 There's a very material threshold question as to whether  
24 the IRS itself, on the facts of this case, could have utilized  
25 Section 6502 to reach back and seek to avoid distributions to

1 satisfy tax claims prior to the date any tax was assessed or  
2 any claim even accrued.

3 Your Honor, this is not a hypothetical or a commonplace  
4 tax law issue, as the Trustee suggests in his briefing.  
5 Rather, we know from the IRS's proof of claim -- that Ms.  
6 Dandeneau referred to and are before the Court now for  
7 purposes of this hearing that were filed in the bankruptcy  
8 case -- that the IRS only ever asserted claims beginning years  
9 after distributions the Trustee seeks to avoid. And it's  
10 possible, based on the amended proofs of claim, that the IRS  
11 never assessed most of the claimed excise taxes at issue in  
12 their claims against Highland prior to the petition date.

13 So we know, Your Honor, that there is absolutely a live  
14 issue for the Court to resolve as to whether Section 6502 of  
15 the Internal Revenue Code -- looking at the Tax Code, relevant  
16 remaking as necessary -- operates as a forward-looking  
17 correction statute and would actually provide a lookback  
18 period, even where no tax had been assessed.

19 Your Honor, the plain language of the statute provides, as  
20 the Fifth Circuit has acknowledged in *Remington v. United*  
21 *States*, which we cite in our briefing, that the IRS has ten  
22 years for correction after assessment of a tax. However, as  
23 detailed in our reply brief, courts considering the question  
24 of whether Section 6502 is forward- or backward-looking have  
25 reached inconsistent results in the context of whether a lack

1 of assessment prevents the IRS from holding a claim for  
2 purposes of considering whether the extended statute of  
3 limitations is available.

4 As a result, Your Honor, we submit this is anything but a  
5 routine application of settled tax law. Rather, the Court  
6 will need to dig into Section 6502 and determine its scope and  
7 application before considering the facts presented by the  
8 IRS's claims here. That is precisely the type of  
9 nonbankruptcy statutory interpretation issue that Congress  
10 decided triggers mandatory withdrawal under Section 157(b).  
11 Those issues must be resolved in connection with the  
12 Litigation Trustee's assertion that 6502 is available to him  
13 through Section 544 of the Bankruptcy Code.

14 That further question provides that under Section 544 of  
15 the Code and to which the Trustee focuses on in his opposition  
16 brief is a red herring for purposes of this motion because  
17 it's not at issue. That is an issue for another day. But the  
18 Court never gets to the bankruptcy question unless Internal  
19 Revenue Code Section 6502 is determined to provide a lookback  
20 period prior to the assessment of tax claim.

21 The Litigation Trustee argues that whatever tax issues are  
22 presented can be handled by this Court because bankruptcy  
23 courts routinely consider tax law questions and that any  
24 statutory interpretation questions are not beyond this Court's  
25 expertise. The Trustee wrongly cites to the Fifth Circuit's

1 decision in *Luongo*, which was a case about bankruptcy court  
2 jurisdiction, not withdrawal of the reference.

3       Respectfully, Your Honor, as courts in this circuit have  
4 held for decades, it does not matter whether this Court has  
5 the necessary expertise, regularly handles tax claim matters,  
6 or even whether it would have jurisdiction over this type of  
7 federal tax issue if presented in a different context, such as  
8 a claims objection. Our motion before the Court seeks  
9 withdrawal of the reference, and we submit, Your Honor, that  
10 the only question for this Court to consider is whether  
11 resolution of the fraudulent transfer counts necessitates  
12 substantial and material consideration of federal tax law.  
13 And we submit the answer to that limited question is yes, at  
14 which point Congress has mandated withdrawal in Section 157(b)  
15 so that these federal tax questions can be addressed by the  
16 district court.

17       I'm happy to answer any questions the Court has.  
18 Otherwise, I would pass it to Ms. Deitsch-Perez.

19       THE COURT: Okay. I'm just wondering, do you have  
20 any exactly-on-point authority out there using this -- I mean,  
21 this is kind of a hot issue in bankruptcy, I guess you could  
22 say, on whether you can use the IRS creditor status to reach  
23 back longer than under the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act or  
24 548.

25       I mean, do you have any cases out there where withdrawal

1 of the reference has been granted, yanked, because of it  
2 substantially involving other federal law?

3 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: Well, I think, Your Honor, the  
4 question -- you know, many of the cases -- we discuss -- the  
5 question of 544 and the golden creditor statute, I agree, is a  
6 hot-button issue. But, again, the question here is really one  
7 of interpretation of what the lookback statute means. And the  
8 reason why this is particularly ripe in this case is the fact  
9 that Highland was not a federal taxpayer. It was a pass-  
10 through entity.

11 THE COURT: Right.

12 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: So it wasn't filing annual returns  
13 in the way a corporation would be where this is not as much of  
14 an issue, where there are regular assessments of taxes.

15 THE COURT: Yeah.

16 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: We have a situation here where  
17 there are clear facts that present this issue of whether you  
18 can -- the IRS -- again, the IRS, not the Trustee -- would  
19 have been able to reach back to avoid transfers earlier than  
20 its first assessment because it's clear that claims manifested  
21 here later in time because there wasn't annual --

22 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Glueckstein, I understand the  
23 issue, but I'm just wondering, I've been seeing decisions pop  
24 up here and there, I just saw one in the advance sheets within  
25 the last week, a reported decision dealing with the ability to

1 use this, as you call it, the golden creditor statute. I'm  
2 just wondering if any reported decisions have tackled this in  
3 the 28 U.S.C. § 157 context, whether mandatory withdrawal of  
4 the reference is required. I can't remember if the opinions  
5 I've seen have been district court opinions or bankruptcy  
6 opinions or whether this was litigated. I'm just asking, has  
7 it been litigated?

8 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: Yeah, Your Honor, I'm not -- I'm  
9 unaware of a decision that presents this exact fact pattern.

10 THE COURT: Okay.

11 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: There are decisions, we cite them  
12 in our brief, there's -- and there's a, you know, a study of a  
13 lot of -- and there's a recent decision from last year that we  
14 cite to in our brief that was undertaken by a court in  
15 Georgia, *Gordon v. Webster*, that surveys the status of this  
16 question in the context of the statute and whether assessment  
17 means going forward or going back. I think putting the two  
18 issues together in the way we have presented here, I haven't  
19 seen a reported decision on.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

21 All right. Ms. Deitsch-Perez, were you going to make a  
22 separate argument?

23 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I am, but I will not cover the  
24 ground covered by Ms. Dandeneau or Mr. Glueckstein, so we will  
25 get narrower and narrower.

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: So, this argument relates to  
3 mandatory withdrawal again. And the reason that there should  
4 be mandatory withdrawal with respect to the claims against the  
5 Advisors -- and, really, any of the claims that relate to what  
6 are called the lifeboat allegations -- is because the  
7 Plaintiff makes a scattershot approach and says that the  
8 creation of HCMFA and NexPoint were done for nefarious  
9 purposes, to siphon money out. They call them fraudulent.  
10 They call them lifeboats. They say these transfers were  
11 improper, going all the way back to their initiation.

12 And it is the Advisors' position that these -- that the  
13 creation of these entities and their use were necessitated by  
14 securities laws because Highland had institutional business  
15 needing trading for its own account and that it also was doing  
16 retail business. And there are securities laws and  
17 regulations that make it difficult, if not impossible, to do  
18 both of those businesses together because of the consents and  
19 exemptions required.

20 And so we acknowledge that the Litigation Trustee is not  
21 making securities claims on account of these transfers, but  
22 they are making claims that put into issue the reason for the  
23 creation of these entities and whether or not any of the  
24 transfers at issue, which are not terribly clear from the  
25 complaint what they are, whether they were reviewed and

1 approved by the SEC, who was looking at various transactions  
2 during the time period in question.

3 And so there are cases that say you can have mandatory  
4 withdrawal of the reference based on defenses. Those are the  
5 *Picard* cases that we cite. I think there's another one that  
6 hinges on securities issues arising in a counterclaim.

7 So the fact that the Trustee has not brought securities  
8 claims is not dispositive. It's the fact that throughout the  
9 course of this case there will be defenses -- good faith  
10 justification, their tortious interference claims -- there are  
11 different either elements of the claim or different defenses  
12 that will tie into and require an understanding of the  
13 securities laws.

14 That is not to say that Your Honor is not competent or  
15 qualified or smart enough to undertake. That's not the point  
16 at all. The point is that it's required, if there's going to  
17 be substantial and material consideration of these issues,  
18 that the case be heard by the district court.

19 And with that, I will pass the baton, unless Your Honor  
20 has any questions.

21 THE COURT: Okay. No questions. Thank you.

22 All right. Ms. Newman, I'll hear your argument.

23 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. Again, for the  
24 record, Deborah Newman from Quinn Emanuel on behalf of Marc  
25 Kirschner, the Litigation Trustee.

1           Your Honor, as we show in our papers and I'm going to walk  
2 through today, there is just no merit to Defendants' arguments  
3 that this Court lacks subject matter jurisdiction over the  
4 Trustee's claims or necessarily the claims are subject to  
5 mandatory withdrawal.

6           In reality, this matter easily qualifies for the Court's  
7 subject matter jurisdiction, and there are no tax or  
8 securities law issues that warrant mandatory withdrawal.  
9 Accordingly, there is just no basis for this Court to deviate  
10 from its regular practice of continuing to adjudicate cases  
11 unless and until there are noncore claims subject to jury  
12 trial rights that are trial-ready.

13           And Your Honor, I can see that my colleague Anna, who's  
14 taken over the screen, we're going to start on Slide 2. With  
15 Your Honor's indulgence, we have a short deck to go through.

16           THE COURT: Okay.

17           MS. NEWMAN: So, turning, Your Honor, to the first  
18 question of subject matter jurisdiction, as the Fifth Circuit  
19 held in the *Craig's Stores* case that the Defendants put so  
20 much reliance on, bankruptcy courts retain post-confirmation  
21 subject matter jurisdiction over claims that pertain to the  
22 implementation or the execution of the plan. And here, as the  
23 plan and confirmation order make clear, and we've excerpted  
24 some of the relevant language on the slide, the creation of  
25 the Litigation Trust and the pursuit by the Litigation Trustee

1 of estate claims is an essential component of the plan and is  
2 a critical piece of the plan's implementation. Under the  
3 *Craig's Stores* holding, this fact standing alone is sufficient  
4 to establish this Court's subject matter jurisdiction over the  
5 Trustee's claims.

6 Now, Defendants devoted a lot of time, Ms. Dandeneau spent  
7 a lot of time talking about the factors in the *Newby v. Enron*  
8 case where the Fifth Circuit explains that these three factors  
9 were critical to its decision in *Craig's Stores*. And those  
10 claims are, as they're listed here, that the claims  
11 principally dealt with post-confirmation relations between the  
12 parties; that there was no antagonism or claim pending between  
13 the parties as of the date of the reorganization; and that no  
14 facts or law deriving from the reorganization or plan were  
15 necessary to the claims.

16 Now, the point of the Fifth Circuit's articulation of  
17 these three factors was to explain it really was about *Craig's*  
18 *Stores*. It meant that the bankruptcy court there could not  
19 exercise subject matter jurisdiction over the claim.

20 But the facts presented in *Craig's Stores* are easily  
21 distinguished from the facts that we have here, Your Honor.  
22 *Craig's Stores* involves a breach of contract claim based on  
23 post-confirmation conduct filed by the reorganized debtor  
24 against its bank eighteen months after that reorganized debtor  
25 had emerged from bankruptcy. There was no antagonism at all

1 between the reorganized debtor and the bank at the time of  
2 confirmation, and there were no facts or law from the  
3 reorganization that were implicated by the claim.

4 By contrast, here, as Defendants concede, all of the  
5 claims arise from pre-confirmation conduct, all of the causes  
6 of action accrued prior to confirmation, and there was a great  
7 deal of antagonism between the Debtor and several of the  
8 Defendants prior to confirmation, as Your Honor has already  
9 noted.

10 And I'll also add, Your Honor, Ms. Dandeneau said that  
11 there was no antagonism involving her clients. Well, Your  
12 Honor, the settlement -- the motion in support of the  
13 settlement with UBS talked specifically about misconduct that  
14 Ms. Dandeneau's clients engaged in. And that misconduct forms  
15 the basis for certain of the Trustee's breach of fiduciary  
16 duty claims against Ms. Dandeneau's clients.

17 So, certainly, there was antagonism against Ms.  
18 Dandeneau's clients and against virtually all of the  
19 Defendants here, which led to virtually all of the Defendants  
20 here being listed as potential targets of estate claims.

21 And Your Honor, it's not so crazy that there are 1,100  
22 entities listed as potential targets, given that we're  
23 involved in a case here where the complex created by Mr.  
24 Dondero involves something like more than 2,000 entities. So  
25 that's what one would expect, given the circumstances

1 presented here, that that list would be quite long.

2 Turning back to the chart here, the last row, another  
3 distinguishing factor between the circumstances presented here  
4 and what was presented in *Craig's Stores*, whereas in *Craig's*  
5 *Stores*, as I said, no facts or law from the reorganization or  
6 plan are relevant to the claim, here, several of the facts at  
7 issue in the Trustee's claims were considered by the Court  
8 during the bankruptcy, including, as I said, conduct that gave  
9 rise to Debtor settlements now forms the basis for certain of  
10 the Trustee's breach of fiduciary duty claims.

11 There is nothing about the *Craig's Stores* case that even  
12 remotely suggests that the bankruptcy court lacked subject  
13 matter jurisdiction over claims like those that are being  
14 pursued by the Trustee.

15 And I'd like to take a moment to focus on the second  
16 factor articulated in *Newby*, that there was no antagonism or  
17 claim filed prepetition. Well, Ms. Dandeneau says that what  
18 that factor requires -- and if we could turn to the next  
19 slide, please, Anna -- what that factor requires is that there  
20 is some specific litigation action relating to the specific  
21 claims. Well, that sounds like that there needed to be a  
22 claim filed, is what Ms. Dandeneau is saying. That's clearly  
23 not what the Fifth Circuit was saying, because if you look at  
24 the language it says there was no antagonism or claim pending  
25 between the parties as of the date of the reorganization.

1           And so it's entirely consistent with the language that  
2 cases have subsequently interpreted that factor not to require  
3 actual litigation. And you can see that we have the cases  
4 listed here. The *Brickley* case, Your Honor, that's not a  
5 bankruptcy court jurisdiction. Now, I don't subscribe to the  
6 idea that the bankruptcy court decisions are somehow of less  
7 value than district court decisions, but if you do subscribe  
8 to that view, which I would guess that Your Honor doesn't,  
9 that first case is not a bankruptcy court decision. And what  
10 that first case held is that actual litigation is not  
11 necessary to find the existence of antagonism.

12           The two cases -- turning to the next slide -- cited by  
13 Defendants in purported support of their position --

14           THE COURT: Let me interrupt you. The *Schmidt* case,  
15 that also was a district court opinion, as I recall. That was  
16 Judge Lee Rosenthal --

17           MS. NEWMAN: Yes.

18           THE COURT: -- in Houston.

19           MS. NEWMAN: That's correct, Your Honor. Sorry. I  
20 overlooked that.

21           THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

22           MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. And so moving on to the next  
23 slide, these are the two cases that the Defendants rely on for  
24 their position that litigation is required in order to satisfy  
25 that antagonism factor. But these cases are distinguishable,

1 Your Honor.

2 In the *Palmaz* case, which was an action seeking a  
3 declaratory judgment that insurers were required to provide  
4 coverage to the debtor's former officers and directors for the  
5 trustee's claim, the claim accrued and the antagonism arose  
6 when the defendant insurers denied coverage for the trustee's  
7 claims, which happened after confirmation.

8 And in the *McVey* case, which was an action by the debtor's  
9 former president and sole shareholder for breach of fiduciary  
10 duty against his law firm for advising him to commence the  
11 debtor's Chapter 11 proceeding, there was no antagonism  
12 between the parties before the debtor's creditors filed  
13 lawsuits and liens against the former president for amounts  
14 that they could not collect in the bankruptcy, all of which,  
15 again, happened post-confirmation.

16 And Your Honor, the fact that claims do not need to be  
17 filed prior to confirmation in order for a bankruptcy court to  
18 exercise subject matter jurisdiction makes perfect sense. As  
19 Your Honor knows, it's often in the best interest of a debtor  
20 to defer litigation of estate claims until after confirmation,  
21 once a trust has been established for the benefit of creditors  
22 under a confirmed plan.

23 Defendants are arguing in that situation a trustee  
24 pursuing state law claims would never be able to file his or  
25 her claims in the bankruptcy court, which, as is the case

1 here, will almost always be the court most familiar with the  
2 parties and the issues and most well-suited to adjudicate the  
3 claims.

4 But thankfully, Your Honor, the courts do not agree with  
5 Defendants' view of the world. As this slide shows, the cases  
6 decided -- and as Your Honor has noted -- the cases decided  
7 since *Craig's Stores* consistently hold that bankruptcy courts  
8 retain subject matter jurisdiction under state law claims  
9 commenced by a litigation trustee created under a confirmed  
10 plan following confirmation of the plan.

11 Defendants admit that they ask you to rule that all of  
12 these cases were wrongly decided, but the cases from both  
13 district courts and bankruptcy courts are entirely consistent  
14 with Fifth Circuit jurisprudence and there just is no basis  
15 for such a ruling.

16 Turning to Slide 10, Your Honor, and Defendants' arguments  
17 that certain of the Trustee's claims are subject to mandatory  
18 withdrawal, these arguments are also unsupported by case law  
19 and without merit.

20 First, Defendants, led principally by the Former Employees  
21 and Okada, argue that the Trustee's avoidance claims under  
22 Section 544(b) of the Bankruptcy Code must be mandatorily  
23 withdrawn because they incorporate Section 6502 of the Tax  
24 Code.

25 Now, Mr. Glueckstein conceded that this Court may

1 determine whether the Trustee may invoke Section 6502, but he  
2 argued that mandatory withdrawal is required because certain  
3 of the transfers at issue allegedly predate accrual of the  
4 IRS's claims, and, he argued, the question of whether the IRS  
5 would be able to avoid those transfers requires material and  
6 substantial consideration of tax law that could not be  
7 determined by this Court.

8 That's just not right, Your Honor. To begin with, a very  
9 similar argument was rejected in the *Ruby's Diner* case, where  
10 the defendants also tried to manufacture a tax law issue in  
11 order to escape bankruptcy court jurisdiction. The Court  
12 there held, as we excerpt on the page, that the defendants'  
13 vague suggestion that the Internal Revenue Code needed to be  
14 interpreted to determine whether the trustee could stand in  
15 the shoes of the IRS for the purpose of Section 544(b) as to  
16 unassessed claims did not warrant mandatory withdrawal because  
17 defendants failed to meet their burden of showing that any  
18 interpretation of the Internal Revenue Code was required to  
19 resolve these questions, as the issues instead appear to only  
20 raise significant questions about the trustee's powers under  
21 Section 544(b).

22 The same is true here. As we show in the next slide, the  
23 cases cited by Defendants holding that a trustee standing in  
24 the shoes of the IRS may avoid transfers made before the IRS  
25 became a creditor do so on the basis of state fraudulent

1 conveyance law, providing that future creditors may avoid a  
2 transfer, not federal tax law. And as you can see on the next  
3 slide, the rights of future creditors, including the IRS,  
4 under fraudulent transfer statutes to avoid transfers made  
5 before their debt accrued is well-settled and has been  
6 recognized by the Fifth Circuit.

7 Turning to the next slide, it's also notable, Your Honor,  
8 and I think that Your Honor has already taken -- you noted  
9 this without us pointing it out -- that all of the cases cited  
10 by Defendants that address the question of whether a trustee  
11 standing in the IRS's shoes may avoid a transfer predating  
12 accrual of the IRS claim, these are all decided by bankruptcy  
13 courts, Your Honor, not district courts.

14 And while Defendants argue that there's a split amongst  
15 bankruptcy courts over whether a trustee may avoid a transfer  
16 predating accrual of the IRS's claim -- and I'll concede that  
17 they are getting that from the *Gordon* case, if you actually  
18 look at the cases, there is no split. The cases Defendants  
19 cite as refusing to allow such claims actually do no such  
20 thing. Rather, *In re Webster* denied a motion to dismiss the  
21 trustee's claims, and *In re Taylor Bean & Whitaker* denied the  
22 trustee's motion for summary judgment but held that parties  
23 could revisit the issue at a later date.

24 In sum, Your Honor, the great weight of authority holds  
25 that the IRS as a future creditor may avoid transfers

1 postdating accrual of its claim, and this is an issue  
2 predicated on state fraudulent transfer law that this Court is  
3 more than capable of adjudicating.

4 Now, another mandatory withdrawal argument asserted  
5 primarily by NexPoint and HCMFA that Ms. Deitsch-Perez  
6 addressed is the Trustee's claims relating to NexPoint and  
7 HCMFA require mandatory withdrawal because they involve  
8 material and substantial consideration of federal securities  
9 laws is equally if not more specious.

10 As the *Contemporary Lithographers* case that we cite here  
11 on the slide held, if a party to a case is federally  
12 regulated, such as a bank or securities brokerage, but no  
13 federal regulation applies to the dispute at hand, the court  
14 need not withdraw the proceeding because no federal regulation  
15 will have to be considered.

16 Your Honor, no federal regulation applies to the Trustee's  
17 claims relating to NexPoint and HCMFA here. To the contrary,  
18 as you can see from the slide, and we've listed the claims,  
19 the Trustee alleges only claims under state law and the  
20 Bankruptcy Code, all of which are based on Defendants' efforts  
21 to use NexPoint and HCMFA to evade HCMLP's creditors. These  
22 claims have nothing to do with securities laws.

23 And quite honestly, Your Honor, NexPoint and HCMFA's  
24 reliance on an order from the SEC in support of their argument  
25 makes no sense. A copy of the order where they cite in the

1 papers is shown, I mean, right here. As that highlighted  
2 language shows -- if -- maybe we could -- can you blow that  
3 up, Anna? I'll read it if you can't. I'm not sure that we  
4 know how to do that. But the highlighted language reads that  
5 the order permits HCMLP and HCMFA's predecessor to issue  
6 multiple classes of shares and to impose asset-based  
7 distribution fees and early withdrawal charges. This has  
8 nothing to do with the Trustee's claims, and it certainly does  
9 not immunize NexPoint and HCMFA for liability for state law  
10 torts and fraudulent transfers that harmed HCMLP's creditors.

11 NexPoint and HCMFA's reliance on cases listed on the next  
12 slide, that's equally mystifying, Your Honor. They don't cite  
13 to a single case that supports their position that orders of  
14 the nature that I just referred to could somehow protect them  
15 or make them immune from state law and fraudulent transfer  
16 law. Instead, they rely on the cases that we list here, which  
17 either have nothing to do with securities laws or have nothing  
18 to do with mandatory withdrawal. Their only cases that  
19 involve both of those issues are *Contemporary Lithographers*  
20 and *Picard v. Flinn*. But *Contemporary Lithographers* involved  
21 actual securities law claims, and *Picard v. Flinn*, as I'm sure  
22 Your Honor is aware, is governed by the Securities Investors  
23 Protection Act.

24 None of the cases listed on this page that are cited by  
25 Defendants, none of the cases cited by Defendants have any

1 bearing on the issue at hand, and Defendants do not cite a  
2 single case supporting their argument.

3 Turning to the next slide, Your Honor, given that the  
4 Court has subject matter jurisdiction over all of the  
5 Trustee's claims and there is no basis for mandatory  
6 withdrawal, the Court should adhere to its usual practice of  
7 continuing to adjudicate this action unless and until there  
8 are noncore claims subject to jury trial rights that are  
9 certified to be trial-ready.

10 The *Holland* factors laid out by the Fifth Circuit that  
11 this Court considers in determining whether and when to  
12 withdraw the reference, which we list here, weigh in favor of  
13 this result.

14 First, it cannot be seriously contested that the  
15 misconduct of certain Defendants in this Court and the Court's  
16 comments regarding that misconduct motivate Defendants to look  
17 for an escape hatch from the Court. And it's likely that this  
18 is the case for all of the Defendants, given the intertwined  
19 nature of the Defendants.

20 Turning to the next slide, the Court's familiarity with  
21 the parties and certain of the facts pertinent to the  
22 Trustee's claims, and the Court's expertise in fraudulent  
23 transfer law, will promote uniformity in bankruptcy  
24 administration, expedite the bankruptcy process, and foster  
25 the economical use of party and Court resources.

1 Defendants' assertions in their papers that these  
2 considerations are no longer in play because the plan has been  
3 confirmed are without merit, and we excerpted here some of the  
4 cases holding that these considerations of course continue to  
5 be relevant, notwithstanding plan confirmation.

6 Turning to the next slide, as this Court has made clear  
7 many times, most recently the last time we were before Your  
8 Honor, the fact that this action may involve noncore claims  
9 subject to jury trial rights also does not warrant immediate  
10 withdrawal. Rather, as I said, as the Court has repeatedly  
11 stated and as the numerous cases listed on this page show, the  
12 Court regularly continues to adjudicate such claims until they  
13 are certified to be trial-ready. And then the next slide  
14 shows even many of the cases cited by Defendants on this issue  
15 also follow this practice.

16 The other cases cited in support of immediate withdrawal  
17 are inapposite, given that, as is shown here, many of them  
18 were from outside of this district and involved cases that the  
19 bankruptcy judge had no familiarity with, that did not include  
20 evidence of forum shopping, and/or that were predominated by  
21 noncore claims. These inapposite cases certainly do not  
22 warrant the Court's deviation from its normal practice.

23 Finally, Your Honor, I just want to address briefly CLO  
24 Holdco's assertion in their papers that the forum selection  
25 clauses in the service and advisory agreements between HCMLP

1 and CLO Holdco warrants immediate withdrawal. Your Honor,  
2 here are the claims that the Trustee asserts against CLO  
3 Holdco. None of these claims have anything to do at all with  
4 the service and advisory agreement. And even if that were not  
5 the case, CLO Holdco's argument would still fail, as their  
6 forum selection clause requiring that actions relating to the  
7 agreements be filed in the district court has been satisfied  
8 here.

9 As the statute and the cases on the next slide show, the  
10 bankruptcy court is a unit of the district court. Thus, when  
11 a party files an action in bankruptcy court, it is also filing  
12 that action in the district court.

13 In conclusion, Your Honor, we ask that Defendants' motion  
14 be -- motions be denied and that withdrawal be ordered only  
15 upon a certification that noncore claims subject to jury trial  
16 rights are trial-ready.

17 Unless Your Honor has any questions, I have nothing  
18 further.

19 THE COURT: Let me just ask you. We've obviously  
20 heard a lot, argued a lot about the relevant Fifth Circuit  
21 authority, *Craig's Stores*, the *Enron Newby* case. Are there  
22 any other circuits that have weighed in on this?

23 I mean, it is so very common, as we all know, in the world  
24 of bankruptcy to have a Chapter 11 plan that contemplates a  
25 liquidating trustee and a liquidating trust, and then post-

1 confirmation the liquidation trustee pursues causes of action.  
2 I mean, this is so very common. I'm just wondering, has any  
3 circuit court -- I think you all would have told me if, you  
4 know, I would care if the Third Circuit or the Second Circuit,  
5 you know, I think a district court here would care about what  
6 other circuits have said if there's anything, like, right on  
7 point from a different circuit court.

8 MS. NEWMAN: So, Your Honor, I have to confess, I  
9 don't know if this issue has been directly addressed by  
10 another circuit court. I can tell you that I am litigating a  
11 litigation trust's action in the Bankruptcy Court for the  
12 District of Delaware right now, and I looked at this issue  
13 there, and the law in the Third Circuit is very similar. It  
14 also has the same (inaudible) jurisdiction post-confirmation.  
15 But I think it's pretty well-settled within the Third Circuit  
16 that cases of this nature, that bankruptcy courts do retain  
17 jurisdiction over them.

18 I can tell you that the case that I'm litigating, we filed  
19 post-confirmation. The other side is raising the  
20 jurisdictional issue with one very small piece of the case,  
21 but they have accepted and conceded that there is jurisdiction  
22 over the litigation trust's claims, all of the litigation  
23 trust claims.

24 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

25 All right. Well, --

1 MS. DANDENEAU: Your Honor, may I --

2 THE COURT: -- Movant --

3 MS. DANDENEAU: May I respond to a couple of factual  
4 misstatements that Ms. Newman made --

5 THE COURT: Well, I --

6 MS. DANDENEAU: -- in her argument?

7 THE COURT: I always give Movants the last word, so  
8 you can do that, and any other rebuttal argument you have.  
9 Uh-huh.

10 MS. DANDENEAU: Thank you, Your Honor.

11 First of all, just with respect to whether any other  
12 circuit courts have weighed in, we have not looked at that,  
13 and one of the reasons is because the Third Circuit in *Craig's*  
14 *Stores* really distinguished itself --

15 THE COURT: The Fifth Circuit.

16 MS. DANDENEAU: -- and distinguished its law -- I  
17 mean, I'm sorry.

18 THE COURT: Yes.

19 MS. DANDENEAU: The Fifth Circuit.

20 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

21 MS. DANDENEAU: I was thinking, like, I'm running  
22 through the circuits in my head. By saying our standard is  
23 more exacting. And the only other circuit to which I've seen  
24 reference -- and we've not looked at the cases -- is that in  
25 the -- and there is a district court decision in *Newby v.*

1 *Enron*, which is 2005 U.S. Dist. Ct. LEXIS 34032, which doesn't  
2 relate to -- it references post-confirmation jurisdiction but  
3 it really related to whether the causes of action were  
4 preserved, but that references the Second Circuit as having  
5 similar exacting standards.

6 So, again, Your Honor, I think that that's why we -- we  
7 focused, putting aside that it's the binding precedent, we  
8 focused on Fifth Circuit law, because the Fifth Circuit has  
9 been very adamant in terms of that it's different from some of  
10 the other courts that may have more relaxing standards.

11 The specific things I want to point out is that Ms. Newman  
12 referred to the UBS settlement motion. I want to note that  
13 that motion was filed in April of 2021, which was post-  
14 confirmation.

15 Moreover, I believe she also -- I don't know if Your Honor  
16 referred to it or Ms. Newman referred to the -- kind of the  
17 authorization of the UCC to pursue claims. I believe that's  
18 the January 2020 settlement. That authorization specifically  
19 did not include claims against current employees. By the way,  
20 that's at the Highland bankruptcy Docket 281-1 at Page 2 in  
21 the definition of estate claims.

22 And then also in October, October 27, 2020, Mr. Pomerantz  
23 on behalf of the Debtor said that the Debtor was not aware of  
24 and the UCC had not identified any claims against the Former  
25 Employees. Again, that's on the Highland docket at Docket

1 1312, Page 16, and Pages 33 to 34.

2 I would note that, as -- for what it's worth, as recently  
3 as December 18, 2020, the Debtor was actually offering blanket  
4 releases to the senior employees, including Mr. Ellington and  
5 Mr. Leventon, in exchange for reduced claims.

6 So the suggestion, at least with respect to Mr. Ellington  
7 and Mr. Leventon, that there was "antagonism" prior to  
8 confirmation is really not grounded in fact in this case.

9 I have nothing further, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Okay.

11 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: Your Honor?

12 THE COURT: Just --

13 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: Your Honor, may I respond to a  
14 couple of points on the withdrawal, mandatory withdrawal  
15 issues, before we conclude?

16 THE COURT: Yes, but just a moment. I want to go  
17 back. I mean, this is big-picture policy, maybe, but I still  
18 want to ask about it. As I mentioned to Ms. Newman, Ms.  
19 Dandeneau, this feels like a big-deal issue to me, because  
20 for, you know, twenty-plus years, it has been so common a  
21 structure for Chapter 11 cases that we have essentially a  
22 liquidating plan, a monetization plan, whatever term you want  
23 to use, where a liquidation trust is created and you have a  
24 liquidating trustee bringing all sorts of post-confirmation  
25 adversary proceedings. And sometimes they're filed in

1 bankruptcy Court. Sometimes they're filed in state court.  
2 Sometimes they're filed in federal district court. But a lot  
3 of times they're filed in bankruptcy court.

4 So what I'm going to ask you is this: Taking your  
5 argument to its logical conclusion, here's what I wonder  
6 about. What about a litigation trustee who, post-  
7 confirmation, brings 200 avoidance actions -- preferences,  
8 fraudulent transfers -- and there was a retention of these  
9 claims in a plan, but no demand letters, no communication at  
10 all between the debtor or a committee and these defendants?  
11 So, under your definition, no antagonism. Would it be your  
12 argument that the liquidating trustee couldn't sue in the  
13 bankruptcy court for all these preferences?

14 MS. DANDENEAU: Absolutely not, Your Honor. And in  
15 fact, we acknowledged in our brief and I acknowledge here that  
16 with respect to the core claims the bankruptcy has core  
17 jurisdiction. And the cases have said --

18 THE COURT: What about *Stern* -- these are *Stern*  
19 claims, though. If you've got a defendant who --

20 MS. DANDENEAU: But that's a jury trial. That's a  
21 jury trial right. That's a jury trial right and the right of  
22 the Court, whether the Court has the authority to render final  
23 findings of fact and adjudications, you know, and conclusions  
24 of law, which are always subject to *de novo* review anyway.  
25 But that --

1 THE COURT: Is it really --

2 MS. DANDENEAU: -- does not go to --

3 THE COURT: Is it really --

4 MS. DANDENEAU: -- whether the bank --

5 THE COURT: Is it really just a jury trial issue, or  
6 did *Stern v. Marshall* make it an authority issue? An  
7 authority, well, I don't know, jurisdiction of the bankruptcy  
8 court? I'm just trying to, I mean, --

9 MS. DANDENEAU: No, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: -- it's a *Stern* claim. It's statutory  
11 core, but the Supreme Court says no authority to adjudicate if  
12 it's not integral to resolving a proof of claim. So I'm just  
13 trying to understand how this is distinguishable to that  
14 hypothetical.

15 MS. DANDENEAU: Well, that's certainly -- actually,  
16 Your Honor, that's certainly interesting. The Fifth Circuit,  
17 though, I believe, has made that distinction between  
18 statutorily core claims and basically have carved those out of  
19 this construct in terms of bankruptcy court post-confirmation  
20 jurisdiction and has really focused on -- and in fact, that's  
21 why a lot of -- I believe I cited to one of the cases in which  
22 there was a dispute over a sale order, and -- and I can -- if  
23 you'll just give me a moment, I can find it -- there was a --  
24 the case of *Baker v. Baker*. And this was a case, it actually  
25 was appealed to the Fifth Circuit, where it -- they said this

1 is a core matter because it required the bankruptcy judge to  
2 interpret and enforce an amended order of sale and a deed in  
3 order to carry out a Chapter 11 plan, even though there was a  
4 dispute that arose post-confirmation.

5 So the courts have made a distinction when it comes to  
6 core actions as -- that is vested in the authority of the  
7 bankruptcy court. And the issue of whether the Court has the  
8 authority to conduct a jury trial or to make final findings of  
9 fact or conclusions of law, the courts have treated that issue  
10 separately.

11 So I certainly do not take the position, Your Honor, that  
12 the policy of bringing avoidance actions or preference claims  
13 should be completely disrupted.

14 And I will say, Your Honor, we don't -- we don't --  
15 notwithstanding any -- we don't approach this issue lightly,  
16 which is why I personally have read every single one of these  
17 cases and why we have been very careful to delineate this.  
18 And I really think that the real issue here is, again, given  
19 the importance of this issue, and given the potential that the  
20 Court does not have jurisdiction, why -- why is -- why is the  
21 Litigation Trustee fighting so hard to keep it before Your  
22 Honor for pretrial purposes? Okay. And why wouldn't -- why  
23 would you recommend if there's any doubt that -- about the  
24 scope of the bankruptcy court's jurisdiction?

25 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

1 MR. PHILLIPS: Your Honor?

2 THE COURT: Mr. Glueckstein, go ahead.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: Your Honor?

4 MR. GLUECKSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor. Again,  
5 Brian Glueckstein, representing the Okada Parties.

6 Just to respond to a few points on the tax/mandatory  
7 withdrawal argument. Resuming our presentation, you know,  
8 again, retreats to the issue of whether or not the Trustee can  
9 utilize the tax statute under Section 544. There's a whole  
10 slide in the presentation about *Ruby's Diner*, which is a  
11 district court case in California.

12 The issue in that case as described by the Court is that  
13 the defendants there were arguing for mandatory withdrawal to  
14 adjudicate the issue of the fact that the trust -- that the  
15 plaintiff there had invoked a ten-year IRS statute of  
16 limitations under 6502. We heard nothing about the issue that  
17 needs to be addressed here, which is the question of whether  
18 or not 6502 itself is forward-looking or backward-looking for  
19 purposes of considering the facts here and the assessment or  
20 non-assessment of taxes by the IRS because the Litigation  
21 Trustee here is looking to utilize this to go further back in  
22 time than the IRS has asserted claims. That is a different --  
23 that is a new fact. That's a different issue.

24 Ms. Newman suggested, well, in some of the cases where  
25 bankruptcy courts have looked at this question, they've done

1 it on a -- looked and agreed it can be utilized on the basis  
2 of state law, state fraudulent transfer law.

3 The issue here, Your Honor, is, again, this is an issue  
4 for another day about the statute of limitations under a Texas  
5 state fraudulent transfer law, but the Trustee here is seeking  
6 to avoid transfers that go back earlier in time that only can  
7 be put at issue if 6502 can be utilized. Further than the  
8 federal statute, further than the Texas state statute.

9 And finally, Your Honor, the presentation suggested, well,  
10 the cases that are cited to in our papers and that are  
11 referred to by the Court in the *Gordon* decision reflecting  
12 some disagreement of issue -- of opinion with respect to the  
13 question of whether this is a forward-looking collection  
14 statute or a lookback were decided by bankruptcy courts.  
15 That's true. But as I said in our colloquy earlier, those  
16 decisions did not address the issue here. Those were not  
17 motions to withdraw the reference. All of those cases were  
18 dealing with other issues -- motions to dismiss, motions for  
19 summary judgment. The issue here is the standard to withdraw  
20 the reference under 157(d), and this issue, that is unsettled,  
21 is grounds for withdrawal that is mandated by Congress.

22 And I had one final point, Your Honor, because Your Honor  
23 asked earlier. Well, we have not seen, for the reasons I  
24 articulated, the intersection between these two issues,  
25 because I think the facts here are somewhat unique. There

1 certainly are cases, including one we cite in our papers from  
2 the District of Delaware, *CM Holdings*, where the Court there  
3 decided, because there were unsettled federal tax issues that  
4 needed to be adjudicated in order to resolve the bankruptcy  
5 issues, withdrawal should be mandated under 157(b). And  
6 that's 221 B.R. 715 that's cited to in our papers.

7 So we do submit, Your Honor, that the fact here that 6502  
8 needs to be interpreted is grounds for mandatory withdrawal.  
9 And that would, Your Honor, of course avoid all of the  
10 questions that are being debated today with respect to subject  
11 matter jurisdiction, because once mandatory withdrawal is  
12 invoked and determined to be necessary by this Court, then  
13 immediate withdrawal is appropriate.

14 Thank you, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Ms. Deitsch-  
16 Perez, any rebuttal?

17 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Yes, just very briefly. The  
18 Litigation Trustee argues as if the one example of an SEC  
19 order we gave was the basis, the entire basis for the  
20 application of securities law. That misses the point. The  
21 point is that every count against the Advisors is based on the  
22 general premise that the reason the Advisors were created and  
23 undertook the transactions that they undertook was to -- was  
24 as lifeboats, was to siphon them away from HCMLP, when in fact  
25 the reason for their creation and their separation from

1 Highland was to comply with securities law by ensuring that  
2 the institutional business was separated from the retail  
3 business. And this will develop as the case goes on, as we  
4 get access to data that's on the Highland server. And so  
5 there will be increasing implications of the securities law.

6 And it is sufficient under the cases that these issues  
7 come up as a defense. So the fact that this case -- that the  
8 Trustee hasn't brought securities law claims is not  
9 dispositive. The lack of concrete examples at this point,  
10 because we're at a very preliminary stage of the litigation,  
11 is not dispositive. But it's the structure of the Trustee's  
12 claims that raises the issue here that's going to come up over  
13 and over again as to why is it that these companies were  
14 formed and why did they undertake the transactions. And each  
15 of the claims has some either element in the claim or defense  
16 in the claim that will make that pertinent.

17 For example, for tortious interference, justification is a  
18 defense. For the fraudulent transfers, there may be issues of  
19 good faith or bad faith. For the equitable claims, the same  
20 is true. And that's why it's significant and why mandatory  
21 withdrawal of the reference at this point prevents this from  
22 becoming a problem later on in the case and losing  
23 efficiencies that you would otherwise gain by moving the case  
24 now.

25 Thank you.

1 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

2 All right. One thing that the district courts like the  
3 bankruptcy judges to put in Reports & Recommendations is  
4 information about who's filed a proof of claim, you know,  
5 going to the potential jury trial rights. I think I heard at  
6 our last hearing on the motion for stay that -- I first  
7 remember hearing that there's only one party left of the 23  
8 Defendants that has a pending proof of claim, and I think that  
9 was Waterhouse. And then I heard, well, no, maybe there are  
10 three parties left. So could someone clarify that for me?

11 MS. DANDENEAU: Your Honor, this is Debra Dandeneau.  
12 I can speak for Mr. -- for the Former Employee Defendants. We  
13 have no remaining proofs of claim. Everything has been kind  
14 of expunged with prejudice by court order and agreement with  
15 Highland and the Litigation Trustee.

16 Mr. Waterhouse -- it wasn't even Mr. Waterhouse. It was  
17 CPCM, which held the Waterhouse claim. And the sole count in  
18 the complaint dealing with CPCM and Mr. Waterhouse had to do  
19 with that claim. And as I stated, that claim is being  
20 resolved. So, for purposes of your report, there are no  
21 claims held by the Former Employee Defendants.

22 THE COURT: Okay. You said the Waterhouse claim, the  
23 CPCM claim that relates to Waterhouse, it's being resolved?

24 MS. DANDENEAU: Yes, Your Honor. We have agreed with  
25 the Debtor, we have an agreement in principle to essentially

1 withdraw that claim. And so we are just in the process --  
2 this was agreed last week and this will also resolve the  
3 litigation, you might be pleased to know, dealing with the  
4 motion to essentially reconsider the Waterhouse stipulation.

5 So, as part of that resolution, we are -- we have agreed  
6 to withdraw the CPCM claims, any -- any other claims that  
7 might exist with respect to the Former Employee Defendants.  
8 And I believe they're all held by CPCM.

9 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So, Ms. Newman, does  
10 that mean there are no Defendants of these 23 that have  
11 pending proofs of claim?

12 MR. PHILLIPS: Your Honor, Louis M. Phillips on  
13 behalf of CLO Holdco. CLO Holdco has amended its claim to  
14 assert a claim -- it was amended to zero, with reservation.  
15 We have amended it to assert a claim that we don't know the  
16 exact amount of because it depends on the purchase price paid  
17 by Highland and credit given for that purchase price in the  
18 arbitration and in the settlement regarding the Crusader  
19 interests.

20 That matter, I think we moved it to May. I've forgotten  
21 the date in May. There's a pending objection. And we have  
22 that claim on file. CLO Holdco is a transferee of a  
23 transferee of a transferee of a transferee, maybe of a  
24 transferee. So its liability, if any, here in connection with  
25 the avoidance action component of the complaint is derivative

1 of the liability of all transferees before it.

2 But we do have one claim pending on behalf of one of my  
3 clients that's up for a hearing on the assertion by the  
4 Liquidation Trustee and the -- I think the Liquidation  
5 Trustee, that -- that amendment is not viable as an amended  
6 claim. We are -- we've agreed to limit -- and Ms. Newman can  
7 tell me if she disagrees with this -- but I believe our notion  
8 is that we have agreed to limit the hearing on -- in May to  
9 the issue of the viability of the amendment and not the amount  
10 of the claim and not the allowability of the claim, but merely  
11 whether the amendment is -- posits a viable claim by virtue of  
12 amendment.

13 And so there will be no real -- we would have evidence  
14 simply of the claim and of the basis for the claim so that you  
15 could make a decision about the same transaction occurrence  
16 and the -- and the standard we think is applicable, and they  
17 will say that we don't think the amendment is viable, but we  
18 would not be trying the amount of the proof of claim.

19 So that's the one claim that still exists. That's one  
20 claim that still exists. I don't know about other claims.  
21 But none of my other clients have proofs of claim that have  
22 ever been filed. No other claims.

23 THE COURT: Thank you. Ms. Newman, is this the only  
24 potential proof of claim, amendment to proof of claim, of CLO  
25 Holdco that is out there of the 23 Defendants?

1 MS. NEWMAN: That is my understanding, Your Honor.  
2 The Pachulski firm is handling some of -- some of the claims,  
3 so I would like to confirm with them. But I'm not aware of  
4 any other claim besides the CLO Holdco potentially amended  
5 complaint, whether or not that complaint is in dispute, but  
6 certainly for purposes of your question, though, as a pending  
7 claim. And if any of the counsel are aware of any other  
8 claims, I would expect that certainly any of the claims that  
9 any of the counsel here have (inaudible) claims.

10 THE COURT: Okay. So anyone out there, any counsel  
11 out there for any Defendants, if you have a proof of claim  
12 still unresolved in the case, could you let me know?

13 MS. DANDENEAU: Your Honor, I don't want to speak for  
14 anybody else, but I know that the counsel on the line for  
15 Hunter Mountain and Rand, I really don't know what their  
16 status is. I'm -- I -- my understanding was that they might  
17 have a proof of claim out there. But, again, that's --  
18 they're not my clients, and I know that somebody's kind of  
19 filling in for their lead counsel, so I just -- they may want  
20 to check on that.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Levick, do you know the  
22 answer?

23 MR. LEVICK: Zachary Levick of Rochelle McCullough on  
24 behalf of Hunter Mountain Trust and Rand. I am not certain of  
25 the answer right now. I'm going to find out from Mr. Keiffer

1 and I will let the Court know as soon as possible, or  
2 alternatively, I can let Ms. Newman know.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Yes. If you could send an email  
4 to my courtroom deputy, Ms. Ellison, and copy all of the other  
5 counsel on that email, --

6 MR. LEVICK: Yes, ma'am.

7 THE COURT: -- letting her know yes or no.

8 MR. LEVICK: Okay.

9 THE COURT: All right. Well, obviously, I'm going to  
10 take this under advisement and try to get the Report &  
11 Recommendation out as soon as possible.

12 You know, I'll just say that I sometimes question my  
13 sanity, angsting so much and thinking so hard on something  
14 like this. I could maybe take an easy route and just say,  
15 look, if it's going to be withdrawn, the reference, at some  
16 point, maybe you shouldn't do brain damage here and just  
17 immediately -- suggest the District Court immediately withdraw  
18 the reference.

19 But I am duty-bound to do my job, and as I said, that it's  
20 been the typical practice of mine as well as, I think, all the  
21 other bankruptcy judges in our district to usually recommend  
22 that the District Court only withdraw the reference upon  
23 certification by the Bankruptcy Court that the matter is  
24 trial-ready, and therefore defer to the bankruptcy judge the  
25 handling of pretrial matters, essentially acting as a

1 magistrate.

2 I feel duty-bound to do that if I think that this is a  
3 matter where there's at least bankruptcy related-to subject  
4 matter jurisdiction. Otherwise, I think the district judge is  
5 going to think, why are you doing this? I'm just going to  
6 have to get a magistrate to help me if I don't have a  
7 bankruptcy judge to help me.

8 So I'm going to give this very careful thought. As I  
9 said, these are big-deal issues, partly because this is such a  
10 common scenario where you have a liquidating trust bringing  
11 lots of post-confirmation litigation. And I think we tend to  
12 assume in a situation that if it's prepetition conduct  
13 involved, or at least pre-confirmation conduct involved, and  
14 it's contemplated by the plan to be pursued by a liquidating  
15 trustee, and the recovery is available to the beneficiaries of  
16 the trust, that that bears on the implementation of the plan.  
17 But I'm going to look carefully at this issue because subject  
18 matter jurisdiction is a big deal.

19 The next thing I'm going to ask -- I've got something else  
20 to ask -- is we have a setting next week, right, in what I'll  
21 call the Note Litigation on motions for summary judgment. And  
22 I can't remember, is it all of the note adversaries or is it  
23 just -- it is? So we're talking how many motions for summary  
24 judgment? Five motions for summary judgment. I am thinking  
25 about continuing that *sua sponte* two or three weeks because

1 I'd rather my law clerk and I spend our time reading these  
2 cases and doing our Report & Recommendation to the District  
3 Court before we have to delve into the next meaty issue. I'm  
4 thinking all of the counsel involved in those motions for  
5 summary judgment are probably on this call. Maybe not. Maybe  
6 not.

7 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I think we're not. This is  
8 Deborah Deitsch-Perez from Stinson. I don't think we're all  
9 on the call. But if you would like me to, after this hearing  
10 is over, canvas the others and let your deputy know some  
11 availabilities, I could do that.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Again, I'm not looking at pushing  
13 it down the road too far into the future. I'm just saying two  
14 or three weeks so we can get this one out. Otherwise, we'll  
15 be juggling a lot. Basically, what we'll have to do is not do  
16 any work on this and start gearing up for next week. And I'd  
17 rather finish this while it's fresh on my mind.

18 Anyone else want to speak up --

19 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: And Your Honor, --

20 THE COURT: Oh, go ahead.

21 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: -- I was just going to say, there  
22 are two other motions as well. One, two, three, four. Four  
23 other motions. There's an omnibus motion by the Debtor to  
24 hold everybody in contempt for making a proffer of evidence.  
25 There's a motion for sanctions by the Debtor for the same

1 thing. There is a motion to strike evidence. And then  
2 there's a motion to strike some reply affidavit and evidence  
3 put in only in reply by the Debtor.

4 So there are the summary judgment motions plus those other  
5 motions. So I was just saying that to ask whether that  
6 affected the amount of time you wanted to adjourn, --

7 THE COURT: All right.

8 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: -- how much time you would need  
9 for a hearing.

10 THE COURT: Yes. What date is this set, Nate?

11 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: It's now set --

12 MR. POMERANTZ: Your Honor?

13 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: -- for the 23rd.

14 THE COURT: It's the 23rd?

15 MR. POMERANTZ: Your Honor, this is Jeff Pomerantz  
16 for -- this is Jeff Pomerantz from Pachulski. Greg Demo and I  
17 have been listening on.

18 THE COURT: Okay.

19 MR. POMERANTZ: We understand. I mean, we are -- we  
20 wanted to proceed with the summary judgment. We understand  
21 Your Honor's desire to deal with this when fresh in your mind.  
22 But we would request the first available time thereafter and  
23 are not looking for an extended continuance, as I don't think  
24 that Your Honor contemplated that, but we would like to get  
25 into court as soon as Your Honor is able to hear us after

1 you've been able to address today's hearing.

2 THE COURT: Okay. So that -- it was going to be next  
3 Wednesday. Did we have all day reserved for that? Does  
4 anyone know what the time estimate?

5 Is Traci back from vacation, or no, Mike? Traci, are you  
6 out there?

7 (Clerk advises.)

8 THE COURT: We had them all day? Okay. Well, we had  
9 you all all day for next Wednesday. Let me just ask this. I  
10 mean, do you all think it's an all-day thing? It sounds like  
11 it probably is.

12 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I mean, I think --

13 MR. POMERANTZ: From our perspective, --

14 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Pomerantz.

15 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I was going to say, or we could  
16 separate -- or -- I mean, some of the issues are possibly  
17 separable if Your Honor wanted to put it over two days --

18 THE COURT: What --

19 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: -- and have -- and not have your  
20 whole day taken up.

21 MR. POMERANTZ: Your Honor, I would suggest, I mean,  
22 Mr. Morris -- Mr. Morris is handling this, who's not on the  
23 phone, but I would think we'd want to have it heard all at the  
24 same time. I mean, obviously, if Your Honor didn't have time,  
25 we'd have to spill over to the next day. But from my

1 conversations with Mr. Morris previously, I believe a full day  
2 should more than cover the hearings before the Court. It's  
3 not going to be an evidentiary hearing.

4 THE COURT: Well, what about the motion --

5 MR. POMERANTZ: I don't believe.

6 THE COURT: The motion for contempt. That'll be  
7 evidentiary, right?

8 MR. POMERANTZ: I'm not sure it is. Again, Your  
9 Honor, Mr. Morris is lead on that. It's pretty much an  
10 interpretation of Your Honor's prior orders. I don't think  
11 there's really a dispute what the facts are. I think the  
12 question is (a) applying the facts to what your prior orders  
13 are, and whether what Defendants did were appropriate or not.

14 THE COURT: Okay.

15 MR. POMERANTZ: So I don't believe -- again, subject  
16 to speaking to Mr. Morris -- that really there's evidence like  
17 the prior contempt hearings.

18 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, I'm going to  
19 have Traci reach out to you all tomorrow, all of the lawyers  
20 involved in the next Wednesday hearings in the Note  
21 Litigation, about resetting this. And what I'll do, just to  
22 be on the safe side, I'm going to -- I'm going to give you two  
23 days in a row. Set it all the same time, but if we don't  
24 finish we'll have the next day to spill over to.

25 And I will commit to you we're going to do this two or

1 three weeks out, not a month or two out. We'll find the first  
2 available slot two or three weeks out so we don't --

3 MR. POMERANTZ: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: -- delay this very long.

5 All right. So you'll all be hearing from Traci on that  
6 front tomorrow. And, again, it's our aim to get our Report &  
7 Recommendation to Judge Scholer in the next two or three weeks  
8 on this one, if not sooner.

9 All right. Well, thank you all for your arguments. If  
10 there is nothing further, we're adjourned.

11 THE CLERK: All rise.

12 MS. DANDENEAU: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 (Proceedings concluded at 3:37 p.m.)

15 --oOo--

16

17

18

19

CERTIFICATE

20 I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from  
21 the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the  
above-entitled matter.

22 **/s/ Kathy Rehling**

**03/31/2022**

23

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Rehling, CETD-444  
Certified Electronic Court Transcriber

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

24

25

INDEX

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

PROCEEDINGS	4
WITNESSES	
-none-	
EXHIBITS	
Former Employees' Exhibits FE-1 through FE-4 (Docket 109)	Received 12
RULING - <i>Taken Under Advisement</i>	73
Status Conference re: Motion for Withdrawal of Reference filed by Defendants Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P., NexPoint Advisors, L.P. (39)	
Motion for Withdrawal of Reference filed by Defendant CLO HOLDCO, LTD.; Charitable DAF Holdco, Ltd., Defendant Charitable DAF Fund, LP, Defendant Highland Dallas Foundation, Inc. (59)	
Status Conference re: Motion for Withdrawal of Reference filed by Defendant Grant James Scott III (50)	
Status Conference re: Motion for Withdrawal of Reference filed by Defendants Dugaboy Investment Trust and Nancy Dondero, as Trustee of Dugaboy Investment Trust, James D. Dondero, Get Good Trust, and Grant James Scott III, as Trustee of Get Good Trust (45)	
Status Conference re: Motion for Withdrawal of Reference filed by Defendant CPCM, LLC, Defendant Scott Ellington, Defendant Isaac Leventon, Defendant Frank Waterhouse (27)	

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

INDEX  
Page 2

RULINGS, cont'd.

Status Conference re: Motion for Withdrawal of Reference filed by Defendant Mark & Pamela Okada Family Trust Exempt Trust #1 and Lawrence Tonomura as Trustee of Mark & Pamela Okada Family Trust Exempt Trust #1, Defendant Mark & Pamela Okada Family Trust Exempt Trust #2 and Lawrence Tonomura in his Capacity as Trustee of Mark & Pamela Okada Family Trust Exempt Trust #2, Defendant Mark Okada (36)

END OF PROCEEDINGS

79

INDEX

80-81

**EXHIBIT 2**

**Proof of Claim No. 252, filed October 6, 2021 by the Internal Revenue Service, in *In re:*  
*Highland Capital Management, L.P.*, No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.)**

**Fill in this information to identify the case:**

Debtor 1 HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT L P

Debtor 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Spouse, if filing)

United States Bankruptcy Court for the: NORTHERN District of TEXAS

Case number 19-34054-SGJ11

Official Form 410

**Proof of Claim**

04/19

Read the instructions before filling out this form. This form is for making a claim for payment in a bankruptcy case. Do not use this form to make a request for payment of an administrative expense. Make such a request according to 11 U.S.C. § 503.

Filers must leave out or redact information that is entitled to privacy on this form or on any attached documents. Attach redacted copies of any documents that support the claim, such as promissory notes, purchase orders, invoices, itemized statements of running accounts, contracts, judgments, mortgages, and security agreements. Do not send original documents; they may be destroyed after scanning. If the documents are not available, explain in an attachment.

A person who files a fraudulent claim could be fined up to \$500,000, imprisoned for up to 5 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 157, and 3571.

Fill in all the information about the claim as of the date the case was filed. That date is on the notice of bankruptcy (Form 309) that you received.

**Part 1: Identify the Claim**

1. Who is the current creditor? Department of Treasury - Internal Revenue Service  
Name of the current creditor (the person or entity to be paid for this claim)

Other names the creditor used with the debtor \_\_\_\_\_

2. Has this claim been acquired from someone else?  No  
 Yes. From whom? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where should notices and payments to the creditor be sent? <small>Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure (FRBP) 2002(g)</small>	Where should notices to the creditor be sent?	Where should payments to the creditor be sent? (if different)
	<u>Internal Revenue Service</u> Name <u>P.O. Box 7346</u> Number Street <u>Philadelphia PA 19101-7346</u> City State ZIP Code Contact phone <u>1-800-973-0424</u> Contact email _____ Creditor Number: <u>18833095</u> Uniform claim identifier for electronic payments in chapter 13 (if you use one): _____	<u>Internal Revenue Service</u> Name <u>1100 Commerce St, M/S MC5027DAL</u> Number Street <u>Dallas TX 75242</u> City State ZIP Code Contact phone <u>214 413-5327</u> Contact email <u>faye.g.garrett@irs.gov</u>

4. Does this claim amend one already filed?  No  
 Yes. Claim number on court claims registry (if known) 5 Filed on 02/13/2020  
MM / DD / YYYY

5. Do you know if anyone else has filed a proof of claim for this claim?  No  
 Yes. Who made the earlier filing? \_\_\_\_\_



**Part 2: Give Information About the Claim as of the Date the Case Was Filed**

6. Do you have any number you use to identify the debtor?  No  
 Yes. Last 4 digits of the debtor's account or any number you use to identify the debtor: See Attachment \_\_\_\_\_

7. How much is the claim? \$ 86,793.98. Does this amount include interest or other charges?  
 No  
 Yes. Attach statement itemizing interest, fees, expenses, or other charges required by Bankruptcy Rule 3001(c)(2)(A).

8. What is the basis of the claim? Examples: Goods sold, money loaned, lease, services performed, personal injury or wrongful death, or credit card.  
 Attach redacted copies of any documents supporting the claim required by Bankruptcy Rule 3001(c).  
 Limit disclosing information that is entitled to privacy, such as health care information.  
 Taxes \_\_\_\_\_

9. Is all or part of the claim secured?  No  
 Yes. The claim is secured by a lien on property.  
**Nature of property:**  
 Real estate. If the claim is secured by the debtor's principal residence, file a *Mortgage Proof of Claim Attachment* (Official Form 410-A) with this *Proof of Claim*.  
 Motor vehicle  
 Other. Describe: \*All of debtor(s) right, title and interest to property - 26 U.S.C. §6321.  
**Basis for perfection:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attach redacted copies of documents, if any, that show evidence of perfection of a security interest (for example, a mortgage, lien, certificate of title, financing statement, or other document that shows the lien has been filed or recorded.)  
**Value of property:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Amount of the claim that is secured:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Amount of the claim that is unsecured:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (The sum of the secured and unsecured amounts should match the amount in line 7.)  
**Amount necessary to cure any default as of the date of the petition:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Annual Interest Rate** (when case was filed) \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 Fixed  
 Variable

10. Is this claim based on a lease?  No  
 Yes. Amount necessary to cure any default as of the date of the petition. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

11. Is this claim subject to a right of setoff?  No  
 Yes. Identify the property: See Attachment \_\_\_\_\_

12. Is all or part of the claim entitled to priority under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)?  No  Yes. Check one:

A claim may be partly priority and partly nonpriority. For example, in some categories, the law limits the amount entitled to priority.

	Amount entitled to priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic support obligations (including alimony and child support) under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(1)(A) or (a)(1)(B).	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Up to \$3,025* of deposits toward purchase, lease, or rental of property or services for personal, family, or household use. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(7).	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Wages, salaries, or commissions (up to \$13,650*) earned within 180 days before the bankruptcy petition is filed or the debtor's business ends, whichever is earlier. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(4).	\$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taxes or penalties owed to governmental units. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(8).	\$ <u>1,951.69</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributions to an employee benefit plan. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(5).	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Specify subsection of 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(____) that applies.	\$ _____

\* Amounts are subject to adjustment on 4/01/22 and every 3 years after that for cases begun on or after the date of adjustment.

**Part 3: Sign Below**

The person completing this proof of claim must sign and date it. FRBP 9011(b).

If you file this claim electronically, FRBP 5005(a)(2) authorizes courts to establish local rules specifying what a signature is.

A person who files a fraudulent claim could be fined up to \$500,000, imprisoned for up to 5 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 157, and 3571.

Check the appropriate box:

- I am the creditor.
- I am the creditor's attorney or authorized agent.
- I am the trustee, or the debtor, or their authorized agent. Bankruptcy Rule 3004.
- I am a guarantor, surety, endorser, or other codebtor. Bankruptcy Rule 3005.

I understand that an authorized signature on this *Proof of Claim* serves as an acknowledgment that when calculating the amount of the claim, the creditor gave the debtor credit for any payments received toward the debt.

I have examined the information in this *Proof of Claim* and have a reasonable belief that the information is true and correct.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on date 10/06/2021  
MM / DD / YYYY

/s/ FAYE COPPLE

Signature

Print the name of the person who is completing and signing this claim:

Name	FAYE	COPPLE
	First name	Last name
Title	Bankruptcy Specialist	
Company	Internal Revenue Service	
	Identify the corporate servicer as the company if the authorized agent is a servicer.	
Address	1100 Commerce St, M/S MC5027DAL	
	Number Street	
	Dallas	TX 75242
	City	State ZIP Code
Contact phone	<u>214 413-5327</u>	Email <u>faye.g.garrett@irs.gov</u>

# Proof of Claim for Internal Revenue Taxes



Form 410  
Attachment

Department of the Treasury/Internal Revenue Service

**In the Matter of:** HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT L P

100 CRESCENT COURT  
SUITE 1850  
DALLAS, TX 75201

Case Number  
19-34054-SGJ11

Type of Bankruptcy Case  
CHAPTER 11

Date of Petition  
10/16/2019

Amendment No. 5 to Proof of Claim dated 02/13/2020

The United States has the right of setoff or counterclaim. However, this determination is based on available data and is not intended to waive any right to setoff against this claim debts owed to this debtor by this or any other federal agency. All rights of setoff are preserved and will be asserted to the extent lawful.

**Unsecured Priority Claims** under section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code

<i>Taxpayer ID Number</i>	<i>Kind of Tax</i>	<i>Tax Period</i>	<i>Date Tax Assessed</i>	<i>Tax Due</i>	<i>Interest to Petition Date</i>
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	06/30/2015	01/04/2021	\$530.40	\$123.82
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	06/30/2016	10/11/2021	\$564.20	\$171.21
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	06/30/2017	02/08/2021	\$492.68	\$69.38
				\$1,587.28	\$364.41

**Total Amount of Unsecured Priority Claims: \$1,951.69**

**Unsecured General Claims**

<i>Taxpayer ID Number</i>	<i>Kind of Tax</i>	<i>Tax Period</i>	<i>Date Tax Assessed</i>	<i>Tax Due</i>	<i>Interest to Petition Date</i>
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	12/31/2017	11/12/2018	\$0.00	\$4,742.54
				\$0.00	\$4,742.54

Penalty to date of petition on unsecured priority claims (including interest thereon) . . . . \$660.97  
 Penalty to date of petition on unsecured general claims (including interest thereon) . . . . \$79,438.78

**Total Amount of Unsecured General Claims: \$84,842.29**

**EXHIBIT 3**

**Proof of Claim No. 32, filed February 13, 2020 by the Internal Revenue Service, in *In re:*  
*Highland Capital Management, L.P.*, No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.)**

**Fill in this information to identify the case:**

Debtor 1 HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT L P

Debtor 2  
 (Spouse, if filing) \_\_\_\_\_

United States Bankruptcy Court for the: NORTHERN District of TEXAS  
 (State)

Case number 19-34054-SGJ11

Official Form 410  
**Proof of Claim**

04/19

Read the instructions before filling out this form. This form is for making a claim for payment in a bankruptcy case. Do not use this form to make a request for payment of an administrative expense. Make such a request according to 11 U.S.C. § 503.

Filers must leave out or redact information that is entitled to privacy on this form or on any attached documents. Attach redacted copies of any documents that support the claim, such as promissory notes, purchase orders, invoices, itemized statements of running accounts, contracts, judgments, mortgages, and security agreements. Do not send original documents; they may be destroyed after scanning. If the documents are not available, explain in an attachment.

A person who files a fraudulent claim could be fined up to \$500,000, imprisoned for up to 5 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 157, and 3571.

Fill in all the information about the claim as of the date the case was filed. That date is on the notice of bankruptcy (Form 309) that you received.

**Part 1: Identify the Claim**

**1. Who is the current creditor?** Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service  
 Name of the current creditor (the person or entity to be paid for this claim)

Other names the creditor used with the debtor \_\_\_\_\_

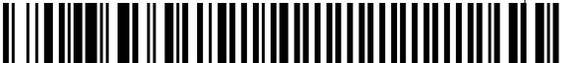
**2. Has this claim been acquired from someone else?**  No  
 Yes. From whom? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Where should notices and payments to the creditor be sent?**

Where should notices to the creditor be sent?	Where should payments to the creditor be sent? (if different)
Internal Revenue Service Name	Internal Revenue Service Name
P.O. Box 7346 Number Street	1100 Commerce St M/S MC5027DAL Number Street
Philadelphia PA 19101-7346 City State ZIP Code	Dallas TX 75242 City State ZIP Code
Contact phone <u>1-800-973-0424</u>	Contact phone <u>214 413-5327</u>
Contact email _____	Contact email _____
Creditor Number: <u>18833095</u>	
Uniform claim identifier for electronic payments in chapter 13 (if you use one) _____	

**4. Does this claim amend one already filed?**  No  
 Yes. Claim number on court claims registry (if known) \_\_\_\_\_ Filed on: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MM / DD / YYYY

**5. Do you know if anyone else has filed a proof of claim for this claim?**  No  
 Yes. Who made the earlier filing? \_\_\_\_\_



193405420021300000000001

**Part 2: Give Information About the Claim as of the Date the Case Was Filed**

6. Do you have any number you use to identify the debtor?  No  
 Yes. Last 4 digits of the debtor's account or any number you use to identify the debtor: See Attachment

7. How much is the claim? \$ 91,136.11 Does this amount include interest or other charges?  
 No  
 Yes. Attach statement itemizing interest, fees, expenses, or other charges required by Bankruptcy Rule 3001(c)(2)(A).

8. What is the basis of the claim? Examples: Goods sold, money loaned, lease, services performed, personal injury or wrongful death, or credit card.  
 Attach redacted copies of any documents supporting the claim required by Bankruptcy Rule 3001(c).  
 Limit disclosing information that is entitled to privacy, such as health care information.  
 Taxes \_\_\_\_\_

9. Is all or part of the claim secured?  No  
 Yes. The claim is secured by a lien on property.  
**Nature of property:**  
 Real Estate. If the claim is secured by the debtor's principal residence, file a Mortgage Proof of Claim Attachment (Official Form 410-A) with this Proof of Claim.  
 Motor Vehicle  
 Other. Describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Basis for perfection:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attach redacted copies of documents, if any, that show evidence of perfection of a security interest (for example, a mortgage, lien, certificate of title, financing statement, or other document that shows the lien has been filed or recorded.)  
**Value of Property:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Amount of the claim that is secured:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Amount of the claim that is unsecured:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (The sum of the secured and unsecured amounts should match the amount in line 7.)  
**Amount necessary to cure any default as of the date of the petition:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Annual Interest Rate** (when case was filed) \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 Fixed  
 Variable

10. Is this claim based on a lease?  No  
 Yes. Amount necessary to cure any default as of the date of the petition. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

11. Is this claim subject to a right of setoff?  No  
 Yes. Identify the property See Attachment

**12. Is all or part of the claim entitled to priority under 11 U.S.C. §507(a)?**

No  
 Yes. Check all that apply:

A claim may be partly priority and partly nonpriority. For example, in some categories, the law limits the amount entitled to priority.

- Domestic support obligations (including alimony and child support) under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(1)(A) or (a)(1)(B).
- Up to \$3,025\* of deposits toward purchase, lease, or rental of property or services for personal, family, or household use. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(7).
- Wages, salaries, or commissions (up to \$13,650\*) earned within 180 days before the bankruptcy petition is filed or the debtor's business ends, whichever is earlier. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(4).
- Taxes or penalties owed to governmental units. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(8).
- Contributions to an employee benefit plan. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(5).
- Other. Specify subsection of 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)( ) that applies.

Amount entitled to priority	
\$	_____
\$	_____
\$	_____
\$	5,754.79
\$	_____
\$	_____

\*Amounts are subject to adjustment on 4/01/22 and every 3 years after that for cases begun on or after the date of adjustment.

**Part 3: Sign Below**

**The person completing this proof of claim must sign and date it. FRBP 9011(b).**

If you file this claim electronically, FRBP 5005(a)(2) authorizes courts to establish local rules specifying what a signature is.

**A person who files a fraudulent claim could be fined up to \$500,000, imprisoned for up to 5 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 157, and 3571.**

Check the appropriate box:

- I am the creditor.
- I am the creditor's attorney or authorized agent.
- I am the trustee, or the debtor, or their authorized agent. Bankruptcy Rule 3004.
- I am a guarantor, surety, endorser, or other codebtor. Bankruptcy Rule 3005.

I understand that an authorized signature on this Proof of Claim serves as an acknowledgment that when calculating the amount of the claim, the creditor gave the debtor credit for any payments received toward the debt.

I have examined the information in this Proof of Claim and have a reasonable belief that the information is true and correct.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on date 02/12/2020  
 MM / DD / YYYY

/s/ FAYE GARRETT  
 (Signature)

**Print the name of the person who is completing and signing this claim:**

Name FAYE GARRETT  
 First name Middle name Last name

Title Bankruptcy Specialist

Company Internal Revenue Service  
 Identify the corporate servicer as the company if the authorized agent is a servicer.

Address 1100 Commerce St M/S MC5027DAL  
 Number Street

Dallas TX 75242  
 City State ZIP Code

Contact Phone 214 413-5327 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Proof of Claim for Internal Revenue Taxes



Form 410  
Attachment

Department of the Treasury/Internal Revenue Service

**In the Matter of:** HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT L P  
 300 CRESCENT COURT  
 SUITE 700  
 DALLAS, TX 75201

Case Number	19-34054-SGJ11
Type of Bankruptcy Case	CHAPTER 11
Date of Petition	10/16/2019

The United States has not identified a right of setoff or counterclaim. However, this determination is based on available data and is not intended to waive any right to setoff against this claim debts owed to this debtor by this or any other federal agency. All rights of setoff are preserved and will be asserted to the extent lawful.

## Unsecured Priority Claims under section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code

Taxpayer ID Number	Kind of Tax	Tax Period	Date Tax Assessed	Tax Due	Interest to Petition Date
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	09/30/2016	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	12/31/2016	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	03/31/2017	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	06/30/2017	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	09/30/2017	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	12/31/2017	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	03/31/2018	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	03/31/2018	ESTIMATED LIABILITY *	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	06/30/2018	2 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	WT-FICA	09/30/2018	ESTIMATED LIABILITY *	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	09/30/2018	3 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$599.89	\$32.58
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	12/31/2018	3 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$599.89	\$24.15
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	12/31/2018	2 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	03/31/2019	3 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$599.89	\$15.08
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	03/31/2019	2 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	06/30/2019	2 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	09/30/2019	3 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$1,788.50	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	09/30/2019	2 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	WT-FICA	12/31/2019	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	12/31/2019	4 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$294.81	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	FUTA	12/31/2019	1 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	12/31/2019	2 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	03/31/2020	2 Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
				\$5,682.98	\$71.81

**Total Amount of Unsecured Priority Claims:**

**\$5,754.79**

1 LIABILITY IS ESTIMATED BASED ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION BECAUSE THE RETURN HAS NOT BEEN FILED. THIS CLAIM MAY BE AMENDED AS NECESSARY AFTER THE DEBTOR FILES THE RETURN OR PROVIDES OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION.

2 ESTIMATED TRUST FUND RECOVERY PENALTY. IRC 6672

3 LIABILITY IS ESTIMATED BASED ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION BECAUSE THE RETURN HAS NOT BEEN FILED. THIS CLAIM MAY BE AMENDED AS NECESSARY AFTER THE DEBTOR FILES THE RETURN OR PROVIDES OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION.

4 LIABILITY IS ESTIMATED BASED ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION BECAUSE THE RETURN HAS NOT BEEN FILED. THIS CLAIM MAY BE AMENDED AS NECESSARY AFTER THE DEBTOR FILES THE RETURN OR PROVIDES OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION.

# Proof of Claim for Internal Revenue Taxes



Form 410  
Attachment

Department of the Treasury/Internal Revenue Service

**In the Matter of:** HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT L P  
 300 CRESCENT COURT  
 SUITE 700  
 DALLAS, TX 75201

Case Number	19-34054-SGJ11
Type of Bankruptcy Case	CHAPTER 11
Date of Petition	10/16/2019

## Unsecured General Claims

Taxpayer ID Number	Kind of Tax	Tax Period	Date Tax Assessed	Tax Due	Interest to Petition Date
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	12/31/2013	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	03/31/2014	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	06/30/2014	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	09/30/2014	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	12/31/2014	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	03/31/2015	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	06/30/2015	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	09/30/2015	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	12/31/2015	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	03/31/2016	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	EXCISE	06/30/2016	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
XX-XXX6725	MISC PEN	12/31/2017	11/12/2018	\$0.00	\$4,742.54
XX-XXX6725	PTRSHP	12/31/2019	/ Estimated- SEE NOTE	\$100.00	\$0.00
				\$1,200.00	\$4,742.54

Penalty to date of petition on unsecured general claims (including interest thereon) . . . . . \$79,438.78

**Total Amount of Unsecured General Claims:**

**\$85,381.32**

LIABILITY IS ESTIMATED BASED ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION BECAUSE THE RETURN HAS NOT BEEN FILED. THIS CLAIM MAY BE AMENDED AS NECESSARY AFTER THE DEBTOR FILES THE RETURN OR PROVIDES OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION.

**EXHIBIT 4**

**Order (I) Confirming the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (As Modified) and (II) Granting Related Relief, filed February 22, 2021, in *In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.*, No. 19-34054 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.) [Dkt. 1943]**



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

**ENTERED**

THE DATE OF ENTRY IS ON  
THE COURT'S DOCKET

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

Signed February 22, 2021

  
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.,<sup>1</sup> ) Case No. 19-34054-sgj11  
)  
Debtor. )

**ORDER (I) CONFIRMING THE FIFTH AMENDED  
PLAN OF REORGANIZATION OF HIGHLAND CAPITAL  
MANAGEMENT, L.P. (AS MODIFIED) AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF**

The Bankruptcy Court<sup>2</sup> having:

- a. entered, on November 24, 2020, the *Order (A) Approving the Adequacy of the Disclosure Statement, (B) Scheduling A Hearing to Confirm the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization (C) Establishing Deadline for Filing Objections to Confirmation of Plan, (D) Approving Form of Ballots, Voting Deadline and Solicitation Procedures, and (E) Approving Form and Manner of Notice* [Docket No. 1476] (the “Disclosure Statement Order”), pursuant to which the Bankruptcy Court approved the adequacy of the *Disclosure Statement Relating to the Fifth*

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings given to them in the Plan (as defined below). The rules of interpretation set forth in Article I of the Plan apply to this Confirmation Order.

*Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1473] (the “Disclosure Statement”) under section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code and authorized solicitation of the Disclosure Statement;

- b. set January 5, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time (the “Objection Deadline”), as the deadline for filing objections to confirmation of the *Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (As Modified)* [Docket No. 1808] (as amended, supplemented or modified, the “Plan”);
- c. set January 5, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. prevailing Central Time, as the deadline for voting on the Plan (the “Voting Deadline”) in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order;
- d. initially set January 13, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. prevailing Central Time, as the date and time to commence the hearing to consider confirmation of the Plan pursuant to Bankruptcy Rules 3017 and 3018, sections 1126, 1128, and 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, and the Disclosure Statement Order, which hearing was continued to January 26, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. prevailing Central Time and further continued to February 2, 2021;
- e. reviewed: (i) the Plan; (ii) the Disclosure Statement; and (iii) *Notice of (I) Entry of Order Approving Disclosure Statement; (II) Hearing to Confirm; and (III) Related Important Dates* (the “Confirmation Hearing Notice”), the form of which is attached as Exhibit 1-B to the Disclosure Statement Order;
- f. reviewed: (i) the *Debtor’s Notice of Filing of Plan Supplement for the Third Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1389] filed November 13, 2020; (ii) *Debtor’s Notice of Filing of Plan Supplement for the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1606] filed on December 18, 2020; (iii) the *Debtor’s Notice of Filing of Plan Supplement for the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1656] filed on January 4, 2021; (iv) *Notice of Filing Plan Supplement to the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (with Technical Modifications)* dated January 22, 2021 [Docket No. 1811]; and (v) *Debtor’s Notice of Filing of Plan Supplement to the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (As Modified)* on February 1, 2021 [Docket No. 1875]; (collectively, the documents listed in (i) through (v) of this paragraph, the “Plan Supplements”);
- g. reviewed: (i) the *Notice of (I) Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be Assumed by the Debtor Pursuant to the Fifth Amended Plan, (II) Cure Amounts, if Any, and (III) Related Procedures in Connection Therewith* filed on December 30, 2020 [Docket No. 1648]; (ii) the *Second Notice of (I) Executory Contracts and*

*Unexpired Leases to be Assumed by the Debtor Pursuant to the Fifth Amended Plan, (II) Cure Amounts, if Any, and (III) Related Procedures in Connection Therewith* filed on January 11, 2021 [Docket No.1719]; (iii) the *Third Notice of (I) Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be Assumed by the Debtor Pursuant to the Fifth Amended Plan, (II) Cure Amounts, if Any, and (III) Related Procedures in Connection Therewith* filed on January 15, 2021 [Docket No. 1749]; (iv) the *Notice of Withdrawal of Certain Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases from List of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be Assumed by the Debtor Pursuant to the Fifth Amended Plan* [Docket No. 1791]; (v) the *Fourth Notice of (I) Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be Assumed by the Debtor Pursuant to the Fifth Amended Plan (II) Cure Amounts, if Any, and (III) Released Procedures in Connection Therewith* filed on January 27, 2021 [Docket No. 1847]; (vi) the *Notice of Hearing on Agreed Motion to (I) Assume Nonresidential Real Property Lease with Crescent TC Investors, L.P. Upon Confirmation of Plan and (II) Extend Assumption Deadline* filed on January 28, 2021 [Docket No. 1857]; and (vii) the *Fifth Notice of (I) Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be Assumed by the Debtor Pursuant to the Fifth Amended Plan (II) Cure Amounts, if Any, and (III) Released Procedures in Connection Therewith* filed on February 1, 2021 [Docket No. 1873] (collectively, the documents referred to in (i) to (vii) are referred to as “List of Assumed Contracts”);

- h. reviewed: (i) the *Debtor’s Memorandum of Law in Support of Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1814] (the “Confirmation Brief”); (ii) the *Debtor’s Omnibus Reply to Objections to Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management*; [Docket No. 1807]; and (iii) the *Certification of Patrick M. Leathem With Respect to the Tabulation of Votes on the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1772] and *Supplemental Certification of Patrick M. Leathem With Respect to the Tabulation of Votes on the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1887] filed on February 3, 2021 (together, the “Voting Certifications”).
- i. reviewed: (i) the *Notice of Affidavit of Publication* dated December 3, 2020 [Docket No. 1505]; (ii) the *Certificate of Service* dated December 23, 2020 [Docket No. 1630]; (iii) the *Supplemental Certificate of Service* dated December 24, 2020 [Docket No. 1637]; (iv) the *Second Supplemental Certificate of Service* dated December 31, 2020 [Docket No. 1653]; (v) the *Certificate of Service* dated December 23, 2020 [Docket No. 1627]; (vi) the *Certificate of Service* dated January 6, 2021 [Docket No. 1696]; (vii) the *Certificate of Service* dated January 7, 2021 [Docket No. 1699]; (viii) the *Certificate of Service* dated January 7, 2021 [Docket No 1700]; (ix) the *Certificate of Service* dated January 15, 2021 [Docket No. 1761]; (x) the *Certificate of Service* dated January 19, 2021 [Docket No. 1775]; (xi) the

*Certificate of Service* dated January 20, 2021 [Docket No. 1787]; (xii) the *Certificate of Service* dated January 26, 2021 [Docket No. 1844]; (xiii) the *Certificate of Service* dated January 27, 2021 [Docket No. 1854]; (xiv) the *Certificate of Service* dated February 1, 2021 [Docket No. 1879]; (xv) the *Certificates of Service* dated February 3, 2021 [Docket No. 1891 and 1893]; and (xvi) the *Certificates of Service* dated February 5, 2021 [Docket Nos. 1906, 1907, 1908 and 1909] (collectively, the “Affidavits of Service and Publication”);

- j. reviewed all filed<sup>3</sup> pleadings, exhibits, statements, and comments regarding approval of the Disclosure Statement and confirmation of the Plan, including all objections, statements, and reservations of rights;
- k. conducted a hearing to consider confirmation of the Plan, which commenced on February 2, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. prevailing Central Time and concluded on February 3, 2021, and issued its oral ruling on February 8, 2021 (collectively, the “Confirmation Hearing”);
- l. heard the statements and arguments made by counsel in respect of confirmation of the Plan and having considered the record of this Chapter 11 Case and taken judicial notice of all papers and pleadings filed in this Chapter 11 Case; and
- m. considered all oral representations, testimony, documents, filings, and other evidence regarding confirmation of the Plan, including (a) all of the exhibits admitted into evidence;<sup>4</sup> (b) the sworn testimony of (i) James P. Seery, Jr., the Debtor’s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer and a member of the Board of Directors of Strand Advisors, Inc. (“Strand”), the Debtor’s general partner; (ii) John S. Dubel, a member of the Board of Strand; (iii) Marc Tauber, a Vice President at Aon Financial Services; and (iv) Robert Jason Post, the Chief Compliance Officer of NexPoint Advisors, LP (collectively, the “Witnesses”); (c) the credibility of the Witnesses; and (d) the Voting Certifications.

NOW, THEREFORE, after due deliberation thereon and good cause appearing therefor, the Bankruptcy Court hereby makes and issues the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

<sup>3</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, use of the term “filed” herein refers also to the service of the applicable document filed on the docket in this Chapter 11 Case, as applicable.

<sup>4</sup> The Court admitted the following exhibits into evidence: (a) all of the Debtor’s exhibits lodged at Docket No. 1822 (except TTTTT, which was withdrawn by the Debtor); (b) all of the Debtor’s exhibits lodged at Docket No. 1866; (c) all of the Debtor’s exhibits lodged at Docket No. 1877; (d) all of the Debtor’s exhibits lodged at Docket No. 1895; and (e) Exhibits 6-12 and 15-17 offered by Mr. James Dondero and lodged at Docket No. 1874.

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. **Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.** The findings and conclusions set forth herein, together with the findings of fact and conclusions of law set forth in the record during the Confirmation Hearing, constitute the Bankruptcy Court's findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 52, made applicable to this proceeding pursuant to Bankruptcy Rules 7052 and 9014. To the extent any of the following findings of fact constitute conclusions of law, they are adopted as such. To the extent that any of the following conclusions of law constitute findings of fact, they are adopted as such.

2. **Introduction and Summary of the Plan.** Prior to addressing the specific requirements under the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules with respect to the confirmation of the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court believes it would be useful to first provide the following background of the Debtor's Chapter 11 Case, the parties involved therewith, and some of the major events that have transpired culminating in the filing and solicitation of the Plan of this very unusual case. Before the Bankruptcy Court is the *Debtor's Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.*, filed on November 24, 2020, as modified on January 22, 2021 and again on February 1, 2021. The parties have repeatedly referred to the Plan as an "asset monetization plan" because it involves the orderly wind-down of the Debtor's estate, including the sale of assets and certain of its funds over time, with the Reorganized Debtor continuing to manage certain other funds, subject to the oversight of the Claimant Trust Oversight Board. The Plan provides for a Claimant Trust to, among other things, manage and monetize the Claimant Trust Assets for the benefit of the Debtor's economic stakeholders. The Claimant Trustee is responsible

for this process, among other duties specified in the Plan's Claimant Trust Agreement. There is also anticipated to be a Litigation Sub-trust established for the purpose of pursuing certain avoidance or other causes of action for the benefit of the Debtor's economic constituents.

3. **Confirmation Requirements Satisfied.** The Plan is supported by the Committee and all claimants with Convenience Claims (*i.e.*, general unsecured claims under \$1 million) who voted in Class 7. Claimants with Class 8 General Unsecured Claims, however, voted to reject the Plan because, although the Plan was accepted by 99.8% of the amount of Claims in that class, only 17 claimants voted to accept the Plan while 27 claimants voted to reject the Plan. As a result of such votes, and because Mr. Dondero and the Dondero Related Entities (as defined below) objected to the Plan on a variety of grounds primarily relating to the Plan's release, exculpation and injunction provisions, the Bankruptcy Court heard two full days of evidence on February 2 and 3, 2021, and considered testimony from five witnesses and thousands of pages of documentary evidence in determining whether the Plan satisfies the confirmation standards required under the Bankruptcy Code. The Bankruptcy Court finds and concludes that the Plan meets all of the relevant requirements of sections 1123, 1124, and 1129, and other applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, as more fully set forth below with respect to each of the applicable confirmation requirements.

4. **Not Your Garden Variety Debtor.** The Debtor's case is not a garden variety chapter 11 case. The Debtor is a multibillion-dollar global investment adviser registered with the SEC, pursuant to the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. It was founded in 1993 by James Dondero and Mark Okada. Mark Okada resigned from his role with Highland prior to the

bankruptcy case being filed on October 16, 2019 (the “Petition Date”). Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor as of the Petition Date but agreed to relinquish control of it on or about January 9, 2020, pursuant to an agreement reached with the Committee, as described below. Although Mr. Dondero remained with the Debtor as an unpaid employee/portfolio manager after January 9, 2020, his employment with the Debtor terminated on October 9, 2020. Mr. Dondero continues to work for and/or control numerous non-debtor entities in the complex Highland enterprise.

5. **The Debtor.** The Debtor is headquartered in Dallas, Texas. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor employed approximately 76 employees. The Debtor is privately-owned: (a) 99.5% by the Hunter Mountain Investment Trust; (b) 0.1866% by The Dugaboy Investment Trust, a trust created to manage the assets of Mr. Dondero and his family; (c) 0.0627% by Mark Okada, personally and through family trusts; and (d) 0.25% by Strand, the Debtor’s general partner.

6. **The Highland Enterprise.** Pursuant to various contractual arrangements, the Debtor provides money management and advisory services for billions of dollars of assets, including collateralized loan obligation vehicles (“CLOs”), and other investments. Some of these assets are managed by the Debtor pursuant to shared services agreements with certain affiliated entities, including other affiliated registered investment advisors. In fact, there are approximately 2,000 entities in the byzantine complex of entities under the Highland umbrella. None of these affiliated entities filed for chapter 11 protection. Most, but not all, of these entities are not subsidiaries (direct or indirect) of the Debtor. Many of the Debtor’s affiliated companies are

offshore entities, organized in jurisdictions such as the Cayman Islands and Guernsey. *See* Disclosure Statement, at 17-18.

7. **Debtor's Operational History.** The Debtor's primary means of generating revenue has historically been from fees collected for the management and advisory services provided to funds that it manages, plus fees generated for services provided to its affiliates. For additional liquidity, the Debtor, prior to the Petition Date, would sell liquid securities in the ordinary course, primarily through a brokerage account at Jefferies, LLC. The Debtor would also, from time to time, sell assets at non-Debtor subsidiaries and cause those proceeds to be distributed to the Debtor in the ordinary course of business. The Debtor's current Chief Executive Officer, James P. Seery, Jr., credibly testified at the Confirmation Hearing that the Debtor was "run at a deficit for a long time and then would sell assets or defer employee compensation to cover its deficits." The Bankruptcy Court cannot help but wonder if that was necessitated because of enormous litigation fees and expenses incurred by the Debtor due to its culture of litigation—as further addressed below.

8. **Not Your Garden Variety Creditor's Committee.** The Debtor and this chapter 11 case are not garden variety for so many reasons. One of the most obvious standouts in this case is the creditor constituency. The Debtor did not file for bankruptcy because of any of the typical reasons that large companies file chapter 11. For example, the Debtor did not have a large, asset-based secured lender with whom it was in default; it only had relatively insignificant secured indebtedness owing to Jeffries, with whom it had a brokerage account, and one other entity, Frontier State Bank. The Debtor also did not have problems with its trade vendors or landlords.

The Debtor also did not suffer any type of catastrophic business calamity. In fact, the Debtor filed for Chapter 11 protection six months before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Rather, the Debtor filed for Chapter 11 protection due to a myriad of massive, unrelated, business litigation claims that it faced—many of which had finally become liquidated (or were about to become liquidated) after a decade or more of contentious litigation in multiple forums all over the world. The Committee in this case has referred to the Debtor—under its former chief executive, Mr. Dondero—as a “serial litigator.” The Bankruptcy Court agrees with that description. By way of example, the members of the Committee (and their history of litigation with the Debtor and others in the Highland complex) are as follows:

- a. **The Redeemer Committee of the Highland Crusader Fund (the “Redeemer Committee”).** This Committee member obtained an arbitration award against the Debtor in the amount of \$190,824,557, inclusive of interest, approximately five months before the Petition Date, from a panel of the American Arbitration Association. It was on the verge of having that award confirmed by the Delaware Chancery Court immediately prior to the Petition Date, after years of disputes that started in late 2008 (and included legal proceedings in Bermuda). This creditor’s claim was settled during this Chapter 11 Case in the amount of approximately \$137,696,610 (subject to other adjustments and details not relevant for this purpose).
- b. **Acis Capital Management, L.P., and Acis Capital Management GP, LLC (“Acis”).** Acis was formerly in the Highland complex of companies, but was not affiliated with Highland as of the Petition Date. This Committee member and its now-owner, Joshua Terry, were involved in litigation with the Debtor dating back to 2016. Acis was forced by Mr. Terry (who was a former Highland portfolio manager) into an involuntary chapter 11 bankruptcy in the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division before the Bankruptcy Court in 2018, after Mr. Terry obtained an approximately \$8 million arbitration award and judgment against Acis. Mr. Terry ultimately was awarded the equity ownership of Acis by the Bankruptcy Court in the Acis bankruptcy case. Acis subsequently asserted a multi-million dollar claim against Highland in the Bankruptcy Court for Highland’s alleged denuding of Acis to defraud its creditors—primarily Mr. Terry. The litigation involving Acis and Mr. Terry dates back to mid-2016 and has

continued on with numerous appeals of Bankruptcy Court orders, including one appeal still pending at the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. There was also litigation involving Mr. Terry and Acis in the Royal Court of the Island of Guernsey and in a state court in New York. The Acis claim was settled during this Chapter 11 Case, in Bankruptcy Court-ordered mediation, for approximately \$23 million (subject to other details not relevant for this purpose), and is the subject of an appeal being pursued by Mr. Dondero.

- c. **UBS Securities LLC and UBS AG London Branch (“UBS”).** UBS is a Committee member that filed a proof of claim in the amount of \$1,039,957,799.40 in this Chapter 11 Case. The UBS Claim was based on a judgment that UBS received from a New York state court in 2020. The underlying decision was issued in November 2019, after a multi-week bench trial (which had occurred many months earlier) on a breach of contract claim against non-Debtor entities in the Highland complex. The UBS litigation related to activities that occurred in 2008 and 2009. The litigation involving UBS and Highland and affiliates was pending for more than a decade (there having been numerous interlocutory appeals during its history). The Debtor and UBS recently announced an agreement in principle for a settlement of the UBS claim (which came a few months after Bankruptcy Court-ordered mediation) which will be subject to a 9019 motion to be filed with the Bankruptcy Court on a future date.
- d. **Meta-E Discovery (“Meta-E”).** Meta-E is a Committee member that is a vendor who happened to supply litigation and discovery-related services to the Debtor over the years. It had unpaid invoices on the Petition Date of more than \$779,000.

It is fair to say that the members of the Committee in this case all have wills of steel. They fought hard before and during this Chapter 11 Case. The members of the Committee, all of whom have volunteered to serve on the Claimant Trust Oversight Board post-confirmation, are highly sophisticated and have had highly sophisticated professionals representing them. They have represented their constituency in this case as fiduciaries extremely well.

9. **Other Key Creditor Constituents.** In addition to the Committee members who were all embroiled in years of litigation with Debtor and its affiliates in various ways, the Debtor has been in litigation with Patrick Daugherty, a former limited partner and employee of the Debtor, for many years in both Delaware and Texas state courts. Mr. Daugherty filed an amended

proof of claim in this Chapter 11 Case for \$40,710,819.42 relating to alleged breaches of employment-related agreements and for defamation arising from a 2017 press release posted by the Debtor. The Debtor and Mr. Daugherty recently announced a settlement of Mr. Daugherty's claim pursuant to which he will receive \$750,000 in cash on the Effective Date of the Plan, an \$8.25 million general unsecured claim, and a \$2.75 million subordinated claim (subject to other details not relevant for this purpose). Additionally, entities collectively known as "HarbourVest" invested more than \$70 million with an entity in the Highland complex and asserted a \$300 million proof of claim against the Debtor in this case, alleging, among other things, fraud and RICO violations. HarbourVest's claim was settled during the bankruptcy case for a \$45 million general unsecured claim and a \$35 million subordinated claim, and that settlement is also being appealed by a Dondero Entity.

10. **Other Claims Asserted.** Other than the Claims just described, most of the other Claims in this Chapter 11 Case are Claims asserted against the Debtor by: (a) entities in the Highland complex—most of which entities the Bankruptcy Court finds to be controlled by Mr. Dondero; (b) employees who contend that are entitled to large bonuses or other types of deferred compensation; and (c) numerous law firms that worked for the Debtor prior to the Petition Date and had outstanding amounts due for their prepetition services.

11. **Not Your Garden Variety Post-Petition Corporate Governance Structure.** Yet another reason this is not your garden variety chapter 11 case is its post-petition corporate governance structure. Immediately from its appointment, the Committee's relationship with the Debtor was contentious at best. First, the Committee moved for a change of venue from

Delaware to Dallas. Second, the Committee (and later, the United States Trustee) expressed its then-desire for the appointment of a chapter 11 trustee due to its concerns over and distrust of Mr. Dondero, his numerous conflicts of interest, and his history of alleged mismanagement (and perhaps worse).

12. **Post-Petition Corporate Governance Settlement with Committee.** After spending many weeks under the threat of the potential appointment of a trustee, the Debtor and Committee engaged in substantial and lengthy negotiations resulting in a corporate governance settlement approved by the Bankruptcy Court on January 9, 2020.<sup>5</sup> As a result of this settlement, among other things, Mr. Dondero relinquished control of the Debtor and resigned his positions as an officer or director of the Debtor and its general partner, Strand. As noted above, Mr. Dondero agreed to this settlement pursuant a stipulation he executed,<sup>6</sup> and he also agreed not to cause any Related Entity (as defined in the Settlement Motion) to terminate any agreements with the Debtor. The January 9 Order also (a) required that the Bankruptcy Court serve as “gatekeeper” prior to the commencement of any litigation against the three independent board members appointed to oversee and lead the Debtor’s restructuring in lieu of Mr. Dondero and (b) provided for the exculpation of those board members by limiting claims subject to the “gatekeeper” provision to those alleging willful misconduct and gross negligence.

<sup>5</sup> This order is hereinafter referred to as the “January 9 Order” and was entered by the Court on January 9, 2020 [Docket No. 339] pursuant to the *Motion of the Debtor to Approve Settlement with Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors Regarding the Governance of the Debtor and Procedures for Operation in the Ordinary Course* [Docket No. 281] (the “Settlement Motion”).

<sup>6</sup> See *Stipulation in Support of Motion of the Debtor for Approval of Settlement With the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors Regarding Governance of the Debtor and Procedures for Operations in Ordinary Course* [Docket No. 338] (the “Stipulation”).

13. **Appointment of Independent Directors.** As part of the Bankruptcy Court-approved settlement, three eminently qualified independent directors were chosen to lead Highland through its Chapter 11 Case. They are: James P. Seery, Jr., John S. Dubel (each chosen by the Committee), and Retired Bankruptcy Judge Russell Nelms. These three individuals are each technically independent directors of Strand (Mr. Dondero had previously been the sole director of Strand and, thus, the sole person in ultimate control of the Debtor). The three independent board members' resumes are in evidence. The Bankruptcy Court later approved Mr. Seery's appointment as the Debtor's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Restructuring Officer, and Foreign Representative. Suffice it to say that this settlement and the appointment of the independent directors changed the entire trajectory of the case and saved the Debtor from the appointment of a trustee. The Bankruptcy Court and the Committee each trusted the independent directors. They were the right solution at the right time. Because of the unique character of the Debtor's business, the Bankruptcy Court believed the appointment of three qualified independent directors was a far better outcome for creditors than the appointment of a conventional chapter 11 trustee. Each of the independent directors brought unique qualities to the table. Mr. Seery, in particular, knew and had vast experience at prominent firms with high-yield and distressed investing similar to the Debtor's business. Mr. Dubel had 40 years of experience restructuring large complex businesses and serving on boards in this context. And Retired Judge Nelms had not only vast bankruptcy experience but seemed particularly well-suited to help the Debtor maneuver through conflicts and ethical quandaries. By way of comparison, in the chapter 11 case of Acis, the former affiliate of Highland that the Bankruptcy Court presided over and which company was

much smaller in size and scope than Highland (managing only 5-6 CLOs), the creditors elected a chapter 11 trustee who was not on the normal trustee rotation panel in this district but, rather, was a nationally known bankruptcy attorney with more than 45 years of large chapter 11 experience. While the Acis chapter 11 trustee performed valiantly, he was sued by entities in the Highland complex shortly after he was appointed (which the Bankruptcy Court had to address). The Acis trustee was also unable to persuade the Debtor and its affiliates to agree to any actions taken in the case, and he finally obtained confirmation of Acis' chapter 11 plan over the objections of the Debtor and its affiliates on his fourth attempt (which confirmation was promptly appealed).

14. **Conditions Required by Independent Directors.** Given the experiences in Acis and the Debtor's culture of constant litigation, it was not as easy to get such highly qualified persons to serve as independent board members and, later, as the Debtor's Chief Executive Officer, as it would be in an ordinary chapter 11 case. The independent board members were stepping into a morass of problems. Naturally, they were worried about getting sued no matter how defensible their efforts—given the litigation culture that enveloped Highland historically. Based on the record of this Case and the proceedings in the Acis chapter 11 case, it seemed as though everything always ended in litigation at Highland. The Bankruptcy Court heard credible testimony that none of the independent directors would have taken on the role of independent director without (1) an adequate directors and officers' ("D&O") insurance policy protecting them; (2) indemnification from Strand that would be guaranteed by the Debtor; (3) exculpation for mere negligence claims; and (4) a gatekeeper provision prohibiting the commencement of litigation against the independent directors without the Bankruptcy Court's prior authority. This gatekeeper provision was also

included in the Bankruptcy Court’s order authorizing the appointment of Mr. Seery as the Debtor’s Chief Executive Officer, Chief Restructuring Officer, and Foreign Representative entered on July 16, 2020.<sup>7</sup> The gatekeeper provisions in both the January 9 Order and July 16 Order are precisely analogous to what bankruptcy trustees have pursuant to the so-called “Barton Doctrine” (first articulated in an old Supreme Court case captioned *Barton v. Barbour*, 104 U.S. 126 (1881)). The Bankruptcy Court approved all of these protections in the January 9 Order and the July 16 Order, and no one appealed either of those orders. As noted above, Mr. Dondero signed the Stipulation that led to the settlement that was approved by the January 9 Order. The Bankruptcy Court finds that, like the Committee, the independent board members have been resilient and unwavering in their efforts to get the enormous problems in this case solved. They seem to have at all times negotiated hard and in good faith, which culminated in the proposal of the Plan currently before the Bankruptcy Court. As noted previously, they completely changed the trajectory of this case.

15. **Not Your Garden Variety Mediators.** And still another reason why this was not your garden variety case was the mediation effort. In the summer of 2020, roughly nine months into the chapter 11 case, the Bankruptcy Court ordered mediation among the Debtor, Acis, UBS, the Redeemer Committee, and Mr. Dondero. The Bankruptcy Court selected co-mediators because mediation among these parties seemed like such a Herculean task—especially during COVID-19 where people could not all be in the same room. Those co-mediators were: Retired

<sup>7</sup> See *Order Approving the Debtor’s Motion Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 363(b) Authorizing Retention of James P. Seery, Jr., as Chief Executive Officer, Chief Restructuring Officer, and Foreign Representative Nunc Pro Tunc to March 15, 2020* [Docket No. 854] entered on July 16, 2020 (the “July 16 Order”)

Bankruptcy Judge Alan Gropper from the Southern District of New York, who had a distinguished career presiding over complex chapter 11 cases, and Ms. Sylvia Mayer, who likewise has had a distinguished career, first as a partner at a preeminent law firm working on complex chapter 11 cases, and subsequently as a mediator and arbitrator in Houston, Texas. As noted earlier, the Redeemer Committee and Acis claims were settled during the mediation—which seemed nothing short of a miracle to the Bankruptcy Court—and the UBS claim was settled several months later and the Bankruptcy Court believes the ground work for that ultimate settlement was laid, or at least helped, through the mediation. And, as earlier noted, other significant claims have been settled during this case, including those of HarbourVest (who asserted a \$300 million claim) and Patrick Daugherty (who asserted a \$40 million claim). The Bankruptcy Court cannot stress strongly enough that the resolution of these enormous claims—and the acceptance by all of these creditors of the Plan that is now before the Bankruptcy Court—seems nothing short of a miracle. It was more than a year in the making.

16. **Not Your Garden Variety Plan Objectors (That Is, Those That Remain).** Finally, a word about the current, remaining objectors to the Plan before the Bankruptcy Court. Once again, the Bankruptcy Court will use the phrase “not your garden variety”, which phrase applies to this case for many reasons. Originally, there were over a dozen objections filed to the Plan. The Debtor then made certain amendments or modifications to the Plan to address some of these objections, none of which require further solicitation of the Plan for reasons set forth in more detail below. The only objectors to the Plan left at the time of the Confirmation Hearing

were Mr. Dondero [Docket No. 1661] and entities that the Bankruptcy Court finds are owned and/or controlled by him and that filed the following objections:

- a. *Objection to Confirmation of the Debtor's Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization* (filed by Get Good Trust and The Dugaboy Investment Trust) [Docket No. 1667];
- b. *Objection to Confirmation of Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* (filed by Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P., Highland Fixed Income Fund, Highland Funds I and its series, Highland Funds II and its series, Highland Global Allocation Fund, Highland Healthcare Opportunities Fund, Highland Income Fund, Highland Merger Arbitrate Fund, Highland Opportunistic Credit Fund, Highland Small-Cap Equity Fund, Highland Socially Responsible Equity Fund, Highland Total Return Fund, Highland/iBoxx Senior Loan ETF, NexPoint Advisors, L.P., NexPoint Capital, Inc., NexPoint Real Estate Strategies Fund, NexPoint Strategic Opportunities Fund) [Docket No. 1670];
- c. *A Joinder to the Objection filed at 1670 by: NexPoint Real Estate Finance Inc., NexPoint Real Estate Capital, LLC, NexPoint Residential Trust, Inc., NexPoint Hospitality Trust, NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC, NexPoint Multifamily Capital Trust, Inc., VineBrook Homes Trust, Inc., NexPoint Real Estate Advisors, L.P., NexPoint Real Estate Advisors II, L.P., NexPoint Real Estate Advisors III, L.P., NexPoint Real Estate Advisors IV, L.P., NexPoint Real Estate Advisors V, L.P., NexPoint Real Estate Advisors VI, L.P., NexPoint Real Estate Advisors VII, L.P., NexPoint Real Estate Advisors VIII, L.P., and any funds advised by the foregoing* [Docket No. 1677];
- d. *NexPoint Real Estate Partners LLC's Objection to Debtor's Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization* (filed by NexPoint Real Estate Partners LLC f/k/a HCRE Partners LLC) [Docket No. 1673]; and
- e. *NexBank's Objection to Debtor's Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization* (filed by NexBank Title, Inc., NexBank Securities, Inc., NexBank Capital, Inc., and NexBank) [Docket No. 1676]. The entities referred to in (i) through (v) of this paragraph are hereinafter referred to as the "Dondero Related Entities").

**17. Questionability of Good Faith as to Outstanding Confirmation**

**Objections.** Mr. Dondero and the Dondero Related Entities technically have standing to object to the Plan, but the remoteness of their economic interests is noteworthy, and the Bankruptcy Court

questions the good faith of Mr. Dondero's and the Dondero Related Entities' objections. In fact, the Bankruptcy Court has good reason to believe that these parties are not objecting to protect economic interests they have in the Debtor but to be disruptors. Mr. Dondero wants his company back. This is understandable, but it is not a good faith basis to lob objections to the Plan. As detailed below, the Bankruptcy Court has slowed down plan confirmation multiple times and urged the parties to talk to Mr. Dondero in an attempt to arrive at what the parties have repeatedly referred to as a "grand bargain," the ultimate goal to resolve the Debtor's restructuring. The Debtor and the Committee represent that they have communicated with Mr. Dondero regarding a grand bargain settlement, and the Bankruptcy Court believes that they have.

18. **Remote Interest of Outstanding Confirmation Objectors.** To be specific about the remoteness of Mr. Dondero's and the Dondero Related Entities' interests, the Bankruptcy Court will address them each separately. First, Mr. Dondero has a pending objection to the Plan. Mr. Dondero's only economic interest with regard to the Debtor is an unliquidated indemnification claim (and, based on everything the Bankruptcy Court has heard, his indemnification claims would be highly questionable at this juncture). Mr. Dondero owns no equity in the Debtor directly. Mr. Dondero owns the Debtor's general partner, Strand, which in turn owns a quarter percent of the total equity in the Debtor. Second, a joint objection has been filed by The Dugaboy Trust ("Dugaboy") and the Get Good Trust ("Get Good"). The Dugaboy Trust was created to manage the assets of Mr. Dondero and his family and owns a 0.1866% limited partnership interest in the Debtor. *See* Disclosure Statement at 7, n.3. The Bankruptcy Court is not clear what economic interest the Get Good Trust has, but it likewise seems to be related to Mr. Dondero. Get Good

filed three proofs of claim relating to a pending federal tax audit of the Debtor's 2008 return, which the Debtor believes arise from Get Good's equity security interests and are subject to subordination as set forth in its Confirmation Brief. Dugaboy filed three claims against the Debtor: (a) an administrative claim relating to the Debtor's alleged postpetition management of Multi-Strat Credit Fund, L.P., (b) a prepetition claim against a subsidiary of the Debtor for which it seeks to pierce the corporate veil, each of which the Debtor maintains are frivolous in the Confirmation Brief, and (c) a claim arising from its equity security interest in the Debtor, which the Debtor asserts should be subordinated. Another group of objectors that has joined together in one objection is what the Bankruptcy Court will refer to as the "Highland Advisors and Funds." *See* Docket No. 1863. The Bankruptcy Court understands they assert disputed administrative expense claims against the estate that were filed shortly before the Confirmation Hearing on January 23, 2021 [Docket No. 1826], and during the Confirmation Hearing on February 3, 2021 [Docket No. 1888]. At the Confirmation Hearing, Mr. Post testified on behalf of the Highland Advisors and Funds that the Funds have independent board members that run the Funds, but the Bankruptcy Court was not convinced of their independence from Mr. Dondero because none of the so-called independent board members have ever testified before the Bankruptcy Court and all have been engaged with the Highland complex for many years. Notably, the Court questions Mr. Post's credibility because, after more than 12 years of service, he abruptly resigned from the Debtor in October 2020 at the exact same time that Mr. Dondero resigned at the Board of Directors' request, and he is currently employed by Mr. Dondero. Moreover, Dustin Norris, a witness in a prior proceeding (whose testimony was made part of the record at the Confirmation Hearing), recently

testified on behalf of the Highland Advisors and Funds in another proceeding that Mr. Dondero owned and/or controlled these entities. Finally, various NexBank entities objected to the Plan. The Bankruptcy Court does not believe they have liquidated claims against the Debtor. Mr. Dondero appears to be in control of these entities as well.

19. **Background Regarding Dondero Objecting Parties.** To be clear, the Bankruptcy Court has allowed all these objectors to fully present arguments and evidence in opposition to confirmation, even though their economic interests in the Debtor appear to be extremely remote and the Bankruptcy Court questions their good faith. Specifically, the Bankruptcy Court considers them all to be marching pursuant to the orders of Mr. Dondero. In the recent past, Mr. Dondero has been subject to a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction by the Bankruptcy Court for interfering with Mr. Seery's management of the Debtor in specific ways that were supported by evidence. Around the time that this all came to light and the Bankruptcy Court began setting hearings on the alleged interference, Mr. Dondero's company phone, which he had been asked to turn in to Highland, mysteriously went missing. The Bankruptcy Court merely mentions this in this context as one of many reasons that the Bankruptcy Court has to question the good faith of Mr. Dondero and his affiliates in raising objections to confirmation of the Plan.

20. **Other Confirmation Objections.** Other than the objections filed by Mr. Dondero and the Dondero Related Entities, the only other pending objection to the Plan is the *United States Trustee's Limited Objection to Confirmation of Debtor's Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization* [Docket No. 1671], which objected to the Plan's exculpation, injunction, and

Debtor release provisions. In juxtaposition, to these pending objections, the Bankruptcy Court notes that the Debtor resolved the following objections to the Plan:

- a. *CLO Holdco, Ltd.'s Joinder to Objection to Confirmation of Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Supplemental Objections to Plan Confirmation* [Docket No. 1675]. This Objection has been resolved pursuant to mutually agreed language by the parties set forth in paragraph VV of the Confirmation Order;
- b. *Objection of Dallas County, City of Allen, Allen ISD, City of Richardson, and Kaufman County to Confirmation of the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1662]. This Objection has been resolved pursuant to mutually agreed language by the parties set forth in paragraph QQ of the Confirmation Order;
- c. *Senior Employees' Limited Objection to Debtor's Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization (filed by Scott Ellington, Thomas Surgent, Frank Waterhouse, Isaac Leventon)* [Docket No. 1669]. This Objection has been resolved pursuant to mutually agreed language by the parties set forth in paragraph 82 and paragraphs RR and SS of the Confirmation Order;
- d. *Limited Objection of Jack Yang and Brad Borud to Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 1666] and the amended joinder filed by Davis Deadman, Paul Kauffman and Todd Travers [Docket No. 1679]. This Objection and the amended joinder were resolved by agreement of the parties pursuant to modifications to the Plan filed by the Debtor;
- e. *United States' (IRS) Limited Objection to Debtor's Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization* [Docket No. 1668]. This Objection has been resolved pursuant to mutually agreed language by the parties set forth in paragraphs TT and UU of the Confirmation Order; and
- f. *Patrick Hagaman Daugherty's Objection to Confirmation of Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization* [Docket No. 1678]. This objection was resolved by the parties pursuant to the settlement of Mr. Daugherty's claim announced on the record of the Confirmation Hearing.

21. **Capitalized Terms.** Capitalized terms used herein, but not defined herein, shall have the respective meanings attributed to such terms in the Plan and the Disclosure Statement, as applicable.

22. **Jurisdiction and Venue.** The Bankruptcy Court has jurisdiction over the Debtor's Chapter 11 Case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). Venue of this proceeding and this Chapter 11 Case is proper in this district and in the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

23. **Chapter 11 Petition.** On the Petition Date, the Debtor commenced a voluntary case under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, which case was transferred to the Bankruptcy Court on December 19, 2019. The Debtor continues to operate its business and manage its property as debtor in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in this Chapter 11 Case. The Office of the United States Trustee appointed the Committee on October 29, 2019.

24. **Judicial Notice.** The Bankruptcy Court takes judicial notice of the docket in this Chapter 11 Case maintained by the clerk of the Bankruptcy Court and the court-appointed claims agent, Kurtzman Carson Consultants LLC ("KCC"), including, without limitation, all pleadings, notices, and other documents filed, all orders entered, and all evidence and arguments made, proffered or adduced at the hearings held before the Bankruptcy Court during this Chapter 11 Case, including, without limitation, the hearing to consider the adequacy of the Disclosure Statement and the Confirmation Hearing, as well as all pleadings, notices, and other documents filed, all orders entered, and all evidence and arguments made, proffered, or adduced at hearings held before the Bankruptcy Court or the District Court for the Northern District of Texas in

connection with an adversary proceeding or appellate proceeding, respectively, related to this Chapter 11 Case.

25. **Plan Supplement Documents.** Prior to the Confirmation Hearing, the Debtor filed each of the Plan Supplements. The Plan Supplements contain, among other documents, the Retained Causes of Action, the Claimant Trust Agreement, the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, the Senior Employee Stipulation, the Related Entity List, the Schedule of Employees, the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, supplements to the Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections, the Schedule of Contracts and Leases to be Assumed, and the other Plan Documents set forth therein (collectively, the “Plan Supplement Documents”).

26. **Retained Causes of Action Adequately Preserved.** The Bankruptcy Court finds that the list of Retained Causes of Action included in the Plan Supplements sufficiently describes all potential Retained Causes of Action, provides all persons with adequate notice of any Causes of Action regardless of whether any specific claim to be brought in the future is listed therein or whether any specific potential defendant or other party is listed therein, and satisfies applicable law in all respects to preserve all of the Retained Causes of Action. The definition of the Causes of Action and Schedule of Retained Causes of Action, and their inclusion in the Plan, specifically and unequivocally preserve the Causes of Action for the benefit of the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trust, or the Litigation Sub-Trust, as applicable.

27. **Plan Modifications Are Non-Material.** In addition to the Plan Supplements, the Debtor made certain non-material modifications to the Plan, which are reflected in (i) the *Redline of Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.*

(as Modified) filed on January 22, 2021 [Docket No. 1809], and (ii) Exhibit B to the *Debtor's Notice of Filing of Plan Supplement to Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (as Modified)* filed on February 1, 2021 [Docket No. 1875] (collectively, the "Plan Modifications"). Section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that a plan proponent may modify its plan at any time before confirmation so long as such modified plan meets the requirements of sections 1122 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code. None of the modifications set forth in the Plan Supplements or the Plan Modifications require any further solicitation pursuant to sections 1125, 1126, or 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3019, because, among other things, they do not materially adversely change the treatment of the claims of any creditors or interest holders who have not accepted, in writing, such supplements and modifications. Among other things, there were changes to the projections that the Debtor filed shortly before the Confirmation Hearing (which included projected distributions to creditors and a comparison of projected distributions under the Plan to potential distributions under a hypothetical chapter 7 liquidation). The Plan Supplements and Plan Modifications did not mislead or prejudice any creditors or interest holders nor do they require that Holders of Claims or Equity Interests be afforded an opportunity to change previously cast votes to accept or reject the Plan. Specifically, the Amended Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections filed on February 1, 2021 [Docket No. 1875] do not constitute any material adverse change to the treatment of any creditors or interest holders but, rather, simply update the estimated distributions based on Claims that were settled in the interim and provide updated financial data. The filing and notice of the Plan Supplements and Plan Modifications were appropriate and complied with the requirements of

section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, and no other solicitation or disclosure or further notice is or shall be required. The Plan Supplements and Plan Modifications each became part of the Plan pursuant section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, is authorized to modify the Plan or Plan Supplement Documents following entry of this Confirmation Order in a manner consistent with section 1127(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan, and, if applicable, the terms of the applicable Plan Supplement Document.

28. **Notice of Transmittal, Mailing and Publication of Materials.** As is evidenced by the Voting Certifications and the Affidavits of Service and Publication, the transmittal and service of the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, Ballots, and Confirmation Hearing Notice were adequate and sufficient under the circumstances, and all parties required to be given notice of the Confirmation Hearing (including the deadline for filing and serving objections to the confirmation of the Plan) have been given due, proper, timely, and adequate notice in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order and in compliance with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and applicable non-bankruptcy law, and such parties have had an opportunity to appear and be heard with respect thereto. No other or further notice is required. The publication of the Confirmation Hearing Notice, as set forth in the *Notice of Affidavit of Publication* dated December 3, 2020 [Docket No. 1505], complied with the Disclosure Statement Order.

29. **Voting.** The Bankruptcy Court has reviewed and considered the Voting Certifications. The procedures by which the Ballots for acceptance or rejection of the Plan were

distributed and tabulated, including the tabulation as subsequently amended to reflect the settlement of certain Claims to be Allowed in Class 7, were fairly and properly conducted and complied with the Disclosure Statement Order, the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules.

30. **Bankruptcy Rule 3016(a).** In accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3016(a), the Plan is dated and identifies the Debtor as the proponent of the Plan.

31. **Plan Compliance with Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(1)).** As set forth below, the Plan complies with all of the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.

32. **Proper Classification (11 U.S.C. §§ 1122, 1123(a)(1)).** Section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that a plan may place a claim or interest in a particular class only if such claim or interest is substantially similar to the other claims or interest of such class. The Claims and Equity Interests placed in each Class are substantially similar to other Claims and Equity Interests, as the case may be, in each such Class. Valid business, factual, and legal reasons exist for separately classifying the various Classes of Claims and Equity Interests created under the Plan, and such Classes do not unfairly discriminate between Holders of Claims and Equity Interests.

33. **Classification of Secured Claims.** Class 1 (Jefferies Secured Claim) and Class 2 (Frontier Secured Claim) each constitute separate secured claims held by Jefferies LLC and Frontier State Bank, respectively, and it is proper and consistent with section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code to separately classify the claims of these secured creditors. Class 3 (Other

Secured Claims) consists of other secured claims (to the extent any exist) against the Debtor, are not substantially similar to the Secured Claims in Class 1 or Class 2, and are also properly separately classified.

34. **Classification of Priority Claims.** Class 4 (Priority Non-Tax Claims) consists of Claims entitled to priority under section 507(a), other than Priority Tax Claims, and are properly separately classified from non-priority unsecured claims. Class 5 (Retained Employee Claims) consists of the potential claims of employees who may be retained by the Debtor on the Effective Date, which claims will be Reinstated under the Plan, are not substantially similar to other Claims against the Debtor, and are properly classified.

35. **Classification of Unsecured Claims.** Class 6 (PTO Claims) consists solely of the claims of the Debtor's employees for unpaid paid time off in excess of the \$13,650 statutory cap amount under sections 507(a)(4) and (a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code and are dissimilar from other unsecured claims in Class 7 and Class 8. Class 7 (Convenience Claims) allows holders of eligible and liquidated Claims (below a certain threshold dollar amount) to receive a cash payout of the lesser of 85% of the Allowed amount of the creditor's Claim or such holder's *pro rata* share of the Convenience Claims Cash Pool. Class 7 (Convenience Claims) are provided for administrative convenience purposes in order to allow creditors, most of whom are either trade creditors or holders of professional claims, to receive treatment provided under Class 7 in lieu of the treatment of Class 8 (General Unsecured Claims). The Plan also provides for reciprocal "opt out" mechanisms to allow holders of Class 7 Claims to elect to receive the treatment for Class 8 Claims. Class 8 creditors primarily constitute the litigation claims of the Debtor. Class 8 Creditors

will receive Claimant Trust Interests which will be satisfied pursuant to the terms of the Plan. Class 8 also contains an “opt out” mechanism to allow holders of liquidated Class 8 Claims at or below a \$1 million threshold to elect to receive the treatment of Class 7 Convenience Claims. The Claims in Class 7 (primarily trade and professional Claims against the Debtor) are not substantially similar to the Claims in Class 8 (primarily the litigation Claims against the Debtor), and are appropriately separately classified. Valid business reasons also exist to classify creditors in Class 7 separately from creditors in Class 8. Class 7 creditors largely consist of liquidated trade or service providers to the Debtor. In addition, the Claims of Class 7 creditors are small relative to the large litigation claims in Class 8. Furthermore, the Class 8 Claims were overwhelmingly unliquidated when the Plan was filed. The nature of the Class 7 Claims as being largely liquidated created an expectation of expedited payment relative to the largely unliquidated Claims in Class 8, which consists in large part of parties who have been engaged in years, and in some cases over a decade of litigation with the Debtor. Separate classification of Class 7 and Class 8 creditors was the subject of substantial arm’s-length negotiations between the Debtor and the Committee to appropriately reflect these relative differences.

36. **Classification of Equity Interests.** The Plan properly separately classifies the Equity Interests in Class 10 (Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests) from the Equity Interests in Class 11 (Class A Limited Partnership Interests) because they represent different types of equity security interests in the Debtor and different payment priorities.

37. **Elimination of Vacant Classes.** Section III.C of the Plan provides for the elimination of Classes that do not have at least one holder of a Claim or Equity Interest that is

Allowed in an amount greater than zero for purposes of voting to accept or reject the Plan, and are disregarded for purposes of determining whether the Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to such Class. The purpose of this provision is to provide that a Class that does not have voting members shall not be included in the tabulation of whether that Class has accepted or rejected the Plan. Pursuant to the Voting Certifications, the only voting Class of Claims or Equity Interests that did not have any members is Class 5 (Retained Employees). As noted above, Class 5 does not have any voting members because any potential Claims in Class 5 would not arise, except on account of any current employees of the Debtor who may be employed as of the Effective Date, which is currently unknown. Thus, the elimination of vacant Classes provided in Article III.C of the Plan does not violate section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code. Class 5 is properly disregarded for purposes of determining whether or not the Plan has been accepted under Bankruptcy Code section 1129(a)(8) because there are no members in that Class. However, the Plan properly provides for the treatment of any Claims that may potentially become members of Class 5 as of the Effective Date in accordance with the terms of the Plan. The Plan therefore satisfies section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code.

38. **Classification of Claims and Designation of Non-Classified Claims (11 U.S.C. §§ 1122, 1123(a)(1)).** Section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that the Plan specify the classification of claims and equity security interests pursuant to section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code, other than claims specified in sections 507(a)(2), 507(a)(3), or 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code. In addition to Administrative Claims, Professional Fee Claims, and Priority Tax Claims, each of which need not be classified pursuant to section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy

Code, the Plan designates eleven (11) Classes of Claims and Equity Interests. The Plan satisfies sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.

39. **Specification of Unimpaired Classes (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(2)).** Article III of the Plan specifies that each of Class 1 (Jefferies Secured Claim), Class 3 (Other Secured Claims), Class 4 (Priority Non-Tax Claims), Class 5 (Retained Employee Claims), and Class 6 (PTO Claims) are Unimpaired under the Plan. Thus, the requirement of section 1123(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

40. **Specification of Treatment of Impaired Classes (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(3)).** Article III of the Plan designates each of Class 2 (Frontier Secured Claim), Class 7 (Convenience Claims), Class 8 (General Unsecured Claims), Class 9 (Subordinated Claims), Class 10 (Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests), and Class 11 (Class A Limited Partnership Interests) as Impaired and specifies the treatment of Claims and Equity Interests in such Classes. Thus, the requirement of section 1123(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

41. **No Discrimination (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(4)).** The Plan provides for the same treatment by the Plan proponent for each Claim or Equity Interest in each respective Class unless the Holder of a particular Claim or Equity Interest has agreed to a less favorable treatment of such Claim or Equity Interest. The Plan satisfies this requirement because Holders of Allowed Claims or Equity Interests in each Class will receive the same rights and treatment as other Holders of Allowed Claims or Equity Interests within such holder's respective class, subject only to the voluntary "opt out" options afforded to members of Class 7 and Class 8 in accordance with the terms of the Plan. Thus, the requirement of section 1123(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

42. **Implementation of the Plan (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(5)).** Article IV of the Plan sets forth the means for implementation of the Plan which includes, but is not limited to, the establishment of: (i) the Claimant Trust; (ii) the Litigation Sub-Trust; (iii) the Reorganized Debtor; and (iv) New GP LLC, in the manner set forth in the Plan Documents, the forms of which are included in the Plan Supplements.

- a. **The Claimant Trust.** The Claimant Trust Agreement provides for the management of the Claimant Trust, as well as the Reorganized Debtor with the Claimant Trust serving as the managing member of New GP LLC (a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Claimant Trust that will manage the Reorganized Debtor as its general partner). The Claimant Trust, the Claimant Trustee, the management and monetization of the Claimant Trust Assets, and the management of the Reorganized Debtor (through the Claimant Trust's role as managing member of New GP LLC) and the Litigation Sub-Trust will all be managed and overseen by the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee. Additionally, the Plan provides for the transfer to the Claimant Trust of all of the Debtor's rights, title, and interest in and to all of the Claimant Trust Assets in accordance with section 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code and for the Claimant Trust Assets to automatically vest in the Claimant Trust free and clear of all Claims, Liens, encumbrances, or interests subject only to the Claimant Trust Interests and the Claimant Trust Expenses, as provided for in the Claimant Trust Agreement. The Claimant Trust will administer the Claimant Trust Assets as provided under the Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement contained in the Plan Supplements.
- b. **The Litigation Sub-Trust.** The Plan and the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement provide for the transfer to the Litigation Sub-Trust all of the Claimant Trust's rights, title, and interest in and to all of the Estate Claims (as transferred to the Claimant Trust by the Debtor) in accordance with section 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code and for the Estate Claims to automatically vest in the Litigation Sub-Trust free and clear of all Claims, Liens, encumbrances, or interests subject only to the Litigation Sub-Trust Interests and the Litigation Sub-Trust Expenses, as provided for in the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement. The Litigation Trustee is charged with investigating, pursuing, and otherwise resolving any Estate Claims (including those with respect to which the Committee has standing to pursue prior to the Effective Date pursuant to the January 9 Order) pursuant to the terms of the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement and the Plan, regardless of whether any litigation with respect to any Estate Claim was commenced by the Debtor or the Committee prior to the Effective Date.

- c. **The Reorganized Debtor.** The Reorganized Debtor will administer the Reorganized Debtor Assets, which includes managing the wind down of the Managed Funds.

The precise terms governing the execution of these restructuring transactions are set forth in greater detail in the applicable definitive documents included in the Plan Supplements, including the Claimant Trust Agreement, the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, and the Schedule of Retained Causes of Action. The Plan, together with the documents and forms of agreement included in the Plan Supplements, provides a detailed blueprint for the transactions contemplated by the Plan. The Plan's various mechanisms provide for the Debtor's continued management of its business as it seeks to liquidate the Debtor's assets, wind down its affairs, and pay the Claims of the Debtor's creditors. Upon full payment of Allowed Claims, plus interest as provided in the Plan, any residual value would then flow to the holders of Class 10 (Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests), and Class 11 (Class A Limited Partnership Interests). Finally, Mr. Seery testified that the Debtor engaged in substantial and arm's length negotiations with the Committee regarding the Debtor's post-Effective Date corporate governance, as reflected in the Plan. Mr. Seery testified that he believes the selection of the Claimant Trustee, Litigation Trustee, and members of the Claimant Trust Oversight Board are in the best interests of the Debtor's economic constituents. Thus, the requirements of section 1123(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code are satisfied.

43. **Non-Voting Equity Securities (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(6)).** The Debtor is not a corporation and the charter documents filed in the Plan Supplements otherwise comply with section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the requirement of section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

44. **Selection of Officers and Directors (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(7)).** Article IV of the Plan provides for the Claimant Trust to be governed and administered by the Claimant Trustee. The Claimant Trust, the management of the Reorganized Debtor, and the management and monetization of the Claimant Trust Assets and the Litigation Sub-Trust will be managed by the Claimant Trust Oversight Board. The Claimant Trust Oversight Board will consist of: (1) Eric Felton, as representative of the Redeemer Committee; (2) Joshua Terry, as representative of Acis; (3) Elizabeth Kozlowski, as representative of UBS; (4) Paul McVoy, as representative of Meta-E Discovery; and (5) David Pauker. Four of the members of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee are the holders of several of the largest Claims against the Debtor and/or are current members of the Committee. Each of these creditors has actively participated in the Debtor's case, both through their fiduciary roles as Committee members and in their individual capacities as creditors. They are therefore intimately familiar with the Debtor, its business, and assets. The fifth member of the Claimant Trustee Oversight Board, David Pauker, is a disinterested restructuring advisor and turnaround manager with more than 25 years of experience advising public and private companies and their investors, and he has substantial experience overseeing, advising or investigating troubled companies in the financial services industry and has advised or managed such companies on behalf of boards or directors, court-appointed trustees, examiners and special masters, government agencies, and private investor parties. The members of the Claimant Trust Oversight Board will serve without compensation, except for Mr. Pauker, who will receive payment of \$250,000 for his first year of service, and \$150,000 for subsequent years.

45. **Selection of Trustees.** The Plan Supplements disclose that Mr. Seery will serve as the Claimant Trustee and Marc Kirschner will serve as the Litigation Trustee. As noted above, Mr. Seery has served as an Independent Board member since January 2020, and as the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer since July 2020, and he has extensive management and restructuring experience, as evidenced from his curriculum vitae which is part of the record. The evidence shows that Mr. Seery is intimately familiar with the Debtor's organizational structure, business, and assets, as well as how Claims will be treated under the Plan. Accordingly, it is reasonable and in the Estate's best interests to continue Mr. Seery's employment post-emergence as the Claimant Trustee. Mr. Seery, upon consultation with the Committee, testified that he intends to employ approximately 10 of the Debtor's employees to enable him to manage the Debtor's business until the Claimant Trust effectively monetizes its remaining assets, instead of hiring a sub-servicer to accomplish those tasks. Mr. Seery testified that he believes that the Debtor's post-confirmation business can most efficiently and cost-effectively be supported by a sub-set of the Debtor's current employees, who will be managed internally. Mr. Seery shall initially be paid \$150,000 per month for services rendered after the Effective Date as Claimant Trustee; however, Mr. Seery's long-term salary as Claimant Trustee and the terms of any bonuses and severance are subject to further negotiation by Mr. Seery and the Claimant Trust Oversight Board within forty-five (45) days after the Effective Date. The Bankruptcy Court has also reviewed Mr. Kirschner's curriculum vitae. Mr. Kirschner has been practicing law since 1967 and has substantial experience in bankruptcy litigation matters, particularly with respect to his prior experience as a litigation trustee for several litigation trusts, as set forth on the record of the

Confirmation Hearing and in the Confirmation Brief. Mr. Kirschner shall be paid \$40,000 per month for the first three months and \$20,000 per month thereafter, plus a success fee related to litigation recoveries. The Committee and the Debtor had arm's lengths negotiations regarding the post-Effective Date corporate governance structure of the Reorganized Debtor and believe that the selection of the Claimant Trustee, the Litigation Trustee, and the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee are in the best interests of the Debtor's economic stakeholders. Section 1123(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

**46. Debtor's Compliance with Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(2)).**

Pursuant to section 1129(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtor has complied with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, including sections 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, and 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Disclosure Statement Order governing notice, disclosure, and solicitation in connection with the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, the Plan Supplements, and all other matters considered by the Bankruptcy Court in connection with this Chapter 11 Case.

**47. Debtor's Solicitation Complied with Bankruptcy Code and Disclosure**

**Statement Order.** Before the Debtor solicited votes on the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Disclosure Statement Order. In accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order and evidenced by the Affidavits of Service and Publication, the Debtor appropriately served (i) the Solicitation Packages (as defined in the Disclosure Statement Order) on the Holders of Claims in Classes 2, 7, 8 and 9 and Holders of Equity Interests in Classes 10 and 11 who were entitled to vote on the Plan; and (ii) the Notice of Nonvoting Status (as defined in the Disclosure Statement Order) and the

Confirmation Hearing Notice to the Holders of Claims in Classes 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6, who were not entitled to vote on the Plan pursuant to the Disclosure Statement Order. The Disclosure Statement Order approved the contents of the Solicitation Packages provided to Holders of Claims and Equity Interests entitled to vote on the Plan, the notices provided to parties not entitled to vote on the Plan, and the deadlines for voting on and objecting to the Plan. The Debtor and KCC each complied with the content and delivery requirements of the Disclosure Statement Order, thereby satisfying sections 1125(a) and (b) of the Bankruptcy Code, as evidenced by the Affidavits of Service and Publication. The Debtor also satisfied section 1125(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, which provides that the same disclosure statement must be transmitted to each holder of a claim or interest in a particular class. The Debtor caused the same Disclosure Statement to be transmitted to all holders of Claims and Equity Interests entitled to vote on the Plan. The Debtor has complied in all respects with the solicitation requirements of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code and the Disclosure Statement Order. The Bankruptcy Court rejects the arguments of the Mr. Dondero and certain Dondero Related Entities that the changes made to certain assumptions and projections from the Liquidation Analysis annexed as Exhibit C to the Disclosure Statement (the “Liquidation Analysis”) to the Amended Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections require resolicitation of the Plan. The Bankruptcy Court heard credible testimony from Mr. Seery regarding the changes to the Liquidation Analysis as reflected in the Amended Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections. Based on the record, including the testimony of Mr. Seery, the Bankruptcy Court finds that the changes between the Liquidation Analysis and the Amended Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections do not constitute materially adverse change to the treatment of Claims or Equity

Interests. Instead, the changes served to update the projected distributions based on Claims that were settled after the approval of the Disclosure Statement and to otherwise incorporate more recent financial data. Such changes were entirely foreseeable given the large amount of unliquidated Claims at the time the Disclosure Statement was approved and the nature of the Debtor's assets. The Bankruptcy Court therefore finds that holders of Claims and Equity Interests were not misled or prejudiced by the Amended Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections and the Plan does not need to be resolicited.

48. **Plan Proposed in Good Faith and Not by Means Forbidden by Law (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(3)).** The Debtor has proposed the Plan in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code. In determining that the Plan has been proposed in good faith, the Bankruptcy Court has examined the totality of the circumstances surrounding the filing of this Chapter 11 Case, the Plan itself, and the extensive, unrebutted testimony of Mr. Seery in which he described the process leading to Plan's formulation. Based on the totality of the circumstances and Mr. Seery's testimony, the Bankruptcy Court finds that the Plan is the result of extensive arm's-length negotiations among the Debtor, the Committee, and key stakeholders, and promotes the objectives and purposes of the Bankruptcy Code. Specifically, the Debtor's good faith in proposing the Plan is supported by the following facts adduced by Mr. Seery:

- a. The Independent Board determined that it should consider all potential restructuring alternatives, including pursuit of a traditional restructuring and the continuation of the Debtor's business, a potential sale of the Debtor's assets in one or more transactions, an asset monetization plan similar to that described in the Plan, and a so-called "grand bargain" plan that would involve Mr. Dondero's sponsorship of a plan with a substantial equity infusion.

- b. The Debtor subsequently engaged in arm's-length, good faith negotiations with the Committee over an asset monetization Plan commencing in June 2020, which negotiations occurred over the next several months.
- c. Negotiations between the Debtor and the Committee were often contentious over disputes, including, but not limited to, the post-confirmation corporate governance structure and the scope of releases contemplated by the Plan.
- d. While negotiations with the Committee progressed, the Independent Board engaged in discussions with Mr. Dondero regarding a potential "grand bargain" plan which contemplated a significant equity infusion by Mr. Dondero, and which Mr. Seery personally spent hundreds of hours pursuing over many months.
- e. On August 3, 2020, the Bankruptcy Court entered the *Order Directing Mediation* [Docket No. 912] pursuant to which the Bankruptcy Court ordered the Debtor, the Committee, UBS, Acis, the Redeemer Committee, and Mr. Dondero into mediation. As a result of this mediation, the Debtor negotiated the settlement of the claims of Acis and Mr. Terry, which the Bankruptcy Court approved on October 28, 2020 [Docket No. 1302].
- f. On August 12, 2020, the Debtor filed its *Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, L.P.* [Docket No. 944] (the "Initial Plan") and related disclosure statement (the "Initial Disclosure Statement") which were not supported by either the Committee or Mr. Dondero. The Independent Board filed the Initial Plan and Initial Disclosure Statement in order to act as a catalyst for continued discussions with the Committee while it simultaneously worked with Mr. Dondero on the "grand bargain" plan.
- g. The Bankruptcy Court conducted a contested hearing on the Initial Disclosure Statement on October 27, 2020. The Committee and other parties objected to approval of the Disclosure Statement at the Initial Disclosure Statement hearing, which was eventually continued to November 23, 2020.
- h. Following the Initial Disclosure Statement hearing, the Debtor continued to negotiate with the Committee and ultimately resolved the remaining material disputes and led to the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the Disclosure Statement on November 23, 2020.
- i. Even after obtaining the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the Disclosure Statement, the Debtor and the Committee continued to negotiate with Mr. Dondero and the Committee over a potential "pot plan" as an alternative to the Plan on file with the Bankruptcy Court, but such efforts were unsuccessful. This history conclusively demonstrates that the Plan is being proposed in good faith within the meaning of section 1129(a)(3).

49. **Payments for Services or Costs and Expenses (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(4)).**

Article II.B of the Plan provides that Professionals will file all final requests for payment of Professional Fee Claims no later than 60 days after the Effective Date, thereby providing an adequate period of time for interested parties to review such claims. The procedures set forth in the Plan for the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the fees, costs, and expenses to be paid in connection with this chapter 11 Case, or in connection with the Plan and incident to this Chapter 11 Case, satisfy the objectives of and are in compliance with section 1129(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

50. **Directors, Officers, and Insiders (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(5)).**

Article IV.B of the Plan provides for the appointment of the Claimant Trustee, Litigation Trustee, and the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee and the members thereto. For the reasons more fully explained in paragraphs 44-45 of this Confirmation Order with respect to the requirement of section 1123(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtor has disclosed the nature of compensation of any insider to be employed or retained by the Reorganized Debtor, if applicable, and compensation for any such insider. The appointment of such individuals is consistent with the interests of Claims and Equity Interests and with public policy. Thus, the Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.

51. **No Rate Changes (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(6)).**

The Plan does not provide for any rate change that requires regulatory approval. Section 1129(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code is thus not applicable.

52. **Best Interests of Creditors (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(7)).** The “best interests” test is satisfied as to all Impaired Classes under the Plan, as each Holder of a Claim or Equity Interest in such Impaired Classes will receive or retain property of a value, as of the Effective Date of the Plan, that is not less than the amount that such Holder would so receive or retain if the Debtor were liquidated under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. On October 15, 2020, the Debtor filed the Liquidation Analysis [Docket 1173], as prepared by the Debtor with the assistance of its advisors and which was attached as Exhibit C to the Disclosure Statement. On January 29, 2021, in advance of Mr. Seery’s deposition in connection with confirmation of the Plan, the Debtor provided an updated version of the Liquidation Analysis to the then-objectors of the Plan, including Mr. Dondero and the Dondero Related Entities. On February 1, 2021, the Debtor filed the Amended Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections. The Amended Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections included updates to the Debtor’s projected asset values, revenues, and expenses to reflect: (1) the acquisition of an interest in an entity known as “HCLOF” that the Debtor will acquire as part of its court-approved settlement with HarbourVest and that was valued at \$22.5 million; (2) an increase in the value of certain of the Debtor’s assets due to changes in market conditions and other factors; (3) expected revenues and expenses arising in connection with the Debtor’s continued management of the CLOs pursuant to management agreements that the Debtor decided to retain; (4) increases in projected expenses for headcount (in addition to adding two or three employees to assist in the management of the CLOs, the Debtor also increased modestly the projected headcount as a result of its decision not to engage a Sub-Servicer) and professional fees; and (5) an increase in projected recoveries on notes resulting from the

acceleration of term notes owed to the Debtor by the following Dondero Related Entities: NexPoint Advisors, L.P.; Highland Capital Management Services, Inc.; and HCRE Partners, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC). Under the Plan, as of the Confirmation Date, (a) Class 7 General Unsecured Creditors are projected to receive 85% on account of their claims; and (b) Class 8 General Unsecured Creditors are projected to receive at least approximately 71% on account of their Claims. Under a hypothetical chapter 7 liquidation, all general unsecured creditors are projected to receive approximately 55% on account of their Claims. The Bankruptcy Court finds that the distributions that Class 7 and 8 General Unsecured Creditors are projected to receive under the Plan substantially exceeds that which they would receive under a chapter 7 liquidation based on Mr. Seery's testimony, including the following credible reasons he posited, among others:

- a. The nature of the Debtor's assets is complex. Certain assets relate to complicated real estate structures and private equity investments in operating businesses. Mr. Seery's extensive experience with the Debtor during the thirteen months since his appointment as an Independent Director and later Chief Executive Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer, provides him with a substantial learning curve in connection with the disposition of the Debtor's assets and are reasonably expected to result in him being able to realize tens of millions of dollars more value than would a chapter 7 trustee.
- b. Assuming that a hypothetical chapter 7 trustee could even operate the Debtor's business under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code and hire the necessary personnel with the relevant knowledge and experience to assist him or her in selling the Debtor's assets, a chapter 7 trustee would likely seek to dispose of the Debtor's assets in a forced sale liquidation which would generate substantially less value for the Debtor's creditors than the asset monetization plan contemplated by the Plan.
- c. A chapter 7 trustee would be unlikely to retain the Debtor's existing professionals to assist in its efforts to monetize assets, resulting in delays, increased expenses, and reduced asset yields for the chapter 7 estate.

- d. The chapter 7 estate would be unlikely to maximize value as compared to the asset monetization process contemplated by the Plan because potential buyers are likely to perceive a chapter 7 trustee as engaging in a quick, forced “fire sale” of assets; and
- e. The Debtor’s employees, who are vital to its efforts to maximum value and recoveries for stakeholders, may be unwilling to provide services to a chapter 7 trustee.

Finally, there is no evidence to support the objectors’ argument that the Claimant Trust Agreement’s disclaimed liability for ordinary negligence by the Claimant Trustee compared to a chapter 7 trustee’s liability has any relevance to creditor recoveries in a hypothetical chapter 7 liquidation. Thus, section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

53. **Acceptance by Certain Classes (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(8)).** Classes 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are Unimpaired under the Plan. Class 2 (Frontier Secured Claim), Class 7 (Convenience Claims), and Class 9 (Subordinated Claims) have each voted to accept the Plan in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(8) as to those Classes. However, Class 8 (General Unsecured Claims), Class 10 (Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests), and Class 11 (Class A Limited Partnership Interests) have not accepted the Plan. Accordingly, section 1129(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code has not been satisfied. The Plan, however, is still confirmable because it satisfies the nonconsensual confirmation provisions of section 1129(b), as set forth below.

54. **Treatment of Administrative, Priority, Priority Tax Claims, and Professional Fee Claims (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(9)).** The treatment of Administrative Claims, Priority Claims, and Professional Fee Claims pursuant to Article III of the Plan, and as set forth below with respect to the resolution of the objections filed by the Internal Revenue Service and

certain Texas taxing authorities satisfies the requirements of sections 1129(a)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code.

55. **Acceptance by Impaired Class (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(10)).** Class 2 (Frontier Secured Claims) and Class 7 (Convenience Claims) are each Impaired Classes of Claims that voted to accept the Plan, determined without including any acceptance of the Plan by any insider. Therefore, the requirement of section 1129(a)(10) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

56. **Feasibility (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(11)).** Article IV of the Plan provides for the implementation of the Plan through the Claimant Trust, the Litigation Sub-Trust, and the Reorganized Debtor. The Plan provides that the Claimant Trust, among other things, will monetize and distribute the Debtor's remaining assets. The Disclosure Statement, the Amended Liquidation Analysis/Financial Projections, and the other evidence presented at the Confirmation Hearing provide a reasonable probability of success that the Debtor will be able to effectuate the provisions of the Plan. The Plan contemplates the establishment of the Claimant Trust upon the Effective Date, which will monetize the Estate's assets for the benefit of creditors. Mr. Seery testified that the Class 2 Frontier Secured Claim will be paid over time pursuant to the terms of the New Frontier Note and the Reorganized Debtor will have sufficient assets to satisfy its obligations under this note. The Claims of the Holders of Class 7 Claims (as well as those Class 8 creditors who validly opted to receive the treatment of Class 7 Claims) are expected to be satisfied shortly after the Effective Date. Holders of Class 8 Claims (including any holders of Class 7 Claims who opted to receive the treatment provided to Class 8 Claims) are not guaranteed any recovery and will

periodically receive pro rata distributions as assets are monetized pursuant to the Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement. Thus, section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code is satisfied.

57. **Payment of Fees (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(12)).** All fees payable under 28 U.S.C. § 1930 have been paid or will be paid on or before the Effective Date pursuant to Article XII.A of the Plan, thus satisfying the requirement of section 1129(a)(12) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor has agreed that the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trust, and the Litigation Sub-Trust shall be jointly and severally liable for payment of quarterly fees to the Office of the United States Trustee pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930 through the entry of the Final Decree for the Debtor or the dismissal or conversion of the Chapter 11 Case.

58. **Retiree Benefits.** The Plan provides for the assumption of the Pension Plan (to the extent such Pension Plan provides “retiree benefits” and is governed by section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code). Thus, the Plan complies with section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code, to the extent applicable.

59. **Miscellaneous Provisions (11 U.S.C. §§ 1129(a)(14)-(16)).** Sections 1129(a)(14)-(16) of the Bankruptcy Code are inapplicable as the Debtor (i) has no domestic support obligations (section 1129(a)(14)), (ii) is not an individual (section 1129(a)(15)), and (iii) is not a nonprofit corporation (section 1129(a)(16)).

60. **No Unfair Discrimination; Fair and Equitable Treatment (11 U.S.C. § 1129(b)).** The classification and treatment of Claims and Equity Interests in Classes 8, 10 and 11, which have not accepted the Plan, is proper pursuant to section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code, does

not discriminate unfairly, and is fair and equitable pursuant to section 1129(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- a. Class 8. The Plan is fair and equitable with respect to Class 8 General Unsecured Claims. While Equity Interests in Class 10 and Class 11 will receive a contingent interest in the Claimant Trust under the Plan (the “Contingent Interests”), the Contingent Interests will not vest unless and until holders of Class 8 General Unsecured Claims and Class 9 Subordinated Claims receive distributions equal to 100% of the amount of their Allowed Claims plus interest as provided under the Plan and Claimant Trust Agreement. Accordingly, as the holders of Equity Interests that are junior to the Claims in Class 8 and Class 9 will not receive or retain under the Plan on account of such junior claim interest any property unless and until the Claims in Class 8 and Class 9 are paid in full plus applicable interest, the Plan is fair and equitable with respect to holders of Class 8 General Unsecured Claims pursuant to section 1129(b)(2)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code and the reasoning of *In re Introgen Therapeutics* 429 B.R. 570 (Bankr. W.D. Tex. 2010).
- b. Class 10 and Class 11. There are no Claims or Equity Interests junior to the Equity Interests in Class 10 and Class 11. Equity Interests in Class 10 and 11 will neither receive nor retain any property under the Plan unless Allowed Claims in Class 8 and Class 9 are paid in full plus applicable interest pursuant to the terms of the Plan and Claimant Trust Agreement. Thus, the Plan does not violate the absolute priority rule with respect to Classes 10 and 11 pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 1129(b)(2)(C). The Plan does not discriminate unfairly as to Equity Interests. As noted above, separate classification of the Class B/C Partnership Interests from the Class A Partnerships Interests is appropriate because they constitute different classes of equity security interests in the Debtor, and each are appropriately separately classified and treated.

Accordingly, the Plan does not violate the absolute priority rule, does not discriminate unfairly, and is fair and equitable with respect to each Class that has rejected the Plan. Thus, the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to Classes 8, 10, and 11.

61. **Only One Plan (11 U.S.C. § 1129(c)).** The Plan is the only chapter 11 plan confirmed in this Chapter 11 Case, and the requirements of section 1129(c) of the Bankruptcy Code are therefore satisfied.

62. **Principal Purpose (11 U.S.C. § 1129(d)).** Mr. Seery testified that the principal purpose of the Plan is neither the avoidance of taxes nor the avoidance of the application of section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933, and no governmental unit has objected to the confirmation of the Plan on any such grounds. Accordingly, section 1129(d) of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable.

63. **Satisfaction of Confirmation Requirements.** Based upon the foregoing, the Plan satisfies the requirements for confirmation set forth in section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code and should be confirmed.

64. **Good Faith Solicitation (11 U.S.C. § 1125(e)).** The Debtor, the Independent Directors, and the Debtor's employees, advisors, Professionals, and agents have acted in good faith within the meaning of section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules in connection with all of their respective activities relating to the solicitation of acceptances of the Plan and their participation in the activities described in section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, and they are entitled to the protections afforded by section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code.

65. **Discharge (11 U.S.C. § 1141(d)(3)).** The Debtor is entitled to a discharge of debts pursuant to section 1141(d)(3)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code. Under the Plan, the Claimant Trust or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, will continue to manage funds and conduct business

in the same manner as the Debtor did prior to Plan confirmation, which includes the management of the CLOs, Multi-Strat, Restoration Capital, the Select Fund and the Korea Fund. Although the Plan projects that it will take approximately two years to monetize the Debtor's assets for fair value, Mr. Seery testified that while the Reorganized Debtor and Claimant Trust will be monetizing their assets, there is no specified time frame by which this process must conclude. Mr. Seery's credible testimony demonstrates that the Debtor will continue to engage in business after consummation of the Plan, within the meaning of Section 1141(d)(3)(b) and that the Debtor is entitled to a discharge pursuant to section 1141(d)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.

66. **Retention of Jurisdiction.** The Bankruptcy Court may properly retain jurisdiction over the matters set forth in Article XI of the Plan and/or section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code to the maximum extent under applicable law.

67. **Additional Plan Provisions (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)).** The Plan's provisions are appropriate, in the best interests of the Debtor and its Estate, and consistent with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, and Local Rules.

68. **Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(2)).** The Debtor has exercised reasonable business judgment with respect to the rejection of the Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases pursuant the terms of the Plan and this Confirmation Order, and such rejections are justified and appropriate in this Chapter 11 Case. The Debtor also filed the List of Assumed Contracts, which contain notices to the applicable counterparties to the contracts set forth on Exhibit "FF" to Plan Supplement filed on February 1, 2021 [Docket No. 1875] and which exhibit sets forth the list of executory contracts and unexpired leases to be

assumed by the Debtor pursuant to the Plan (collectively, the “Assumed Contracts”). With respect to the Assumed Contracts, only one party objected to the assumption of any of the Assumed Contracts, but that objection was withdrawn.<sup>8</sup> Any modifications, amendments, supplements, and restatements to the Assumed Contracts that may have been executed by the Debtor during the Chapter 11 Case shall not be deemed to alter the prepetition nature of the Assumed Contracts or the validity, priority, or amount of any Claims that may arise in connection therewith. Assumption of any Assumed Contract pursuant to the Plan and full payment of any applicable Cure pursuant to the Plan shall result in the full release and satisfaction of any Cures, Claims, or defaults, whether monetary or nonmonetary, including defaults of provisions restricting the change in control or ownership interest composition or other bankruptcy-related defaults, arising under any assumed Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease at any time prior to the effective date of assumption.

**69. Compromises and Settlements Under and in Connection with the Plan (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(3)).** All of the settlements and compromises pursuant to and in connection with the Plan, comply with the requirements of section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019.

**70. Debtor Release, Exculpation and Injunctions (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)).** The Debtor Release, Exculpation, and Injunction provisions provided in the Plan (i) are within the jurisdiction of the Bankruptcy Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1334; (ii) are integral elements of the transactions incorporated into the Plan, and inextricably bound with the other provisions of the Plan; (iii) confer material benefit on, and are in the best interests of, the Debtor, its Estate, and its

<sup>8</sup> See *Notice of Withdrawal of James Dondero’s Objection Debtor’s Proposed Assumption of Contracts and Cure Amounts Proposed in Connection Therewith* [Docket No. 1876]

creditors; (iv) are fair, equitable, and reasonable; (v) are given and made after due notice and opportunity for hearing; (vi) satisfy the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 9019; and (vii) are consistent with the Bankruptcy Code and other applicable law, and as set forth below.

71. **Debtor Release.** Section IX.D of the Plan provides for the Debtor's release of the Debtor's and Estate's claims against the Released Parties. Releases by a debtor are discretionary and can be provided by a debtor to persons who have provided consideration to the Debtor and its estate pursuant to section 1123(b)(3)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code. Contrary to the objections raised by Mr. Dondero and certain of the Dondero Related Entities, the Debtor Release is appropriately limited to release claims held by the Debtor and does not purport to release the claims held by the Claimant Trust, Litigation Sub-Trust, or other third parties. The Plan does not purport to release any claims held by third parties and the Bankruptcy Court finds that the Debtor Release is not a "disguised" release of any third party claims as asserted by certain objecting parties. The limited scope of the Debtor Release in the Plan was extensively negotiated with the Committee, particularly with the respect to the Debtor's conditional release of claims against employees, as identified in the Plan, and the Plan's conditions and terms of such releases. The Plan does not release (i) any obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement executed to implement the Plan, (ii) the rights or obligations of any current employee of the Debtor under any employment agreement or plan, (iii) the rights of the Debtor with respect to any confidentiality provisions or covenants restricting competition in favor of the Debtor under any employment agreement with a current or former employee of the Debtor, (iv) any Avoidance Actions, or (v) any Causes of Action arising from willful misconduct, criminal misconduct, actual

fraud, or gross negligence of such applicable Released Party as determined by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court or any other court of competent jurisdiction. The Debtor Release also contains conditions to such releases as set forth in Article X.D of the Plan with respect to employees (the “Release Conditions”). Until the an employee satisfies the Release Conditions or the Release Conditions otherwise terminate, any claims against such employee will be tolled so that if the Release Conditions are not met the Litigation Trustee may pursue claims against an employee at a later date. The evidence before the Bankruptcy Court, including, but not limited to Mr. Seery’s testimony, demonstrates that the Debtor is not aware of any claims against any of the Released Parties, that the Released Parties have been instrumental in assisting the Debtor’s efforts toward confirmation of the Plan and that, therefore, the releases are a *quid pro quo* for the Released Parties’ significant contributions to a highly complex and contentious restructuring. The Committee, whose members hold approximately \$200 million in claims against the Estate, is highly sophisticated and is represented by highly sophisticated professionals, and has actively and vigorously negotiated the terms of the Debtor Release, which was the subject of significant controversy at the Initial Disclosure Statement hearing held by the Bankruptcy Court on October 27, 2020.

72. **Exculpation.** Section IX.C of the Plan provides for the exculpation of certain Exculpated Parties to the extent provided therein (the “Exculpation Provision”). As explained below, the Exculpation Provision is appropriate under the unique circumstances of this litigious Chapter 11 Case and consistent with applicable Fifth Circuit precedent. First, with respect to the Independent Directors, their agents, and their advisors, including any employees acting at

their direction, the Bankruptcy Court finds and concludes that it has already exculpated these parties for acts other than willful misconduct and gross negligence pursuant to the January 9 Order. The January 9 Order was specifically agreed to by Mr. Dondero, who was in control of the Debtor up until entry of the January 9 Order. The January 9 Order was not appealed. In addition to the appointment of the Independent Directors in an already contentious and litigious case, the January 9 Order set the standard of care for the Independent Directors and specifically exculpated them for negligence. Mr. Seery and Mr. Dubel each testified that they had input into the contents of the January 9 Order and would not have agreed to their appointment as Independent Directors if the January 9 Order did not include the protections set forth in paragraph 10 of the January 9 Order. Paragraph 10 of the January 9 Order (1) requires that parties wishing to sue the Independent Directors or their agents and advisors must first seek approval from the Bankruptcy Court before doing so; (2) sets the standard of care for the Independent Directors during the Chapter 11 Case and exculpated the Independent Directors for acts other than willful misconduct or gross negligence; (3) only permits suits against the Independent Directors to proceed for colorable claims of willful misconduct and gross negligence upon order of the Bankruptcy Court; and (4) does not expire by its terms.

73. **Existing Exculpation of Independent Directors.** The Bankruptcy Court also finds and concludes that it has already exculpated Mr. Seery acting in the capacity as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer pursuant to the July 16 Order. The Bankruptcy Court concludes its previous approval of the exculpation of the Independent Directors, their agents, advisors and employees working at their direction pursuant to the January 9 Order, and the Chief

Executive Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer pursuant to the July 16 Order constitutes the law of this case and are *res judicata* pursuant to *In re Republic Supply Co. v. Shoaf*, 815 F.2d 1046 (5th Cir.1987). The January 9 Order and July 16 Order cannot be collaterally attacked based on the objectors' objection to the exculpation of the Independent Directors, their agents, and advisors, including any employees acting at their direction, as well as the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer, that the Bankruptcy Court already approved pursuant to the January 9 Order and the July 16 Order.

74. **The Exculpation Provision Complies with Applicable Law.** Separate and apart from the *res judicata* effect of the January 9 Order and the July 16 Order, the Bankruptcy Court also finds and concludes that the Exculpation Provision is consistent with applicable law, including *In re Pacific Lumber Co.*, 584 F.3d 229 (5th Cir. 2009), for several reasons:

- a. First, the statutory basis for *Pacific Lumber's* denial of exculpation for certain parties other than a creditors' committee and its members is that section 524(e) of the Bankruptcy Code "only releases the debtor, not co-liable third parties." *Pacific Lumber*, 253 F.3d. at 253. However, *Pacific Lumber* does not prohibit all exculpations under the Bankruptcy Code and the court in such case specifically approved the exculpations of a creditors' committee and its members on the grounds that "11 U.S.C. § 1103(c), which lists the creditors' committee's powers, implies committee members have qualified immunity for actions within the scope of their duties.... [I]f members of the committee can be sued by persons unhappy with the committee's performance during the case or unhappy with the outcome of the case, it will be extremely difficult to find members to serve on an official committee." *Pacific Lumber*, 253 F.3d at 253 (quoting Lawrence P. King, et al, *Collier on Bankruptcy*, ¶ 1103.05[4][b] (15<sup>th</sup> Ed. 2008)). *Pacific Lumber's* rationale for permitted exculpation of creditors' committees and their members (which was clearly policy-based and based on a creditors' committee qualified immunity flowing from their duties under section 1103(c) of the Bankruptcy Code and their disinterestedness and importance in chapter 11 cases) does not preclude exculpation to other parties in a particular chapter 11 case that perform similar roles to a creditors' committee and its members. The Independent Directors, and by extension the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer, were not

part of the Debtor's enterprise prior to their appointment by the Bankruptcy Court under the January 9 Order. The Bankruptcy Court appointed the Independent Directors in lieu of a chapter 11 trustee to address what the Bankruptcy Court perceived as serious conflicts of interest and fiduciary duty concerns with the then-existing management prior to January 9, 2020, as identified by the Committee. In addition, the Bankruptcy Court finds that the Independent Directors expected to be exculpated from claims of negligence, and would likely have been unwilling to serve in contentious cases absent exculpation. The uncontroverted testimony of Mr. Seery and Mr. Dubel demonstrates that the Independent Directors would not have agreed to accept their roles without the exculpation and gatekeeper provision in the January 9 Order. Mr. Dubel also testified as to the increasing important role that independent directors are playing in complex chapter 11 restructurings and that unless independent directors could be assured of exculpation for simple negligence in contentious bankruptcy cases they would be reluctant to accept appointment in chapter 11 cases which would adversely affect the chapter 11 restructuring process. The Bankruptcy Court concludes that the Independent Directors were appointed under the January 9 Order in order to avoid the appointment of a chapter 11 trustee and are analogous to a creditors' committee rather than an incumbent board of directors. The Bankruptcy Court also concludes that if independent directors cannot be assured of exculpation for simple negligence in contentious bankruptcy cases, they may not be willing to serve in that capacity. Based upon the foregoing, the Bankruptcy Court concludes that *Pacific Lumber's* policy of exculpating creditors' committees and their members from "being sued by persons unhappy with the committee's performance during the case or unhappy with the outcome of the case" is applicable to the Independent Directors in this Chapter 11 Case.<sup>9</sup>

- b. Second, the Bankruptcy Court also concludes that *Pacific Lumber* does not preclude the exculpation of parties if there is a showing that "costs [that] the released parties might incur defending against such suits alleging such negligence are likely to swamp either the Exculpated Parties or the reorganization." *Pacific Lumber*, 584 F.3d at 252. If ever there was a risk of that happening in a chapter 11 reorganization, it is this one. Mr. Seery credibly testified that Mr. Dondero stated outside the courtroom that if Mr. Dondero's pot plan does not get approved, that Mr. Dondero will "burn the place down." The Bankruptcy Court can easily expect that the proposed Exculpated Parties might expect to incur costs that could swamp them and the reorganization based on the prior litigious conduct of Mr. Dondero and his controlled entities that justify their inclusion in the Exculpation Provision.

<sup>9</sup> The same reasoning applies to the inclusion of Strand in the Exculpation Provision because Strand is the general partner of the Debtor through which each of the Independent Board members act.

75. **Injunction.** Section IX.D of the Plan provides for a Plan injunction to implement and enforce the Plan’s release, discharge and release provisions (the “Injunction Provision”). The Injunction Provision is necessary to implement the provisions in the Plan. Mr. Seery testified that the Claimant Trustee will monetize the Debtor’s assets in order to maximize their value. In order to accomplish this goal, the Claimant Trustee needs to be able to pursue this objective without the interference and harassment of Mr. Dondero and his related entities, including the Dondero Related Entities. Mr. Seery also testified that if the Claimant Trust was subject to interference by Mr. Dondero, it would take additional time to monetize the Debtor’s assets and those assets could be monetized for less money to the detriment of the Debtor’s creditors. The Bankruptcy Court finds and concludes that the Injunction Provision is consistent with and permissible under Bankruptcy Code sections 1123(a), 1123(a)(6), 1141(a) and (c), and 1142. The Bankruptcy Court rejects assertions by certain objecting parties that the Injunction Provision constitutes a “third-party release.” The Injunction Provision is appropriate under the circumstances of this Chapter 11 Case and complies with applicable bankruptcy law. The Bankruptcy Court also concludes that the terms “implementation” and “consummation” are neither vague nor ambiguous

76. **Gatekeeper Provision.** Section IX.F of the Plan contains a provision contained in paragraph AA of this Confirmation Order and which the Debtor has referred to as a gatekeeper provision (the “Gatekeeper Provision”). The Gatekeeper Provision requires that Enjoined Parties first seek approval of the Bankruptcy Court before they may commence an action against Protected Parties. Thereafter, if the Bankruptcy Court determines that the action is

colorable, the Bankruptcy Court may, if it has jurisdiction, adjudicate the action. The Bankruptcy Court finds that the inclusion of the Gatekeeper Provision is critical to the effective and efficient administration, implementation, and consummation of the Plan. The Bankruptcy Court also concludes that the Bankruptcy Court has the statutory authority as set forth below to approve the Gatekeeper Provision.

77. **Factual Support for Gatekeeper Provision.** The facts supporting the need for the Gatekeeper Provision are as follows. As discussed earlier in this Confirmation Order, prior to the commencement of the Debtor's bankruptcy case, and while under the direction of Mr. Dondero, the Debtor had been involved in a myriad of litigation, some of which had gone on for years and, in some cases, over a decade. Substantially all of the creditors in this case are either parties who were engaged in litigation with the Debtor, parties who represented the Debtor in connection with such litigation and had not been paid, or trade creditors who provided litigation-related services to the Debtor. During the last several months, Mr. Dondero and the Dondero Related Entities have harassed the Debtor, which has resulted in further substantial, costly, and time-consuming litigation for the Debtor. Such litigation includes: (i) entry of a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction against Mr. Dondero [Adv. Proc. No. 20-03190 Docket No. 10 and 59] because of, among other things, his harassment of Mr. Seery and employees and interference with the Debtor's business operations; (ii) a contempt motion against Mr. Dondero for violation of the temporary restraining order, which motion is still pending before the Bankruptcy Court [Adv. Proc. No. 20-03190 Docket No. 48]; (iii) a motion by Mr. Dondero's controlled investors in certain CLOs managed by the Debtor that the Bankruptcy Court referred to

as frivolous and a waste of the Bankruptcy Court's time [Docket No. 1528] which was denied by the Court [Docket No. 1605]; (iv) multiple plan confirmation objections focused on ensuring the Dondero Related Entities be able to continue their litigation against the Debtor and its successors post-confirmation [Docket Nos. 1661, 1667, 1670, 1673, 1676, 1677 and 1868]; (v) objections to the approval of the Debtor's settlements with Acis and HarbourVest and subsequent appeals of the Bankruptcy Court's order approving each of those settlements [Docket Nos. 1347 and 1870]; and (vi) a complaint and injunction sought against Mr. Dondero's affiliated entities to prevent them from violating the January 9 Order and entry of a restraining order against those entities [Adv Proc. No. 21-03000 Docket No 1] (collectively, the "Dondero Post-Petition Litigation").

78. **Findings Regarding Dondero Post-Petition Litigation.** The Bankruptcy Court finds that the Dondero Post-Petition Litigation was a result of Mr. Dondero failing to obtain creditor support for his plan proposal and consistent with his comments, as set forth in Mr. Seery's credible testimony, that if Mr. Dondero's plan proposal was not accepted, he would "burn down the place." The Bankruptcy Court concludes that without appropriate protections in place, in the form of the Gatekeeper Provision, Mr. Dondero and his related entities will likely commence litigation against the Protected Parties after the Effective Date and do so in jurisdictions other than the Bankruptcy Court in an effort to obtain a forum which Mr. Dondero perceives will be more hospitable to his claims. The Bankruptcy Court also finds, based upon Mr. Seery's testimony, that the threat of continued litigation by Mr. Dondero and his related entities after the Effective Date will impede efforts by the Claimant Trust to monetize assets for the benefit of creditors and result

in lower distributions to creditors because of costs and distraction such litigation or the threats of such litigation would cause.

79. **Necessity of Gatekeeper Provision.** The Bankruptcy Court further finds that unless the Bankruptcy Court approves the Gatekeeper Provision, the Claimant Trustee and the Claimant Trust Oversight Board will not be able to obtain D&O insurance, the absence of which will present unacceptable risks to parties currently willing to serve in such roles. The Bankruptcy Court heard testimony from Mark Tauber, a Vice President with AON Financial Services, the Debtor's insurance broker ("AON"), regarding his efforts to obtain D&O insurance. Mr. Tauber credibly testified that of all the insurance carriers that AON approached to provide D&O insurance coverage after the Effective Date, the only one willing to do so without an exclusion for claims asserted by Mr. Dondero and his affiliates otherwise requires that this Order approve the Gatekeeper Provision. Based on the foregoing, the Bankruptcy Court finds that the Gatekeeper Provision is necessary and appropriate in light of the history of the continued litigiousness of Mr. Dondero and his related entities in this Chapter 11 Case and necessary to the effective and efficient administration, implementation and consummation of the Plan and is appropriate pursuant to *Carroll v. Abide (In re Carroll)* 850 F.3d 811 (5th Cir. 2017). Approval of the Gatekeeper Provision will prevent baseless litigation designed merely to harass the post-confirmation entities charged with monetizing the Debtor's assets for the benefit of its economic constituents, will avoid abuse of the court system and preempt the use of judicial time that properly could be used to consider the meritorious claims of other litigants. Any suit against a Protected Party would effectively be a suit against the Debtor, and the Debtor may be required to indemnify the Protected

Parties under the Limited Partnership Agreement, which will remain in effect through the Effective Date, or those certain *Indemnification and Guaranty Agreements*, dated January 9, 2020, between Strand, the Debtor, and each Independent Director, following the Confirmation Date as each such agreement will be assumed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 365 pursuant to the Plan.

80. **Statutory Authority to Approve Gatekeeper Provision.** The Bankruptcy Court finds it has the statutory authority to approve the Gatekeeper Provision under sections 1123(a)(5), 1123(b)(6), 1141, 1142(b), and 105(a). The Gatekeeper Provision is also within the spirit of the Supreme Court’s “Barton Doctrine.” *Barton v. Barbour*, 104 U.S. 126 (1881). The Gatekeeper Provision is also consistent with the notion of a prefiling injunction to deter vexatious litigants, that has been approved by the Fifth Circuit in such cases as *Baum v. Blue Moon Ventures, LLC*, 513 F.3d 181, 189 (5th Cir. 2008), and *In re Carroll*, 850 F.3d 811 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2017).

81. **Jurisdiction to Implement Gatekeeper Provision.** The Bankruptcy Court finds that it will have jurisdiction after the Effective Date to implement the Gatekeeper Provision as post-confirmation bankruptcy court jurisdiction has been interpreted by the Fifth Circuit under *United States Brass Corp. v. Travelers Ins. Group, Inc. (In re United States Brass Corp.)*, 301 F.3d 296 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and *EOP-Colonnade of Dallas Ltd. P’Ship v. Faulkner (In re Stonebridge Techs., Inc.)*, 430 F.3d 260 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2005). Based upon the rationale of the Fifth Circuit in *Villegas v. Schmidt*, 788 F.3d 156, 158-59 (5th Cir. 2015), the Bankruptcy Court’s jurisdiction to act as a gatekeeper does not violate *Stern v. Marshall*. The Bankruptcy Court’s determination of whether

a claim is colorable, which the Bankruptcy Court has jurisdiction to determine, is distinct from whether the Bankruptcy Court would have jurisdiction to adjudicate any claim it finds colorable.

82. **Resolution of Objections of Scott Ellington and Isaac Leventon.** Each of Scott Ellington (“Mr. Ellington”) and Isaac Leventon (“Mr. Leventon”) (each, a “Senior Employee Claimant”) has asserted certain claims for liquidated but unpaid bonus amounts for the following periods: 2016, 2017, and 2018, as set forth in Exhibit A to that certain *Senior Employees’ Limited Objection to Debtor’s Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization* [Docket No. 1669] (the “Senior Employees’ Objection”) (for each of Mr. Ellington and Mr. Leventon, the “Liquidated Bonus Claims”).

- a. Mr. Ellington has asserted Liquidated Bonus Claims in the aggregate amount of \$1,367,197.00, and Mr. Leventon has asserted Liquidated Bonus Claims in the aggregate amount of \$598,198.00. Mr. Ellington received two Ballots<sup>10</sup> – a Ballot for Class 7 of the Plan and a Ballot for Class 8 of the Plan. Mr. Ellington completed and timely returned both of such Ballots, voted to reject the Plan, and elected to have his Class 8 Liquidated Bonus Claims treated under Class 7 of the Plan, subject to the objections and reservations of rights set forth in the Senior Employees’ Objection. If Mr. Ellington is permitted to elect Class 7 treatment for his Liquidated Bonus Claims, then the maximum amount of his Liquidated Bonus Claims will be \$1,000,000.
- b. Mr. Leventon received two Ballots—a Ballot for Class 7 of the Plan and a Ballot for Class 8 of the Plan. Mr. Leventon completed and timely returned both of such Ballots and voted each such Ballots to rejected the Plan.
- c. The Senior Employees’ Objection, among other things, objects to the Plan on the grounds that the Debtor improperly disputes the right of Mr. Ellington to elect Class 7 treatment for his Liquidated Bonus Claims and Mr. Leventon’s entitlement to receive Class 7 Convenience Class treatment for his Liquidated Bonus Claims. The Debtor contended that neither Mr. Ellington or Mr. Leventon were entitled to elect to receive Class 7 Convenience Class treatment on account of their Liquidated

<sup>10</sup> As defined in the Plan, “Ballot” means the forms(s) distributed to holders of Impaired Claims or Equity Interests entitled to vote on the Plan on which to indicate their acceptance or rejection of the Plan.

Bonus Claims under the terms of the Plan, the Disclosure Statement Order or applicable law.

- d. The Debtor and Mr. Ellington and Mr. Leventon negotiated at arms' length in an effort to resolve all issues raised in the Senior Employee's Objection, including whether or not Mr. Ellington and Mr. Leventon were entitled to Class 7 Convenience Class treatment of their Liquidated Bonus Claims. As a result of such negotiation, the Debtor, Mr. Ellington, and Mr. Leventon have agreed to the settlement described in paragraphs 82(e) through 82(k) below and approved and effectuated pursuant to decretal paragraphs RR through SS (the "Senior Employees' Settlement").
- e. Under the terms of the Senior Employees' Settlement, the Debtor has the right to elect one of two treatments of the Liquidated Bonus Claims for a Senior Employee Claimant. Under the first treatment option ("Option A"), the Liquidated Bonus Claims will be entitled to be treated in Class 7 of the Plan, and the Liquidated Bonus Claims will be entitled to receive payment in an amount equal to 70.125% of the Class 7 amount of the Liquidated Bonus Claims, subject to the Liquidated Bonus Claims becoming Allowed Claims under the terms of the Plan. Under this calculation, Mr. Ellington would be entitled to receive \$701,250.00 on account of his Class 7 Convenience Class Claim when and as Allowed under the Plan, and Mr. Leventon would be entitled to receive \$413,175.10 on account of his Class 7 Convenience Class Claim when and as Allowed under the Plan. If, however, any party in interest objects to the allowance of the Senior Employee Claimant's Liquidated Bonus Claims and does not prevail in such objection, then such Senior Employee Claimant will be entitled to a payment in an amount equal to 85% of his Allowed Liquidated Bonus Claims (subject, in the case of Mr. Ellington, to the cap imposed on Class 7 Claims). In addition, under Option A, each of Mr. Ellington and Mr. Leventon would retain their respective rights to assert that the Liquidated Bonus Claims are entitled to be treated as Administrative Expense Claims, as defined in Article I.B.2. of the Plan, in which case the holder of such Liquidated Bonus Claims would be entitled to payment in full of the Allowed Liquidated Bonus Claims. Under Option A, parties in interest would retain the right to object to any motion seeking payment of the Liquidated Bonus Amounts as Administrative Expenses.
- f. Under the second treatment option ("Option B"), the Debtor would agree that the Senior Employee Claimant has Allowed Liquidated Bonus Claims, no longer subject to objection by any party in interest, in the amounts of the Liquidated Bonus Claims (subject, in the case of Mr. Ellington, to the cap imposed by Class 7). If the Debtor elects Option B as to a Senior Employee Claimant, then such Senior Employee Claimant would be entitled to a payment on account of his Allowed Liquidated Bonus Claims in an amount equal to 60% of the amount of the

Liquidated Bonus Claims (which, in Mr. Ellington's case, would be \$600,000 and in Mr. Leventon's case, would be \$358,918.80), and such payment would be the sole recovery on account of such Allowed Liquidated Bonus Claims.

- g. The Debtor may, with the consent of the Committee, elect Option B with respect to a Senior Employee Claimant at any time prior to the occurrence of the Effective Date. If the Debtor does not make an election, then Option A will apply.
- h. Under either Option A or Option B, Mr. Ellington and Mr. Leventon will retain all their rights with respect to all Claims other than the Liquidated Bonus Amounts, including, but not limited to, their Class 6 PTO Claims, other claims asserted as Class 8 General Unsecured Claims, the Senior Employees' claims for indemnification against the Debtor, and any other claims that they may assert constitute Administrative Expense Claims, and any other such Claims are subject to the rights of any party in interest to object to such Claims, and the Debtor reserves any all of its rights and defenses in connection therewith.
- i. Subject to entry of this Confirmation Order and as set forth and announced on the record at the hearing on confirmation of the Plan and no party objecting thereto, Mr. Ellington and Mr. Leventon agreed to change the votes in their respective Ballots from rejection to acceptance of the Plan and to withdraw the Senior Employees' Objection.
- j. The Senior Employees' Settlement represents a valid exercise of the Debtor's business judgment and satisfies the requirements for a compromise under Bankruptcy Rule 9019(a).
- k. For the avoidance of doubt, neither Mr. Leventon nor Mr. Ellington shall be a Released Party under the Plan regardless of how the Senior Employee Claimants' Claims are to be treated hereunder.

Based upon the foregoing findings, and upon the record made before the Bankruptcy Court at the Confirmation Hearing, and good and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is hereby

**ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:**

**A. Confirmation of the Plan.** The Plan is approved in its entirety and **CONFIRMED** under section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code. The terms of the Plan, including the

Plan Supplements and Plan Modifications, are incorporated by reference into and are an integral part of this Confirmation Order.<sup>11</sup>

**B. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.** The findings of fact and the conclusions of law set forth in this Confirmation Order and on the record of the Confirmation Hearing constitute findings of fact and conclusions of law in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 7052, made applicable to this proceeding by Bankruptcy Rule 9014. All findings of fact and conclusion of law announced by the Bankruptcy Court at the Confirmation Hearing in relation to confirmation of the Plan are hereby incorporated into this Confirmation Order. To the extent that any of the following constitutes findings of fact or conclusions of law, they are adopted as such. To the extent any findings of fact or conclusions of law set forth in this Confirmation Order (including any findings of fact or conclusions of law announced by the Bankruptcy Court at the Confirmation Hearing and incorporated herein) constitutes an order of the Bankruptcy Court, and is adopted as such.

**C. Objections.** Any resolution or disposition of objections to confirmation of the Plan or otherwise ruled upon by the Bankruptcy Court on the record of the Confirmation Hearing is hereby incorporated by reference. All objections and all reservations of rights pertaining to confirmation of the Plan that have not been withdrawn, waived or settled are overruled on the merits, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Confirmation Order.

**D. Plan Supplements and Plan Modifications.** The filing with the Bankruptcy Court of the Plan Supplements and the Plan Modifications constitutes due and

<sup>11</sup> The Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

sufficient notice thereof. Accordingly, pursuant to section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3019, the Plan Modifications and the Plan Supplements do not require additional disclosure under section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code or resolicitation of votes under section 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code, nor do they require that Holders of Claims or Equity Interests be afforded an opportunity to change previously cast acceptances or rejections of the Plan. The Plan Modifications and the Plan Supplements constitute the Plan pursuant to section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, the Plan, as modified, is properly before the Bankruptcy Court and all votes cast with respect to the Plan prior to such modification shall be binding and shall apply with respect to the Plan.

**E. Deemed Acceptance of Plan.** In accordance with section 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3019, all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests who voted to accept the Plan (or whom are conclusively presumed to accept the Plan) are deemed to have accepted the Plan as modified by the Plan Modifications. No holder of a Claim shall be permitted to change its vote as a consequence of the Plan Modifications.

**F. Vesting of Assets in the Reorganized Debtor.** Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or this Confirmation Order, on or after the Effective Date, all Reorganized Debtor Assets will vest in the Reorganized Debtor, free and clear of all Liens, Claims, charges or other encumbrances pursuant to section 1141(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, except with respect to such Liens, Claims, charges, and other encumbrances that are specifically preserved under the Plan upon the Effective Date. The Reorganized Debtor shall be the exclusive trustee of the Reorganized Debtor Assets for purposes of 31 U.S.C. § 3713(b) and 26 U.S.C. § 6012(b)(3), as well as the

representative of the Estate appointed pursuant to section 1123(b)(3)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to the Reorganized Debtor Assets.

**G. Effectiveness of All Actions.** All actions contemplated by the Plan, including all actions in connection with the Claimant Trust Agreement, the Senior Employee Stipulation, the New GP LLC Documents, the New Frontier Note, the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, and the other Plan Documents, are authorized to be taken on, prior to, or after the Effective Date, as applicable, under this Confirmation Order, without further application to or order of the Bankruptcy Court, or further action by the directors, managers, officers or partners of the Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor and with the effect that such actions had been taken by unanimous action of such parties.

**H. Restructuring Transactions.** The Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, are authorized to enter into and effectuate the Restructuring provided under the Plan, including, without limitation, the entry into and consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Claimant Trust Agreement, the Senior Employee Stipulation, the New GP LLC Documents, the New Frontier Note, the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, and the other Plan Documents, and may take any actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effect a corporate restructuring of its business or a corporate restructuring of the overall corporate structure of the Reorganized Debtor, as and to the extent provided in the Plan. Any transfers of assets or equity interests effected or any obligations incurred through the Restructuring pursuant to the Plan are hereby approved and shall not constitute fraudulent conveyances or fraudulent transfers or otherwise be subject to avoidance.

**I. Preservation of Causes of Action.** Unless a Cause of Action against a Holder of a Claim or an Equity Interest or other Entity is expressly waived, relinquished, released, compromised or settled in the Plan or any Final Order (including, without limitation, this Confirmation Order), such Cause of Action is expressly reserved for later adjudication by the Reorganized Debtor, the Litigation Sub-Trust, or the Claimant Trust, as applicable (including, without limitation, Causes of Action not specifically identified or of which the Debtor may presently be unaware or that may arise or exist by reason of additional facts or circumstances unknown to the Debtor at this time or facts or circumstances that may change or be different from those the Debtor now believes to exist) and, therefore, no preclusion doctrine, including, without limitation, the doctrines of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, waiver, estoppel (judicial, equitable or otherwise) or laches will apply to such Causes of Action as a consequence of the confirmation, effectiveness, or consummation of the Plan based on the Disclosure Statement, the Plan, or this Confirmation Order, except where such Causes of Action have been expressly released in the Plan or any other Final Order (including, without limitation, this Confirmation Order). In addition, the right of the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trust, or the Litigation Sub-Trust to pursue or adopt any claims alleged in any lawsuit in which the Debtor is a plaintiff, defendant or an interested party, against any Entity, including, without limitation, the plaintiffs or co-defendants in such lawsuits, is expressly reserved.

**J. Independent Board of Directors of Strand.** The terms of the current Independent Directors shall expire on the Effective Date without the need for any further or other action by any of the Independent Directors. For avoidance of doubt, the Assumed Contracts

include the *Indemnification and Guaranty Agreement between Highland Capital Management, Strand Advisors, Inc. and James Seery*; the *Indemnification and Guaranty Agreement between Highland Capital Management, Strand Advisors, Inc. and John Dubel* and *Indemnification and Guaranty Agreement between Highland Capital Management, Strand Advisors, Inc. and Russell Nelms* and shall each remain in full force and effect notwithstanding the expiration of the terms of any Independent Directors.

**K. Cancellation of Equity Interests and Issuance of New Partnership**

**Interests.** On the Effective Date, all Class A Limited Partnership Interests, including the Class A Limited Partnership Interests held by Strand, as general partner, and Class B/C Limited Partnerships in the Debtor will be deemed cancelled, and all obligations or debts owed by, or Claims against, the Debtor on account of, or based upon, such Class A Limited Partnership Interests and Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests shall be deemed as cancelled, released, and discharged, including all obligations or duties by the Debtor relating to the Equity Interests in any of the Debtor's formation documents, including the Limited Partnership Agreement. As of the Effective Date and pursuant to the Plan, new Class A Limited Partnership Interests in the Reorganized Debtor will be issued to the Claimant Trust and New GP LLC. The Claimant Trust, as limited partner, will ratify New GP LLC's appointment as general partner of the Reorganized Debtor, and on and following the Effective Date, the Claimant Trust will be the Reorganized Debtor's limited partner and New GP LLC will be its general partner. The Claimant Trust, as limited partner, and New GP LLC, as general partner, will execute the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, which will amend and restate, in all respects, the Debtor's current Limited

Partnership Agreement. Following the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtor will be managed consistent with the terms of the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement by New GP LLC. The sole managing member of New GP LLC will be the Claimant Trust, and the Claimant Trustee will be the sole officer of New GP LLC on the Effective Date.

**L. Transfer of Assets to Claimant Trust.** On or prior to the Effective Date, the Debtor shall irrevocably transfer and shall be deemed to have irrevocably transferred to the Claimant Trust all of its rights, title, and interest in and to all of the Claimant Trust Assets, and in accordance with section 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Claimant Trust Assets shall automatically vest in the Claimant Trust free and clear of all Claims, Liens, encumbrances, or interests subject only to the Claimant Trust Interests and the Claimant Trust Expenses, as provided for in the Claimant Trust Agreement, and such transfer shall be exempt from any stamp, real estate transfer, mortgage from any stamp, transfer, reporting, sales, use, or other similar tax. Following the Effective Date, the Claimant Trust will administer the Claimant Trust Assets pursuant to the Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement.

**M. Transfer of Estate Claims to Litigation Sub-Trust.** On or prior to the Effective Date, the Claimant Trust shall irrevocably transfer and shall be deemed to have irrevocably transferred to the Litigation Sub-Trust all of the Claimant Trust's rights, title, and interest in and to all of the Estate Claims as successor in interest to the Debtor, and in accordance with section 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Estate Claims shall automatically vest in the Litigation Sub-Trust free and clear of all Claims, Liens, encumbrances, or interests subject only to the Litigation Sub-Trust Interests and Litigation Sub-Trust Expenses. The Litigation Trustee will

be authorized to investigate, pursue, and otherwise resolve the Estate Claims pursuant to the terms of the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement and the Plan, including as successor in interest to the Debtor or Committee, as applicable, in any litigation commenced prior to the Effective Date in which Estate Claims are asserted.

**N. Compromise of Controversies.** In consideration for the distributions and other benefits, including releases, provided under the Plan, the provisions of the Plan constitute a good faith compromise and settlement of all Claims, Equity Interests, and controversies resolved under the Plan and the entry of this Confirmation Order constitutes approval of such compromise and settlement under Bankruptcy Rule 9019.

**O. Objections to Claims.** The Claims Objection Deadline shall be the date that is 180 days after the Effective Date, *provided, however*, that the Claims Objection Deadline may be extended by the Bankruptcy Court upon a motion by the Claimant Trustee and as otherwise provided under the Plan.

**P. Assumption of Contracts and Leases.** Effective as of the date of this Confirmation Order, each of the Assumed Contacts shall be assumed by the Debtor without the need for any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code and the payment of Cures, if any, shall be paid in accordance with the Plan. Each Assumed Contract shall include all modifications, amendments, supplements, restatements, or other agreements related thereto, and all rights related thereto, if any, including all easements, licenses, permits, rights, privileges, immunities, options, rights of first refusal, and any other interests. Modifications, amendments, supplements, and restatements to any of the

Assumed Contracts that have been executed by the Debtor during the Chapter 11 Case shall not be deemed to alter the prepetition nature of such Assumed Contracts or the validity, priority, or amount of any Claims that may arise in connection therewith. Assumption of the Assumed Contracts pursuant to Article V.A of the Plan and full payment of any applicable Cure pursuant to the Plan shall result in the full release and satisfaction of any Cures, Claims, or defaults, whether monetary or nonmonetary, including defaults of provisions restricting the change in control or ownership interest composition, or other bankruptcy-related defaults, arising under any Assumed Contracts.

**Q. Rejection of Contracts and Leases.** Unless previously assumed during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Case or pursuant to the Plan, all other Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases are rejected as of the date of the entry of this Confirmation Order and pursuant to the terms of the Plan. To the extent that any party asserts any damages resulting from the rejection of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, such claim must be filed within **thirty (30) days** following entry of this Confirmation Order, or such claim will be forever barred and disallowed against the Reorganized Debtor.

**R. Assumption of Issuer Executory Contracts.** On the Confirmation Date, the Debtor will assume the agreements set forth on **Exhibit B** hereto (collectively, the “Issuer Executory Contracts”) pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code and Article V of the Plan. In full and complete satisfaction of its obligation to cure outstanding defaults under section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtor or, as applicable, any successor manager under the

Issuer Executory Contracts (collectively, the “Portfolio Manager”) will pay to the Issuers<sup>12</sup> a cumulative amount of \$525,000 (the “Cure Amount”) as follows:

- a. \$200,000 in cash on the date that is five business days from the Effective Date, with such payment paid directly to Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP (“SRZ”) in the amount of \$85,714.29, Jones Walker LLP (“JW”) in the amount of \$72,380.95, and Maples Group (“Maples” and collectively with SRZ and JW, the “Issuers’ Counsel”) in the amount of \$41,904.76 as reimbursement for the attorney’s fees and other legal expenses incurred by the Issuers in connection with the Debtor’s bankruptcy case; and
- b. \$325,000 in four equal quarterly payments of \$81,250.00 (each, a “Payment”), which amounts shall be paid to SRZ in the amount of \$34,821.43, JW in the amount of \$29,404.76, and Maples in the amount of \$17,023.81 as additional reimbursement for the attorney’s fees and other legal expenses incurred by the Issuers in connection with the Debtor’s bankruptcy case (i) from any management fees actually paid to the Portfolio Manager under the Issuer Executory Contracts (the “Management Fees”), and (ii) on the date(s) Management Fees are required to be paid under the Issuer Executory Contracts (the “Payment Dates”), and such obligation shall be considered an irrevocable direction from the Debtor and the Bankruptcy Court to the relevant CLO Trustee to pay, on each Payment Date, the Payment to Issuers’ Counsel, allocated in the proportion set forth in such agreement; *provided, however*, that (x) if the Management Fees are insufficient to make any Payment in full on a Payment Date, such shortfall, in addition to any other amounts due hereunder, shall be paid out of the Management Fees owed on the following Payment Date, and (y) nothing herein shall limit either Debtor’s liability to pay the amounts set forth herein, nor the recourse of the Issuers or Issuers’ Counsel to the Debtor, in the event of any failure to make any Payment.

**S. Release of Issuer Claims.** Effective as of the Confirmation Date, and to the maximum extent permitted by law, each Issuer on behalf of itself and each of its current and former advisors, trustees, directors, officers, managers, members, partners, employees, beneficiaries, shareholders, agents, participants, subsidiaries, parents, successors, designees, and

<sup>12</sup> The “Issuers” are: Brentwood CLO, Ltd., Gleneagles CLO, Ltd., Greenbriar CLO, Ltd., Highland CLO 2018-1, Ltd., Highland Legacy Limited, Highland Loan Funding V Ltd., Highland Park CDO I, Ltd., Pam Capital Funding LP, Rockwall CDO II Ltd., Rockwall CDO Ltd., Southfork CLO Ltd., Stratford CLO Ltd., Westchester CLO, Ltd., Aberdeen Loan Funding, Ltd., Eastland CLO, Ltd., Grayson CLO, Ltd., Highland Credit Opportunities CDO Ltd., Jasper CLO, Ltd., Liberty Cayman Holdings, Ltd., Liberty CLO, Ltd., Red River CLO, Ltd., Valhalla CLO, Ltd.

assigns hereby forever, finally, fully, unconditionally, and completely releases, relieves, acquits, remises, and exonerates, and covenants never to sue, (i) the Debtor and (ii) the Professionals retained by the Debtor and the Committee in the Chapter 11 Case, the Independent Directors, the CEO/CRO, and with respect to the Persons listed in this subsection (ii), such Person's Related Persons (collectively, the "Debtor Released Parties"), for and from any and all claims, debts, liabilities, demands, obligations, promises, acts, agreements, liens, losses, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, attorney's fees and related costs), damages, injuries, suits, actions, and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, matured or unmatured, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, at law or in equity, statutory or otherwise, including, without limitation, any claims, defenses, and affirmative defenses, whether known or unknown, including, without limitation, those which were or could have been asserted in, in connection with, or with respect to the Bankruptcy Case (collectively, the "Issuer Released Claims").

**T. Release of Debtor Claims against Issuer Released Parties.** Upon entry of this Order, and to the maximum extent permitted by law, the Debtor hereby forever, finally, fully, unconditionally, and completely releases, relieves, acquits, remises, and exonerates, and covenants never to sue [(i) each Issuer and (ii) Wendy Ebanks, (iii) Yun Zheng, (iv) Laura Chisholm, (v) Mora Goddard, (vi) Stacy Bodden, (vii) Suzan Merren (viii) Scott Dakers, (ix) Samit Ghosh, (x) Inderjit Singh, (xi) Ellen Christian, (xii) Andrew Dean, (xiii) Betsy Mortel, (xiv) David Hogan, (xv) Cleveland Stewart, (xvi) Rachael Rankin, (xvii) Otelia Scott, (xviii) Martin Couch, (xx) Feronia Bartley-Davis, (xxi) Charlotte Cloete, (xxii) Christina McLean, (xxiii) Karen Ellerbe,

(xxiv) Gennie Kay Bigord, (xxv) Evert Brunekreef, (xxvii) Evan Charles Burtton (collectively, the “Issuer Released Parties”),] for and from any and all claims, debts, liabilities, demands, obligations, promises, acts, agreements, liens, losses, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, attorney’s fees and related costs), damages, injuries, suits, actions, and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, matured or unmatured, liquidated or unliquidated, contingent or fixed, at law or in equity, statutory or otherwise, including, without limitation, any claims, defenses, and affirmative defenses, whether known or unknown, which were or could have been asserted in, in connection with, or with respect to the Bankruptcy Case (collectively, the “Debtor Released Claims”); *provided, however*, that notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the release contained herein will apply to the Issuer Released Parties set forth in subsection (ii) above only with respect to Debtor Released Claims arising from or relating to the Issuer Executory Contracts. Notwithstanding anything in this Order to the contrary, the releases set forth in paragraphs S and T hereof will not apply with respect to the duties, rights, or obligations of the Debtor or any Issuer hereunder.

**U. Authorization to Consummate.** The Debtor is authorized to consummate the Plan after the entry of this Confirmation Order subject to satisfaction or waiver of the conditions precedent to the Effective Date of the Plan set forth in Article VIII.A of the Plan. The Plan shall not become effective unless and until the conditions set forth in Article VIII.A of the Plan have been satisfied, or otherwise waived pursuant to Article VIII.B of the Plan.

**V. Professional Compensation.** All requests for payment of Professional Fee Claims for services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred prior to the Effective Date

must be filed no **later than sixty (60) days after the Effective Date**. The Bankruptcy Court shall determine the Allowed amounts of such Professional Fee Claims after notice and an opportunity for hearing in accordance with the procedures established by the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Court. The Debtor shall fund the Professional Fee Reserve as provided under the Plan. The Reorganized Debtor shall pay Professional Fee Claims in Cash in the amounts the Bankruptcy Court allows. The Debtor is authorized to pay the pre-Effective Date fees and expenses of all ordinary course professionals in the ordinary course of business without the need for further Bankruptcy Court order or approval. From and after the Effective Date, any requirement that Professionals comply with sections 327 through 331 and 1103 (if applicable) of the Bankruptcy Code in seeking retention or compensation for services rendered after such date shall terminate, and the Reorganized Debtor or Claimant Trustee, as applicable, may employ and pay any Professional or Entity employed in the ordinary course of the Debtor's business without any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

**W. Release, Exculpation, Discharge, and Injunction Provisions.** The following release, exculpation, discharge, and injunction provisions set forth in the Plan are approved and authorized in their entirety, and such provisions are effective and binding on all parties and Entities to the extent provided therein.

**X. Discharge of Claims and Termination of Interests.** To the fullest extent provided under section 1141(d)(1)(A) and other applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, except as otherwise expressly provided by the Plan or this Confirmation Order, all consideration distributed under the Plan will be in exchange for, and in complete satisfaction, settlement,

discharge, and release of, all Claims and Equity Interests of any kind or nature whatsoever against the Debtor or any of its Assets or properties, and regardless of whether any property will have been distributed or retained pursuant to the Plan on account of such Claims or Equity Interests. Except as otherwise expressly provided by the Plan or this Confirmation Order, upon the Effective Date, the Debtor and its Estate will be deemed discharged and released under and to the fullest extent provided under section 1141(d)(1)(A) and other applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code from any and all Claims and Equity Interests of any kind or nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, demands and liabilities that arose before the Confirmation Date, and all debts of the kind specified in section 502(g), 502(h), or 502(i) of the Bankruptcy Code.

**Y. Exculpation.** Subject in all respects to Article XII.D of the Plan, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, no Exculpated Party will have or incur, and each Exculpated Party is hereby exculpated from, any claim, obligation, suit, judgment, damage, demand, debt, right, Cause of Action, remedy, loss, and liability for conduct occurring on or after the Petition Date in connection with or arising out of (i) the filing and administration of the Chapter 11 Case; (ii) the negotiation and pursuit of the Disclosure Statement, the Plan, or the solicitation of votes for, or confirmation of, the Plan; (iii) the funding or consummation of the Plan (including the Plan Supplement) or any related agreements, instruments, or other documents, the solicitation of votes on the Plan, the offer, issuance, and Plan Distribution of any securities issued or to be issued pursuant to the Plan, including the Claimant Trust Interests, whether or not such Plan Distributions occur following the Effective Date; (iv) the implementation of the Plan; and (v) any negotiations, transactions, and documentation in connection with the foregoing clauses (i)-(v);

*provided, however*, the foregoing will not apply to (a) any acts or omissions of an Exculpated Party arising out of or related to acts or omissions that constitute bad faith, fraud, gross negligence, criminal misconduct, or willful misconduct or (b) Strand or any Employee other than with respect to actions taken by such Entities from the date of appointment of the Independent Directors through the Effective Date. The Plan's exculpation shall be in addition to, and not in limitation of, all other releases, indemnities, exculpations, any other applicable law or rules, or any other provisions of the Plan, including Article IV.C.2 of the Plan, protecting such Exculpated Parties from liability.

**Z. Releases by the Debtor.** On and after the Effective Date, each Released Party is deemed to be, hereby conclusively, absolutely, unconditionally, irrevocably, and forever released and discharged by the Debtor and the Estate, in each case on behalf of themselves and their respective successors, assigns, and representatives, including, but not limited to, the Claimant Trust and the Litigation Sub-Trust from any and all Causes of Action, including any derivative claims, asserted on behalf of the Debtor, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, matured or unmatured, existing or hereafter arising, in law, equity, contract, tort or otherwise, that the Debtor or the Estate would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the holder of any Claim against, or Interest in, a Debtor or other Person. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the foregoing release does not release: (i) any obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement executed to implement the Plan, (ii) the rights or obligations of any current employee of the Debtor under any employment agreement or plan, (iii) the rights of the Debtor with respect to any confidentiality provisions or covenants restricting competition in favor of the Debtor under

any employment agreement with a current or former employee of the Debtor, (iv) any Avoidance Actions, or (v) any Causes of Action arising from willful misconduct, criminal misconduct, actual fraud, or gross negligence of such applicable Released Party as determined by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court or any other court of competent jurisdiction.

**AA. Injunction.** Upon entry of this Confirmation Order, all Enjoined Parties are and shall be permanently enjoined, on and after the Effective Date, from taking any actions to interfere with the implementation or consummation of the Plan. Except as expressly provided in the Plan, this Confirmation Order, or a separate order of the Bankruptcy Court, all Enjoined Parties are and shall be permanently enjoined, on and after the Effective Date, with respect to any Claims and Equity Interests, from directly or indirectly (i) commencing, conducting, or continuing in any manner, any suit, action, or other proceeding of any kind (including any proceeding in a judicial, arbitral, administrative or other forum) against or affecting the Debtor or the property of the Debtor, (ii) enforcing, levying, attaching (including any prejudgment attachment), collecting, or otherwise recovering, enforcing, or attempting to recover or enforce, by any manner or means, any judgment, award, decree, or order against the Debtor or the property of the Debtor, (iii) creating, perfecting, or otherwise enforcing in any manner, any security interest, lien or encumbrance of any kind against the Debtor or the property of the Debtor, (iv) asserting any right of setoff, directly or indirectly, against any obligation due to the Debtor or against property or interests in property of the Debtor, except to the limited extent permitted under Sections 553 and 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code, and (v) acting or proceeding in any manner,

**in any place whatsoever, that does not conform to or comply with the provisions of the Plan. The injunctions set forth in the Plan and this Confirmation Order shall extend to, and apply to any act of the type set forth in any of clauses (i)-(v) of the immediately preceding paragraph against any successors of the Debtor, including, but not limited to, the Reorganized Debtor, the Litigation Sub-Trust, and the Claimant Trust and their respective property and interests in property. Subject in all respects to Article XII.D of the Plan, no Enjoined Party may commence or pursue a claim or cause of action of any kind against any Protected Party that arose or arises from or is related to the Chapter 11 Case, the negotiation of the Plan, the administration of the Plan or property to be distributed under the Plan, the wind down of the business of the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, the administration of the Claimant Trust or the Litigation Sub-Trust, or the transactions in furtherance of the foregoing without the Bankruptcy Court (i) first determining, after notice and a hearing, that such claim or cause of action represents a colorable claim of any kind, including, but not limited to, negligence, bad faith, criminal misconduct, willful misconduct, fraud, or gross negligence against a Protected Party and (ii) specifically authorizing such Enjoined Party to bring such claim or cause of action against any such Protected Party; *provided, however*, the foregoing will not apply to a claim or cause of action against Strand or against any Employee other than with respect to actions taken, respectively, by Strand or by such Employee from the date of appointment of the Independent Directors through the Effective Date. The Bankruptcy Court will have sole and exclusive jurisdiction to determine whether a claim or cause of action is colorable and, only to the extent legally permissible and as provided for in**

**Article XI of the Plan, shall have jurisdiction to adjudicate the underlying colorable claim or cause of action.**

**BB. Duration of Injunction and Stays.** Unless otherwise provided in the Plan, in this Confirmation Order, or in a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, (i) all injunctions and stays entered during the Chapter 11 Case and in existence on the Confirmation Date, shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their terms; and (ii) the automatic stay arising under section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code shall remain in full force and effect subject to Section 362(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, and to the extent necessary if the Debtor does not receive a discharge, the Bankruptcy Court will enter an equivalent order under Section 105.

**CC. Continuance of January 9 Order and July 16 Order.** Unless otherwise provided in the Plan, in this Confirmation Order, or in a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, each of the *Order Approving Settlement with Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors Regarding Governance of the Debtor and Procedures for Operations in the Ordinary Course*, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on January 9, 2020 [Docket No. 339] and *Order Approving the Debtor's Motion Under Bankruptcy Code Sections 105(a) and 363(b) Authorizing Retention of James P. Seery, Jr., as Chief Executive Officer, Chief Restructuring Officer, and Foreign Representative Nunc Pro Tunc to March 15, 2020* [Docket No. 854] entered on July 16, 2020 shall remain in full force and effect from the Confirmation Date and following the Effective Date.

**DD. No Governmental Releases.** Nothing in this Confirmation Order or the Plan shall effect a release of any claim by the United States Government or any of its agencies or

any state and local authority whatsoever, including without limitation any claim arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against any party or person, nor shall anything in this Confirmation Order or the Plan enjoin the United States or any state or local authority from bringing any claim, suit, action, or other proceedings against any party or person for any liability of such persons whatever, including without limitation any claim, suit, or action arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against such persons, nor shall anything in this Confirmation Order or the Plan exculpate any party or person from any liability to the United States Government or any of its agencies or any state and local authority whatsoever, including any liabilities arising under the Internal Revenue Code, the environmental laws, or any criminal laws of the United States or any state and local authority against any party or person.

**EE. Exemption from Transfer Taxes.** Pursuant to section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, any transfers (whether from the Debtor to the Reorganized Debtor or to any other Person) of property under the Plan or pursuant to: (a) the issuance, distribution, transfer, or exchange of any debt, equity security, or other interest in the Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor; (b) the Restructuring transactions pursuant to the Plan; (c) the creation, modification, consolidation, termination, refinancing, and/or recording of any mortgage, deed of trust, or other security interest, or the securing of additional indebtedness by such or other means; (d) the making, assignment, or recording of any lease or sublease; or (e) the making, delivery, or recording of any deed or other instrument of transfer under, in furtherance of, or in connection with, the Plan,

including any deeds, bills of sale, assignments, or other instrument of transfer executed in connection with any transaction arising out of, contemplated by, or in any way related to the Plan, shall not be subject to any document recording tax, stamp tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, mortgage tax, real estate transfer tax, mortgage recording tax, Uniform Commercial Code filing or recording fee, regulatory filing or recording fee, or other similar tax or governmental assessment to the fullest extent contemplated by section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, and upon entry of this Confirmation Order, the appropriate state or local governmental officials or agents shall forego the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment and accept for filing and recordation of any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax, recordation fee, or governmental assessment.

**FF. Cancellation of Notes, Certificates and Instruments.** Except for the purpose of evidencing a right to a distribution under the Plan and except as otherwise set forth in the Plan or as otherwise provided in this Confirmation Order, on the Effective Date, all agreements, instruments, Securities and other documents evidencing any prepetition Claim or Equity Interest and any rights of any Holder in respect thereof shall be deemed cancelled, discharged, and of no force or effect. The holders of or parties to such cancelled instruments, Securities, and other documentation will have no rights arising from or related to such instruments, Securities, or other documentation or the cancellation thereof, except the rights provided for pursuant to the Plan, and the obligations of the Debtor thereunder or in any way related thereto will be fully released, terminated, extinguished and discharged, in each case without further notice to or order of the

Bankruptcy Court, act or action under applicable law, regulation, order, or rule or any requirement of further action, vote or other approval or authorization by any Person.

**GG. Documents, Mortgages, and Instruments.** Each federal, state, commonwealth, local, foreign, or other governmental agency is authorized to accept any and all documents, mortgages, and instruments necessary or appropriate to effectuate, implement, or consummate the Plan, including the Restructuring transactions contemplated under the Plan, and this Confirmation Order.

**HH. Post-Confirmation Modifications.** Subject section 1127(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and the Plan, the Debtor and the Reorganized Debtor expressly reserve their rights to revoke or withdraw, or to alter, amend, or modify materially the Plan, one or more times after Confirmation and, to the extent necessary, may initiate proceedings in the Bankruptcy Court to so alter, amend, or modify the Plan, or remedy any defect or omission, or reconcile any inconsistencies in the Plan or this Confirmation Order, in such manner as may be necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of the Plan. Any such modification or supplement shall be considered a modification of the Plan and shall be made in accordance with Article XII.B of the Plan.

**II. Applicable Nonbankruptcy Law.** The provisions of this Confirmation Order, the Plan and related documents, or any amendments or modifications thereto, shall apply and be enforceable notwithstanding any otherwise applicable nonbankruptcy law.

**JJ. Governmental Approvals Not Required.** This Confirmation Order shall constitute all approvals and consents required, if any, by the laws, rules, or regulations of any state,

federal, or other governmental authority with respect to the dissemination, implementation, or consummation of the Plan and the Disclosure Statement, any certifications, documents, instruments or agreements, and any amendments or modifications thereto, and any other acts referred to in, or contemplated by, the Plan and the Disclosure Statement.

**KK. Notice of Effective Date.** As soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtor shall file notice of the Effective Date and shall serve a copy of the same on all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests, and all parties who have filed with the Bankruptcy Court requests to receive notices in accordance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 3020(c). Notwithstanding the above, no notice of Confirmation or Consummation or service of any kind shall be required to be mailed or made upon any Entity to whom the Debtor mailed notice of the Confirmation Hearing, but received such notice returned marked “undeliverable as addressed,” “moved, left no forwarding address” or “forwarding order expired,” or similar reason, unless the Debtor has been informed in writing by such Entity, or is otherwise aware, of that Entity’s new address. The above-referenced notices are adequate under the particular circumstances of this Chapter 11 Case and no other or further notice is necessary.

**LL. Substantial Consummation.** On the Effective Date, the Plan shall be deemed to be substantially consummated under sections 1101 and 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code.

**MM. Waiver of Stay.** For good cause shown, the stay of this Confirmation Order provided by any Bankruptcy Rule is waived, and this Confirmation Order shall be effective and enforceable immediately upon its entry by the Bankruptcy Court.

**NN. References to and Omissions of Plan Provisions.** References to articles, sections, and provisions of the Plan are inserted for convenience of reference only and are not intended to be a part of or to affect the interpretation of the Plan. The failure to specifically include or to refer to any particular article, section, or provision of the Plan in this Confirmation Order shall not diminish or impair the effectiveness of such article, section, or provision, it being the intent of the Bankruptcy Court that the Plan be confirmed in its entirety, except as expressly modified herein, and incorporated herein by this reference.

**OO. Headings.** Headings utilized herein are for convenience and reference only, and do not constitute a part of the Plan or this Confirmation Order for any other purpose.

**PP. Effect of Conflict.** This Confirmation Order supersedes any Bankruptcy Court order issued prior to the Confirmation Date that may be inconsistent with this Confirmation Order. If there is any inconsistency between the terms of the Plan and the terms of this Confirmation Order, the terms of this Confirmation Order govern and control. If there is any inconsistency between the terms of this Confirmation Order and the terms of a final, executed Plan Supplement Document, the terms of the final, executed Plan Supplement Document will govern and control.

**QQ. Resolution of Objection of Texas Taxing Authorities.** Dallas County, Kaufman County, City of Allen, Allen ISD and City of Richardson (collectively, the “Tax Authorities”) assert that they are the holders of prepetition and administrative expense claims for 2019, 2020 and 2021 ad valorem real and business personal property taxes. The ad valorem property taxes for tax year 2020 shall be paid in accordance with and to the extent required under

applicable nonbankruptcy law. In the event the 2020 taxes are paid after February 1, 2021, the Tax Authorities may assert any rights and amounts they claim are owed with respect to penalties and interest that have accrued through the date of payment and the Debtor and Reorganized Debtor reserve any all rights and defenses in connection therewith.

- a. The Debtor/Reorganized Debtor shall pay all amounts owed to the Tax Authorities for tax year 2021 in accordance with and to the extent required under applicable nonbankruptcy law. The Tax Authorities shall not be required to file and serve an administrative expense claim and request for payment as a condition of allowance of their administrative expense claims pursuant to 11 U.S.C. Section 503(b)(1)(D). With regard to year 2019 ad valorem property taxes, the Tax Authorities will receive payment of their prepetition claims within 30 days of the Effective Date of the Plan. The payment will include interest from the Petition Date through the Effective Date and from the Effective Date through payment in full at the state statutory rate pursuant to 11 U.S.C. Sections 506(b), 511, and 1129, if applicable, subject to all of the Debtor's and Reorganized Debtor's rights and defenses in connection therewith. Notwithstanding any other provision in the Plan, the Tax Authorities shall (i) retain the liens that secure all prepetition and postpetition amounts ultimately owed to them, if any, as well as (ii) the state law priority of those liens until the claims are paid in full.
- b. The Tax Authorities' prepetition claims and their administrative expense claims shall not be discharged until such time as the amounts owed are paid in full. In the event of a default asserted by the Taxing Authorities, the Tax Authorities shall provide notice Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, and may demand cure of any such asserted default. Subject to all of its rights and defenses, the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor shall have fifteen (15) days from the date of the notice to cure the default. If the alleged default is not cured, the Tax Authorities may exercise any of their respective rights under applicable law and pursue collection of all amounts owed pursuant to state law outside of the Bankruptcy Court, subject in all respects to the Debtor's and Reorganized Debtor's applicable rights and defenses. The Debtor/Reorganized Debtor shall be entitled to any notices of default required under applicable nonbankruptcy law and each of the Taxing Authorities, the Debtor and the Reorganized Debtor reserve any and all of their respective rights and defenses in connection therewith. The Debtor's and Reorganized Debtor's rights and defenses under Texas Law and the Bankruptcy Code with respect to this provision of the Confirmation Order, including their right to dispute or object to the Tax Authorities' Claims and liens, are fully preserved.

**RR. Resolution of Objections of Scott Ellington and Isaac Leventon.**

Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019(a), the Senior Employees' Settlement is approved in all respects. The Debtor may, only with the consent of the Committee, elect Option B for a Senior Employee Claimant by written notice to such Senior Employee Claimant on or before the occurrence of the Effective Date. If the Debtor does not elect Option B, then Option A will govern the treatment of the Liquidated Bonus Claims.

- a. Notwithstanding any language in the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, or this Confirmation Order to the contrary, if Option A applies to the Liquidated Bonus Claims of a Senior Employee Claimant, then the Liquidated Bonus Claims of such Senior Employee Claimant will receive the treatment described in paragraph 82(e) hereof, and if the Debtor timely elects Option B with respect to the Liquidated Bonus Claims of a Senior Employee Claimant, then the Liquidated Bonus Claims of such Senior Employee will receive the treatment described in paragraph 82(f) hereof.
- b. The Senior Employees' Settlement is hereby approved, without prejudice to the respective rights of Mr. Ellington and Mr. Leventon to assert all their remaining Claims against the Debtor's estate, including, but not limited to, their Class 6 PTO Claims, their remaining Class 8 General Unsecured Claims, any indemnification claims, and any Administrative Expense Claims that they may assert and is without prejudice to the rights of any party in interest to object to any such Claims.
- c. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3018(a), Mr. Ellington and Mr. Leventon were permitted to change their votes on the Plan. Accordingly, Mr. Ellington's votes on his Ballots in Class 7 and Class 8 of the Plan were changed from a rejection of the Plan to acceptance of the Plan, and Mr. Leventon's votes on his Ballots in Class 7 and Class 8 of the Plan were, changed from rejections of the Plan to acceptances of the Plan.
- d. The Senior Employees' Objection is deemed withdrawn.

**SS. No Release of Claims Against Senior Employee Claimants.** For the avoidance of doubt, the Senior Employees' Settlement, as approved herein, shall not, and shall not be deemed to, release any Claims or Causes of Action held by the Debtor against either Senior

Employee Claimant nor shall either Senior Employee Claimant be, or be deemed to be, a “Released Party” under the Plan.

**TT. Resolution of Objection of Internal Revenue Service.** Notwithstanding any other provision or term of the Plan or Confirmation Order, the following Default Provision shall control as to the United States of America, Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) and all of its claims, including any administrative claim (the “IRS Claim”):

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision in the Plan, if the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or any successor in interest fails to pay when due any payment required to be made on federal taxes, the IRS Claim, or other payment required to be made to the IRS under the terms and provisions of this Plan, the Confirmation Order, or the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C.), or fails to timely file any required federal tax return, or if any other event of default as set forth in the Plan occurs, the IRS shall be entitled to give the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor and/or any successor in interest and their counsel of record, by United States Certified Mail, written notice of the failure and/or default with demand that it be cured, and if the failure and/or default is not cured within 14 days of the date of said notice and demand, then the following shall apply to the IRS:

(1) The administrative collection powers and the rights of the IRS shall be reinstated as they existed prior to the filing of the bankruptcy petition, including, but not limited to, the assessment of taxes, the filing of a notice of Federal tax lien and the powers of levy, seizure, and collection as provided under the Internal Revenue Code;

(2) The automatic stay of 11 U.S.C. § 362 and any injunction of the Plan or in the Confirmation Order shall, with regard to the IRS only, lift or terminate without further notice or hearing by the Bankruptcy Court, and the entire prepetition liability owed to the IRS, together with any unpaid postpetition tax liabilities, may become due and payable immediately; and

(3) The IRS shall have the right to proceed to collect from the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor or any successor in interest any of the prepetition tax liabilities and related penalties and interest through administrative or judicial collection procedures available under the United States Code as if no bankruptcy petition had been filed and as if no plan had been confirmed.

(b) If the IRS declares the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or any successor-in-interest to be in default of the Debtor’s, the Reorganized Debtor’s and/ or any successor- in-interest’s obligations under the Plan, then entire prepetition liability of an IRS’ Allowed Claim, together with any unpaid postpetition tax liabilities shall become due and payable

immediately upon written demand to the Debtor, Reorganized Debtor and/or any successor-in-interest. Failure of the IRS to declare a failure and/or default does not constitute a waiver by the United States or its agency the IRS of the right to declare that the Debtor, Reorganized Debtor, and/or any successor in interest is in default.

(c) The IRS shall only be required to send two notices of failure and/or default, and upon the third event of a failure and/or default, the IRS shall be entitled to proceed as set out in paragraphs (1), (2), and/or (3) herein above without further notice to the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or any successor in interest, or its counsel. The collection statute expiration date for all unpaid federal tax liabilities shall be extended pursuant to non-bankruptcy law.

(d) The Internal Revenue Service shall not be bound by any release provisions in the Plan that would release any liability of the responsible persons of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, and/or any successor in interest to the IRS. The Internal Revenue Service may take such actions as it deems necessary to assess any liability that may be due and owing by the responsible persons of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor and/or any successor in interest to the Internal Revenue Service.

(e) Nothing contained in the Plan or the Confirmation Order shall be deemed to be a waiver or relinquishment of any rights, claims, causes of action, rights of setoff or recoupment, rights to appeal tax assessments, or other legal or equitable defenses that the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor have under non-bankruptcy law in connection with any claim, liability or cause of action of the United States and its agency the Internal Revenue Service.

(f) The term “any payment required to be made on federal taxes,” as used herein above, is defined as: any payment or deposit required by the Internal Revenue Code to be made by the Debtor from and after the Confirmation Date, or the Reorganized Debtor and/or any successor in interest from and after the Effective Date, to the date the IRS Claim is together with interest paid in full. The term “any required tax return,” as used herein above, is defined as: any tax return or report required by the Internal Revenue Code to be made by the Debtor from and after the Confirmation Date, or the Reorganized Debtor and/or any successor in interest from and after the Effective Date, to the date the IRS Claim is together with interest paid in full.

**UU. IRS Proof of Claim.** Notwithstanding anything in the Plan or in this Confirmation Order, until all required tax returns are filed with and processed by the IRS, the IRS’s proof of claim will not be deemed fixed for purposes of Section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code and may be amended in order to reflect the IRS’ assessment of the Debtor’s unpaid priority and general unsecured taxes, penalties and interest.

**VV. CLO Holdco, Ltd. Settlement** Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, nothing in this Order is or is intended to supersede the rights and obligations of either the Debtor or CLO Holdco contained in that certain *Settlement Agreement between CLO Holdco, Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P., dated January 25, 2021* [Docket No. 1838-1] (the “CLOH Settlement Agreement”). In the event of any conflict between the terms of this Order and the terms of the CLOH Settlement Agreement, the terms of the CLOH Settlement Agreement will govern.

**WW. Retention of Jurisdiction.** The Bankruptcy Court may properly, and upon the Effective Date shall, to the maximum extent permitted under applicable law, retain jurisdiction over all matters arising out of, and related to, this Chapter 11 Case, including the matters set forth in Article XI of the Plan and section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code.

**XX. Payment of Statutory Fees; Filing of Quarterly Reports.** All fees payable pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930 shall be paid on or before the Effective Date. The Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trust, and the Litigation Sub-Trust shall be jointly and severally liable for payment of quarterly fees to the Office of the United States Trustee pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930 through the entry of the Final Decree for the Debtor or the dismissal or conversion of the Chapter 11 Case. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Plan, the U.S. Trustee shall not be required to file any proofs of claim with respect to quarterly fees payable pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930.

**YY. Dissolution of the Committee.** On the Effective Date, the Committee will dissolve, and the members of the Committee and the Committee’s Professionals will cease to have

any role arising from or relating to the Chapter 11 Case, except in connection with final fee applications of Professionals for services rendered prior to the Effective Date (including the right to object thereto). Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Committee member or Professional may serve following the Effective Date with respect to the Claimant Trust Oversight Board or Litigation Sub-Trust. The Professionals retained by the Committee and the members thereof will not be entitled to assert any fee claims for any services rendered to the Committee or expenses incurred in the service of the Committee after the Effective Date, except for reasonable fees for services rendered, and actual and necessary costs incurred, in connection with any applications for allowance of Professional Fees pending on the Effective Date or filed and served after the Effective Date pursuant to the Plan. Nothing in the Plan shall prohibit or limit the ability of the Debtor's or Committee's Professionals to represent either of the Trustees or to be compensated or reimbursed per the Plan, the Claimant Trust Agreement, and/or Litigation Sub-Trust in connection with such representation.

**ZZ. Miscellaneous.** After the Effective Date, the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, shall have no obligation to file with the Bankruptcy Court or serve on any parties reports that the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, were obligated to file under the Bankruptcy Code or a court order, including monthly operating reports (even for those periods for which a monthly operating report was not filed before the Effective Date), ordinary course professional reports, reports to any parties otherwise required under the "first" and "second" day orders entered in this Chapter 11 Case (including any cash collateral financing orders entered in this Chapter 11 Case) and monthly or quarterly reports for Professionals; *provided, however*, that

the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, will comply with the U.S. Trustee's post confirmation reporting requirements.

**###END OF ORDER###**

**Exhibit A**

**Fifth Amended Plan (as Modified)**

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

---

In re:	)	
	)	Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., <sup>1</sup>	)	
	)	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	)	

---

**FIFTH AMENDED PLAN OF REORGANIZATION OF HIGHLAND  
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P. (AS MODIFIED)**

---

**PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP**

Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (CA Bar No. 143717)  
Ira D. Kharasch (CA Bar No. 109084)  
Gregory V. Demo (NY Bar No. 5371992)  
10100 Santa Monica Boulevard, 13th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
Telephone: (310) 277-6910  
Facsimile: (310) 201-0760  
Email: [jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com](mailto:jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com)  
[ikharasch@pszjlaw.com](mailto:ikharasch@pszjlaw.com)  
[gdemo@pszjlaw.com](mailto:gdemo@pszjlaw.com)

**HAYWARD & ASSOCIATES PLLC**

Melissa S. Hayward (TX Bar No. 24044908)  
Zachery Z. Annable (TX Bar No. 24053075)  
10501 N. Central Expy, Ste. 106  
Dallas, TX 75231  
Telephone: (972) 755-7100  
Facsimile: (972) 755-7110  
Email: [MHayward@HaywardFirm.com](mailto:MHayward@HaywardFirm.com)  
[ZAnnable@HaywardFirm.com](mailto:ZAnnable@HaywardFirm.com)

Counsel for the Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession

<sup>1</sup> 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.

ARTICLE I. RULES OF INTERPRETATION, COMPUTATION OF TIME,  
 GOVERNING LAW AND DEFINED TERMS ..... 1

    A. Rules of Interpretation, Computation of Time and Governing Law..... 1

    B. Defined Terms ..... 2

ARTICLE II. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND PRIORITY TAX CLAIMS..... 16

    A. Administrative Expense Claims..... 16

    B. Professional Fee Claims..... 17

    C. Priority Tax Claims..... 17

ARTICLE III. CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF CLASSIFIED CLAIMS  
 AND EQUITY INTERESTS ..... 18

    A. Summary ..... 18

    B. Summary of Classification and Treatment of Classified Claims and  
     Equity Interests ..... 18

    C. Elimination of Vacant Classes ..... 19

    D. Impaired/Voting Classes..... 19

    E. Unimpaired/Non-Voting Classes ..... 19

    F. Impaired/Non-Voting Classes..... 19

    G. Cramdown..... 19

    H. Classification and Treatment of Claims and Equity Interests..... 19

    I. Special Provision Governing Unimpaired Claims ..... 24

    J. Subordinated Claims ..... 24

ARTICLE IV. MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PLAN ..... 24

    A. Summary ..... 24

    B. The Claimant Trust ..... 25

        1. Creation and Governance of the Claimant Trust and Litigation  
         Sub-Trust..... 25

        2. Claimant Trust Oversight Committee..... 26

3.	Purpose of the Claimant Trust. ....	27
4.	Purpose of the Litigation Sub-Trust.....	27
5.	Claimant Trust Agreement and Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement. ....	27
6.	Compensation and Duties of Trustees. ....	29
7.	Cooperation of Debtor and Reorganized Debtor. ....	29
8.	United States Federal Income Tax Treatment of the Claimant Trust. ....	29
9.	Tax Reporting. ....	30
10.	Claimant Trust Assets. ....	30
11.	Claimant Trust Expenses. ....	31
12.	Trust Distributions to Claimant Trust Beneficiaries. ....	31
13.	Cash Investments. ....	31
14.	Dissolution of the Claimant Trust and Litigation Sub-Trust. ....	31
C.	The Reorganized Debtor .....	32
1.	Corporate Existence .....	32
2.	Cancellation of Equity Interests and Release.....	32
3.	Issuance of New Partnership Interests .....	32
4.	Management of the Reorganized Debtor .....	33
5.	Vesting of Assets in the Reorganized Debtor .....	33
6.	Purpose of the Reorganized Debtor .....	33
7.	Distribution of Proceeds from the Reorganized Debtor Assets; Transfer of Reorganized Debtor Assets .....	33
D.	Company Action .....	34
E.	Release of Liens, Claims and Equity Interests.....	35
F.	Cancellation of Notes, Certificates and Instruments.....	35

G.	Cancellation of Existing Instruments Governing Security Interests.....	35
H.	Control Provisions .....	35
I.	Treatment of Vacant Classes .....	36
J.	Plan Documents .....	36
K.	Highland Capital Management, L.P. Retirement Plan and Trust .....	36
ARTICLE V. TREATMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES .....		37
A.	Assumption, Assignment, or Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases.....	37
B.	Claims Based on Rejection of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases.....	38
C.	Cure of Defaults for Assumed or Assigned Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases.....	38
ARTICLE VI. PROVISIONS GOVERNING DISTRIBUTIONS.....		39
A.	Dates of Distributions .....	39
B.	Distribution Agent .....	39
C.	Cash Distributions.....	40
D.	Disputed Claims Reserve.....	40
E.	Distributions from the Disputed Claims Reserve .....	40
F.	Rounding of Payments.....	40
G.	<i>De Minimis</i> Distribution .....	41
H.	Distributions on Account of Allowed Claims.....	41
I.	General Distribution Procedures.....	41
J.	Address for Delivery of Distributions.....	41
K.	Undeliverable Distributions and Unclaimed Property.....	41
L.	Withholding Taxes.....	42

M.	Setoffs .....	42
N.	Surrender of Cancelled Instruments or Securities .....	42
O.	Lost, Stolen, Mutilated or Destroyed Securities .....	43
ARTICLE VII. PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING CONTINGENT, UNLIQUIDATED AND DISPUTED CLAIMS.....		43
A.	Filing of Proofs of Claim .....	43
B.	Disputed Claims.....	43
C.	Procedures Regarding Disputed Claims or Disputed Equity Interests .....	43
D.	Allowance of Claims and Equity Interests.....	44
1.	Allowance of Claims.....	44
2.	Estimation .....	44
3.	Disallowance of Claims .....	44
ARTICLE VIII. EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN .....		45
A.	Conditions Precedent to the Effective Date .....	45
B.	Waiver of Conditions.....	46
C.	Dissolution of the Committee .....	46
ARTICLE IX. EXCULPATION, INJUNCTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS .....		47
A.	General.....	47
B.	Discharge of Claims.....	47
C.	Exculpation .....	47
D.	Releases by the Debtor.....	48
E.	Preservation of Rights of Action.....	49
1.	Maintenance of Causes of Action.....	49
2.	Preservation of All Causes of Action Not Expressly Settled or Released .....	49

F.	Injunction .....	50
G.	Duration of Injunctions and Stays.....	51
H.	Continuance of January 9 Order .....	51
ARTICLE X. BINDING NATURE OF PLAN .....		51
ARTICLE XI. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION.....		52
ARTICLE XII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS .....		54
A.	Payment of Statutory Fees and Filing of Reports .....	54
B.	Modification of Plan .....	54
C.	Revocation of Plan.....	54
D.	Obligations Not Changed.....	55
E.	Entire Agreement .....	55
F.	Closing of Chapter 11 Case .....	55
G.	Successors and Assigns.....	55
H.	Reservation of Rights.....	55
I.	Further Assurances.....	56
J.	Severability .....	56
K.	Service of Documents.....	56
L.	Exemption from Certain Transfer Taxes Pursuant to Section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.....	57
M.	Governing Law .....	58
N.	Tax Reporting and Compliance .....	58
O.	Exhibits and Schedules .....	58
P.	Controlling Document .....	58

---

**DEBTOR’S CHAPTER 11 PLAN OF REORGANIZATION**

---

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., as debtor and debtor-in-possession in the above-captioned case (the “Debtor”), proposes the following chapter 11 plan of reorganization (the “Plan”) for, among other things, the resolution of the outstanding Claims against, and Equity Interests in, the Debtor. Unless otherwise noted, capitalized terms used in this Plan have the meanings set forth in Article I of this Plan. The Debtor is the proponent of this Plan within the meaning of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code.

Reference is made to the Disclosure Statement (as such term is defined herein and distributed contemporaneously herewith) for a discussion of the Debtor’s history, business, results of operations, historical financial information, projections and assets, and for a summary and analysis of this Plan and the treatment provided for herein. There also are other agreements and documents that may be Filed with the Bankruptcy Court that are referenced in this Plan or the Disclosure Statement as Exhibits and Plan Documents. All such Exhibits and Plan Documents are incorporated into and are a part of this Plan as if set forth in full herein. Subject to the other provisions of this Plan, and in accordance with the requirements set forth in section 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3019, the Debtor reserves the right to alter, amend, modify, revoke, or withdraw this Plan prior to the Effective Date.

If this Plan cannot be confirmed, for any reason, then subject to the terms set forth herein, this Plan may be revoked.

**ARTICLE I.**  
**RULES OF INTERPRETATION, COMPUTATION OF TIME,**  
**GOVERNING LAW AND DEFINED TERMS**

**A. Rules of Interpretation, Computation of Time and Governing Law**

For purposes hereof: (a) in the appropriate context, each term, whether stated in the singular or the plural, shall include both the singular and the plural, and pronouns stated in the masculine, feminine or neuter gender shall include the masculine, feminine and the neuter gender; (b) any reference herein to a contract, lease, instrument, release, indenture or other agreement or document being in a particular form or on particular terms and conditions means that the referenced document, as previously amended, modified or supplemented, if applicable, shall be substantially in that form or substantially on those terms and conditions; (c) any reference herein to an existing document or exhibit having been Filed or to be Filed shall mean that document or exhibit, as it may thereafter be amended, modified or supplemented in accordance with its terms; (d) unless otherwise specified, all references herein to “Articles,” “Sections,” “Exhibits” and “Plan Documents” are references to Articles, Sections, Exhibits and Plan Documents hereof or hereto; (e) unless otherwise stated, the words “herein,” “hereof,” “hereunder” and “hereto” refer to this Plan in its entirety rather than to a particular portion of this Plan; (f) captions and headings to Articles and Sections are inserted for convenience of reference only and are not intended to be a part of or to affect the interpretation hereof; (g) any reference to an Entity as a Holder of a Claim or Equity Interest includes such Entity’s successors and assigns; (h) the rules of construction set

forth in section 102 of the Bankruptcy Code shall apply; (i) any term used in capitalized form herein that is not otherwise defined but that is used in the Bankruptcy Code or the Bankruptcy Rules shall have the meaning assigned to that term in the Bankruptcy Code or the Bankruptcy Rules, as the case may be; and (j) “\$” or “dollars” means Dollars in lawful currency of the United States of America. The provisions of Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a) shall apply in computing any period of time prescribed or allowed herein.

**B. Defined Terms**

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall have the following meanings when used in capitalized form herein:

1. “*Acis*” means collectively Acis Capital Management, L.P. and Acis Capital Management GP, LLP.

2. “*Administrative Expense Claim*” means any Claim for costs and expenses of administration of the Chapter 11 Case that is Allowed pursuant to sections 503(b), 507(a)(2), 507(b) or 1114(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, including, without limitation, (a) the actual and necessary costs and expenses incurred after the Petition Date and through the Effective Date of preserving the Estate and operating the business of the Debtor; and (b) all fees and charges assessed against the Estate pursuant to sections 1911 through 1930 of chapter 123 of title 28 of the United States Code, and that have not already been paid by the Debtor during the Chapter 11 Case and a Professional Fee Claim.

3. “*Administrative Expense Claims Bar Date*” means, with respect to any Administrative Expense Claim (other than a Professional Fee Claim) becoming due on or prior to the Effective Date, 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Central Time) on such date that is forty-five days after the Effective Date.

4. “*Administrative Expense Claims Objection Deadline*” means, with respect to any Administrative Expense Claim, the later of (a) ninety (90) days after the Effective Date and (b) sixty (60) days after the timely Filing of the applicable request for payment of such Administrative Expense Claim; *provided, however*, that the Administrative Expense Claims Objection Deadline may be extended by the Bankruptcy Court upon a motion by the Claimant Trustee.

5. “*Affiliate*” of any Person means any Entity that, with respect to such Person, either (i) is an “affiliate” as defined in section 101(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, or (ii) is an “affiliate” as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933, or (iii) directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, such Person. For the purposes of this definition, the term “control” (including, without limitation, the terms “controlled by” and “under common control with”) means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction in any respect of the management or policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise.

6. “*Allowed*” means, with respect to any Claim, except as otherwise provided in the Plan: (a) any Claim that is evidenced by a Proof of Claim that has been timely Filed by the Bar Date, or that is not required to be evidenced by a Filed Proof of Claim under the Bankruptcy

Code or a Final Order; (b) a Claim that is listed in the Schedules as not contingent, not unliquidated, and not disputed and for which no Proof of Claim has been timely filed; (c) a Claim Allowed pursuant to the Plan or an order of the Bankruptcy Court that is not stayed pending appeal; or (d) a Claim that is not Disputed (including for which a Proof of Claim has been timely filed in a liquidated and noncontingent amount that has not been objected to by the Claims Objection Deadline or as to which any such objection has been overruled by Final Order); *provided, however*, that with respect to a Claim described in clauses (a) and (b) above, such Claim shall be considered Allowed only if and to the extent that, with respect to such Claim, no objection to the allowance thereof has been interposed within the applicable period of time fixed by the Plan, the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, or the Bankruptcy Court, or such an objection is so interposed and the Claim shall have been Allowed as set forth above.

7. “*Allowed Claim or Equity Interest*” means a Claim or an Equity Interest of the type that has been Allowed.

8. “*Assets*” means all of the rights, titles, and interest of the Debtor, Reorganized Debtor, or Claimant Trust, in and to property of whatever type or nature, including, without limitation, real, personal, mixed, intellectual, tangible, and intangible property, the Debtor’s books and records, and the Causes of Action.

9. “*Available Cash*” means any Cash in excess of the amount needed for the Claimant Trust and Reorganized Debtor to maintain business operations as determined in the sole discretion of the Claimant Trustee.

10. “*Avoidance Actions*” means any and all avoidance, recovery, subordination or other actions or remedies that may be brought by and on behalf of the Debtor or its Estate under the Bankruptcy Code or applicable nonbankruptcy law, including, without limitation, actions or remedies arising under sections 502, 510, 544, 545, and 547-553 of the Bankruptcy Code or under similar state or federal statutes and common law, including fraudulent transfer laws

11. “*Ballot*” means the form(s) distributed to holders of Impaired Claims or Equity Interests entitled to vote on the Plan on which to indicate their acceptance or rejection of the Plan.

12. “*Bankruptcy Code*” means title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532, as amended from time to time and as applicable to the Chapter 11 Case.

13. “*Bankruptcy Court*” means the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, or any other court having jurisdiction over the Chapter 11 Case.

14. “*Bankruptcy Rules*” means the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, in each case as amended from time to time and as applicable to the Chapter 11 Case.

15. “*Bar Date*” means the applicable deadlines set by the Bankruptcy Court for the filing of Proofs of Claim against the Debtor as set forth in the Bar Date Order, which deadlines may be or have been extended for certain Claimants by order of the Bankruptcy Court.

16. “*Bar Date Order*” means the *Order (I) Establishing Bar Dates for Filing Proofs of Claim and (II) Approving the Form and Manner of Notice Thereof* [D.I. 488].

17. “*Business Day*” means any day, other than a Saturday, Sunday or “legal holiday” (as defined in Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a)).

18. “*Cash*” means the legal tender of the United States of America or the equivalent thereof.

19. “*Causes of Action*” means any action, claim, cross-claim, third-party claim, cause of action, controversy, demand, right, Lien, indemnity, contribution, guaranty, suit, obligation, liability, debt, damage, judgment, account, defense, remedy, offset, power, privilege, license and franchise of any kind or character whatsoever, in each case whether known, unknown, contingent or non-contingent, matured or unmatured, suspected or unsuspected, liquidated or unliquidated, disputed or undisputed, foreseen or unforeseen, direct or indirect, choate or inchoate, secured or unsecured, assertable directly or derivatively (including, without limitation, under alter ego theories), whether arising before, on, or after the Petition Date, in contract or in tort, in law or in equity or pursuant to any other theory of law. For the avoidance of doubt, Cause of Action includes, without limitation,: (a) any right of setoff, counterclaim or recoupment and any claim for breach of contract or for breach of duties imposed by law or in equity; (b) the right to object to Claims or Equity Interests; (c) any claim pursuant to section 362 or chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code; (d) any claim or defense including fraud, mistake, duress and usury, and any other defenses set forth in section 558 of the Bankruptcy Code; (e) any claims under any state or foreign law, including, without limitation, any fraudulent transfer or similar claims; (f) the Avoidance Actions, and (g) the Estate Claims. The Causes of Action include, without limitation, the Causes of Action belonging to the Debtor’s Estate listed on the schedule of Causes of Action to be filed with the Plan Supplement.

20. “*CEO/CRO*” means James P. Seery, Jr., the Debtor’s chief executive officer and chief restructuring officer.

21. “*Chapter 11 Case*” means the Debtor’s case under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code commenced on the Petition Date in the Delaware Bankruptcy Court and transferred to the Bankruptcy Court on December 4, 2019, and styled *In re Highland Capital Management, L.P.*, Case No. 19-34054-sgj-11.

22. “*Claim*” means any “claim” against the Debtor as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.

23. “*Claims Objection Deadline*” means the date that is 180 days after the Confirmation Date; *provided, however*, the Claims Objection Deadline may be extended by the Bankruptcy Court upon a motion by the Claimant Trustee.

24. “*Claimant Trust*” means the trust established for the benefit of the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries on the Effective Date in accordance with the terms of this Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement.

25. “*Claimant Trust Agreement*” means the agreement Filed in the Plan Supplement establishing and delineating the terms and conditions of the Claimant Trust.

26. “*Claimant Trust Assets*” means (i) other than the Reorganized Debtor Assets (which are expressly excluded from this definition), all other Assets of the Estate, including, but not limited to, all Causes of Action, Available Cash, any proceeds realized or received from such Assets, all rights of setoff, recoupment, and other defenses with respect, relating to, or arising from such Assets, (ii) any Assets transferred by the Reorganized Debtor to the Claimant Trust on or after the Effective Date, (iii) the limited partnership interests in the Reorganized Debtor, and (iv) the ownership interests in New GP LLC. For the avoidance of doubt, any Causes of Action that, for any reason, are not capable of being transferred to the Claimant Trust shall constitute Reorganized Debtor Assets.

27. “*Claimant Trust Beneficiaries*” means the Holders of Allowed General Unsecured Claims, Holders of Allowed Subordinated Claims, including, upon Allowance, Disputed General Unsecured Claims and Disputed Subordinated Claims that become Allowed following the Effective Date, and, only upon certification by the Claimant Trustee that the Holders of such Claims have been paid indefeasibly in full plus, to the extent all Allowed unsecured Claims, excluding Subordinated Claims, have been paid in full, post-petition interest from the Petition Date at the Federal Judgment Rate in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement and all Disputed Claims in Class 8 and Class 9 have been resolved, Holders of Allowed Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests, and Holders of Allowed Class A Limited Partnership Interests.

28. “*Claimant Trustee*” means James P. Seery, Jr., the Debtor’s chief executive officer and chief restructuring officer, or such other Person identified in the Plan Supplement who will act as the trustee of the Claimant Trust in accordance with the Plan, the Confirmation Order, and Claimant Trust Agreement or any replacement trustee pursuant to (and in accordance with) the Claimant Trust Agreement. The Claimant Trustee shall be responsible for, among other things, monetizing the Estate’s investment assets, resolving Claims (other than those Claims assigned to the Litigation Sub-Trust for resolution), and, as the sole officer of New GP LLC, winding down the Reorganized Debtor’s business operations.

29. “*Claimant Trust Expenses*” means all reasonable legal and other reasonable professional fees, costs, and expenses incurred by the Trustees on account of administration of the Claimant Trust, including any reasonable administrative fees and expenses, reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses, reasonable insurance costs, taxes, reasonable escrow expenses, and other expenses.

30. “*Claimant Trust Interests*” means the non-transferable interests in the Claimant Trust that are issued to the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries pursuant to this Plan; *provided, however,* Holders of Class A Limited Partnership Interests, Class B Limited Partnership Interests, and Class C Limited Partnership Interests will not be deemed to hold Claimant Trust Interests

unless and until the Contingent Claimant Trust Interests distributed to such Holders vest in accordance with the terms of this Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement.

31. “*Claimant Trust Oversight Committee*” means the committee of five Persons established pursuant to ARTICLE IV of this Plan to oversee the Claimant Trustee’s performance of its duties and otherwise serve the functions described in this Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement.

32. “*Class*” means a category of Holders of Claims or Equity Interests as set forth in ARTICLE III hereof pursuant to section 1122(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

33. “*Class A Limited Partnership Interest*” means the Class A Limited Partnership Interests as defined in the Limited Partnership Agreement held by The Dugaboy Investment Trust, Mark and Pamela Okada Family Trust – Exempt Trust 2, Mark and Pamela Okada – Exempt Descendants’ Trust, and Mark Kiyoshi Okada, and the General Partner Interest.

34. “*Class B Limited Partnership Interest*” means the Class B Limited Partnership Interests as defined in the Limited Partnership Agreement held by Hunter Mountain Investment Trust.

35. “*Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests*” means, collectively, the Class B Limited Partnership and Class C Limited Partnership Interests.

36. “*Class C Limited Partnership Interest*” means the Class C Limited Partnership Interests as defined in the Limited Partnership Agreement held by Hunter Mountain Investment Trust.

37. “*Committee*” means the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors appointed by the U.S. Trustee pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1102(a)(1) on October 29, 2019 [D.I. 65], consisting of (i) the Redeemer Committee of Highland Crusader Fund, (ii) Meta-e Discovery, (iii) UBS, and (iv) Acis.

38. “*Confirmation Date*” means the date on which the clerk of the Bankruptcy Court enters the Confirmation Order on the docket of the Bankruptcy Court.

39. “*Confirmation Hearing*” means the hearing held by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 1128 of the Bankruptcy Code to consider confirmation of this Plan, as such hearing may be adjourned or continued from time to time.

40. “*Confirmation Order*” means the order of the Bankruptcy Court confirming this Plan pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code.

41. “*Convenience Claim*” means any prepetition, liquidated, and unsecured Claim against the Debtor that as of the Confirmation Date is less than or equal to \$1,000,000 or any General Unsecured Claim that makes the Convenience Class Election. For the avoidance of doubt, the Reduced Employee Claims will be Convenience Claims.

42. “*Convenience Claim Pool*” means the \$13,150,000 in Cash that shall be available upon the Effective Date for distribution to Holders of Convenience Claims under the Plan as set forth herein. Any Cash remaining in the Convenience Claim Pool after all distributions on account of Convenience Claims have been made will be transferred to the Claimant Trust and administered as a Claimant Trust Asset.

43. “*Convenience Class Election*” means the option provided to each Holder of a General Unsecured Claim that is a liquidated Claim as of the Confirmation Date on their Ballot to elect to reduce their claim to \$1,000,000 and receive the treatment provided to Convenience Claims.

44. “*Contingent Claimant Trust Interests*” means the contingent Claimant Trust Interests to be distributed to Holders of Class A Limited Partnership Interests, Holders of Class B Limited Partnership Interests, and Holders of Class C Limited Partnership Interests in accordance with this Plan, the rights of which shall not vest, and consequently convert to Claimant Trust Interests, unless and until the Claimant Trustee Files a certification that all holders of Allowed General Unsecured Claims have been paid indefeasibly in full, plus, to the extent all Allowed unsecured Claims, excluding Subordinated Claims, have been paid in full, all accrued and unpaid post-petition interest from the Petition Date at the Federal Judgment Rate and all Disputed Claims in Class 8 and Class 9 have been resolved. As set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement, the Contingent Claimant Trust Interests distributed to the Holders of Class A Limited Partnership Interests will be subordinated to the Contingent Claimant Trust Interests distributed to the Holders of Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests.

45. “*Debtor*” means Highland Capital Management, L.P. in its capacity as debtor and debtor in possession in the Chapter 11 Case.

46. “*Delaware Bankruptcy Court*” means the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware.

47. “*Disclosure Statement*” means that certain *Disclosure Statement for Debtor’s Fifth Amended Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization*, as amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time, which describes this Plan, including all exhibits and schedules thereto and references therein that relate to this Plan.

48. “*Disputed*” means with respect to any Claim or Equity Interest, any Claim or Equity Interest that is not yet Allowed.

49. “*Disputed Claims Reserve*” means the appropriate reserve(s) or account(s) to be established on the Initial Distribution Date and maintained by the Claimant Trustee for distributions on account of Disputed Claims that may subsequently become an Allowed Claim.

50. “*Disputed Claims Reserve Amount*” means, for purposes of determining the Disputed Claims Reserve, the Cash that would have otherwise been distributed to a Holder of a Disputed Claim at the time any distributions of Cash are made to the Holders of Allowed Claims. The amount of the Disputed Claim upon which the Disputed Claims Reserve is calculated shall be: (a) the amount set forth on either the Schedules or the filed Proof of Claim, as applicable; (b) the amount agreed to by the Holder of the Disputed Claim and the Claimant Trustee or Reorganized

Debtor, as applicable; (c) the amount ordered by the Bankruptcy Court if it enters an order disallowing, in whole or in part, a Disputed Claim; or (d) as otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, including an order estimating the Disputed Claim.

51. “*Distribution Agent*” means the Claimant Trustee, or any party designated by the Claimant Trustee to serve as distribution agent under this Plan.

52. “*Distribution Date*” means the date or dates determined by the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, on or after the Initial Distribution Date upon which the Distribution Agent shall make distributions to holders of Allowed Claims and Interests entitled to receive distributions under the Plan.

53. “*Distribution Record Date*” means the date for determining which Holders of Claims and Equity Interests are eligible to receive distributions hereunder, which date shall be the Effective Date or such later date determined by the Bankruptcy Court.

54. “*Effective Date*” means the Business Day that this Plan becomes effective as provided in ARTICLE VIII hereof.

55. “*Employees*” means the employees of the Debtor set forth in the Plan Supplement.

56. “*Enjoined Parties*” means (i) all Entities who have held, hold, or may hold Claims against or Equity Interests in the Debtor (whether or not proof of such Claims or Equity Interests has been filed and whether or not such Entities vote in favor of, against or abstain from voting on the Plan or are presumed to have accepted or deemed to have rejected the Plan), (ii) James Dondero (“Dondero”), (iii) any Entity that has appeared and/or filed any motion, objection, or other pleading in this Chapter 11 Case regardless of the capacity in which such Entity appeared and any other party in interest, (iv) any Related Entity, and (v) the Related Persons of each of the foregoing.

57. “*Entity*” means any “entity” as defined in section 101(15) of the Bankruptcy Code and also includes any Person or any other entity.

58. “*Equity Interest*” means any Equity Security in the Debtor, including, without limitation, all issued, unissued, authorized or outstanding partnership interests, shares, of stock or limited company interests, the Class A Limited Partnership Interests, the Class B Limited Partnership Interests, and the Class C Limited Partnership Interests.

59. “*Equity Security*” means an “equity security” as defined in section 101(16) of the Bankruptcy Code.

60. “*Estate*” means the bankruptcy estate of the Debtor created by virtue of section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code upon the commencement of the Chapter 11 Case.

61. “*Estate Claims*” has the meaning given to it in Exhibit A to the *Notice of Final Term Sheet* [D.I. 354].

62. “*Exculpated Parties*” means, collectively, (i) the Debtor and its successors and assigns, (ii) the Employees, (iii) Strand, (iv) the Independent Directors, (v) the Committee, (vi) the members of the Committee (in their official capacities), (vii) the Professionals retained by the Debtor and the Committee in the Chapter 11 Case, (viii) the CEO/CRO; and (ix) the Related Persons of each of the parties listed in (iv) through (viii); *provided, however*, that, for the avoidance of doubt, none of James Dondero, Mark Okada, NexPoint Advisors, L.P. (and any of its subsidiaries and managed entities), the Charitable Donor Advised Fund, L.P. (and any of its subsidiaries, including CLO Holdco, Ltd., and managed entities), Highland CLO Funding, Ltd. (and any of its subsidiaries, members, and managed entities), Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. (and any of its subsidiaries and managed entities), NexBank, SSB (and any of its subsidiaries), the Hunter Mountain Investment Trust (or any trustee acting for the trust), the Dugaboy Investment Trust (or any trustee acting for the trust), or Grant Scott is included in the term “Exculpated Party.”

63. “*Executory Contract*” means a contract to which the Debtor is a party that is subject to assumption or rejection under sections 365 or 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code.

64. “*Exhibit*” means an exhibit annexed hereto or to the Disclosure Statement (as such exhibits are amended, modified or otherwise supplemented from time to time), which are incorporated by reference herein.

65. “*Federal Judgment Rate*” means the post-judgment interest rate set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 1961 as of the Effective Date.

66. “*File*” or “*Filed*” or “*Filing*” means file, filed or filing with the Bankruptcy Court or its authorized designee in the Chapter 11 Case.

67. “*Final Order*” means an order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Court, which is in full force and effect, and as to which the time to appeal, petition for *certiorari*, or move for a new trial, reargument or rehearing has expired and as to which no appeal, petition for *certiorari*, or other proceedings for a new trial, reargument or rehearing shall then be pending or as to which any right to appeal, petition for *certiorari*, new trial, reargument, or rehearing shall have been waived in writing in form and substance satisfactory to the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, or, in the event that an appeal, writ of *certiorari*, new trial, reargument, or rehearing thereof has been sought, such order of the Bankruptcy Court shall have been determined by the highest court to which such order was appealed, or *certiorari*, new trial, reargument or rehearing shall have been denied and the time to take any further appeal, petition for *certiorari*, or move for a new trial, reargument or rehearing shall have expired; *provided, however*, that the possibility that a motion under Rule 60 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or any analogous rule under the Bankruptcy Rules, may be Filed with respect to such order shall not preclude such order from being a Final Order.

68. “*Frontier Secured Claim*” means the loan from Frontier State Bank to the Debtor in the principal amount of \$7,879,688.00 made pursuant to that certain First Amended and Restated Loan Agreement, dated March 29, 2018.

69. “*General Partner Interest*” means the Class A Limited Partnership Interest held by Strand, as the Debtor’s general partner.

70. “*General Unsecured Claim*” means any prepetition Claim against the Debtor that is not Secured and is not a/an: (a) Administrative Expense Claim; (b) Professional Fee Claim; (c) Priority Tax Claim; (d) Priority Non-Tax Claim; or (e) Convenience Claim.

71. “*Governmental Unit*” means a “governmental unit” as defined in section 101(27) of the Bankruptcy Code.

72. “*GUC Election*” means the option provided to each Holder of a Convenience Claim on their Ballot to elect to receive the treatment provided to General Unsecured Claims.

73. “*Holder*” means an Entity holding a Claim against, or Equity Interest in, the Debtor.

74. “*Impaired*” means, when used in reference to a Claim or Equity Interest, a Claim or Equity Interest that is impaired within the meaning of section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.

75. “*Independent Directors*” means John S. Dubel, James P. Seery, Jr., and Russell Nelms, the independent directors of Strand appointed on January 9, 2020, and any additional or replacement directors of Strand appointed after January 9, 2020, but prior to the Effective Date.

76. “*Initial Distribution Date*” means, subject to the “Treatment” sections in ARTICLE III hereof, the date that is on or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, when distributions under this Plan shall commence to Holders of Allowed Claims and Equity Interests.

77. “*Insurance Policies*” means all insurance policies maintained by the Debtor as of the Petition Date.

78. “*Jefferies Secured Claim*” means any Claim in favor of Jefferies, LLC, arising under that certain Prime Brokerage Customer Agreement, dated May 24, 2013, between the Debtor and Jefferies, LLC, that is secured by the assets, if any, maintained in the prime brokerage account created by such Prime Brokerage Customer Agreement.

79. “*Lien*” means a “lien” as defined in section 101(37) of the Bankruptcy Code and, with respect to any asset, includes, without limitation, any mortgage, lien, pledge, charge, security interest or other encumbrance of any kind, or any other type of preferential arrangement that has the practical effect of creating a security interest, in respect of such asset.

80. “*Limited Partnership Agreement*” means that certain Fourth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Highland Capital Management, L.P., dated December 24, 2015, as amended.

81. “*Litigation Sub-Trust*” means the sub-trust established within the Claimant Trust or as a wholly –owned subsidiary of the Claimant Trust on the Effective Date in each case in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement and Claimant Trust Agreement. As set forth in the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, the Litigation Sub-Trust shall hold the Claimant Trust Assets that are Estate Claims.

82. “*Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement*” means the agreement filed in the Plan Supplement establishing and delineating the terms and conditions of the Litigation Sub-Trust.

83. “*Litigation Trustee*” means the trustee appointed by the Committee and reasonably acceptable to the Debtor who shall be responsible for investigating, litigating, and settling the Estate Claims for the benefit of the Claimant Trust in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement.

84. “*Managed Funds*” means Highland Multi-Strategy Credit Fund, L.P., Highland Restoration Capital Partners, L.P., and any other investment vehicle managed by the Debtor pursuant to an Executory Contract assumed pursuant to this Plan.

85. “*New Frontier Note*” means that promissory note to be provided to the Allowed Holders of Class 2 Claims under this Plan and any other documents or security agreements securing the obligations thereunder.

86. “*New GP LLC*” means a limited liability company incorporated in the State of Delaware pursuant to the New GP LLC Documents to serve as the general partner of the Reorganized Debtor on the Effective Date.

87. “*New GP LLC Documents*” means the charter, operating agreement, and other formational documents of New GP LLC.

88. “*Ordinary Course Professionals Order*” means that certain *Order Pursuant to Sections 105(a), 327, 328, and 330 of the Bankruptcy Code Authorizing the Debtor to Retain, Employ, and Compensate Certain Professionals Utilized by the Debtor in the Ordinary Course* [D.I. 176].

89. “*Other Unsecured Claim*” means any Secured Claim other than the Jefferies Secured Claim and the Frontier Secured Claim.

90. “*Person*” means a “person” as defined in section 101(41) of the Bankruptcy Code and also includes any natural person, individual, corporation, company, general or limited partnership, limited liability company, unincorporated organization firm, trust, estate, business trust, association, joint stock company, joint venture, government, governmental agency, Governmental Unit or any subdivision thereof, the United States Trustee, or any other entity, whether acting in an individual, fiduciary or other capacity.

91. “*Petition Date*” means October 16, 2019.

92. “*Plan*” means this *Debtor’s Fifth Amended Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization*, including the Exhibits and the Plan Documents and all supplements, appendices,

and schedules thereto, either in its present form or as the same may be altered, amended, modified or otherwise supplemented from time to time.

93. “*Plan Distribution*” means the payment or distribution of consideration to Holders of Allowed Claims and Allowed Equity Interests under this Plan.

94. “*Plan Documents*” means any of the documents, other than this Plan, but including, without limitation, the documents to be filed with the Plan Supplement, to be executed, delivered, assumed, or performed in connection with the occurrence of the Effective Date, and as may be modified consistent with the terms hereof with the consent of the Committee.

95. “*Plan Supplement*” means the ancillary documents necessary for the implementation and effectuation of the Plan, including, without limitation, (i) the form of Claimant Trust Agreement, (ii) the forms of New GP LLC Documents, (iii) the form of Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, (iv) the Sub-Servicer Agreement (if applicable), (v) the identity of the initial members of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee, (vi) the form of Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement; (vii) the schedule of retained Causes of Action; (viii) the New Frontier Note, (ix) the schedule of Employees; (x) the form of Senior Employee Stipulation,; and (xi) the schedule of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be assumed pursuant to this Plan, which, in each case, will be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtor and the Committee.

96. “*Priority Non-Tax Claim*” means a Claim entitled to priority pursuant to section 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, including any Claims for paid time-off entitled to priority under section 507(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code, other than a Priority Tax Claim or an Administrative Claim.

97. “*Pro Rata*” means the proportion that (a) the Allowed amount of a Claim or Equity Interest in a particular Class bears to (b) the aggregate Allowed amount of all Claims or Equity Interests in such Class.

98. “*Professional*” means (a) any Entity employed in the Chapter 11 Case pursuant to section 327, 328 363 or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code or otherwise and (b) any Entity seeking compensation or reimbursement of expenses in connection with the Chapter 11 Case pursuant to sections 327, 328, 330, 331, 363, 503(b), 503(b)(4) and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code.

99. “*Professional Fee Claim*” means a Claim under sections 328, 330(a), 331, 363, 503 or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code, with respect to a particular Professional, for compensation for services rendered or reimbursement of costs, expenses or other charges incurred after the Petition Date and prior to and including the Effective Date.

100. “*Professional Fee Claims Bar Date*” means with respect to Professional Fee Claims, the Business Day which is sixty (60) days after the Effective Date or such other date as approved by order of the Bankruptcy Court.

101. “*Professional Fee Claims Objection Deadline*” means, with respect to any Professional Fee Claim, thirty (30) days after the timely Filing of the applicable request for payment of such Professional Fee Claim.

102. “*Professional Fee Reserve*” means the reserve established and funded by the Claimant Trustee pursuant this Plan to provide sufficient funds to satisfy in full unpaid Allowed Professional Fee Claims.

103. “*Proof of Claim*” means a written proof of Claim or Equity Interest Filed against the Debtor in the Chapter 11 Case.

104. “*Priority Tax Claim*” means any Claim of a Governmental Unit of the kind specified in section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code.

105. “*Protected Parties*” means, collectively, (i) the Debtor and its successors and assigns, direct and indirect majority-owned subsidiaries, and the Managed Funds, (ii) the Employees, (iii) Strand, (iv) the Reorganized Debtor, (v) the Independent Directors, (vi) the Committee, (vii) the members of the Committee (in their official capacities), (viii) the Claimant Trust, (ix) the Claimant Trustee, (x) the Litigation Sub-Trust, (xi) the Litigation Trustee, (xii) the members of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee (in their official capacities), (xiii) New GP LLC, (xiv) the Professionals retained by the Debtor and the Committee in the Chapter 11 Case, (xv) the CEO/CRO; and (xvi) the Related Persons of each of the parties listed in (iv) through (xv); *provided, however*, that, for the avoidance of doubt, none of James Dondero, Mark Okada, NexPoint Advisors, L.P. (and any of its subsidiaries and managed entities), the Charitable Donor Advised Fund, L.P. (and any of its subsidiaries, including CLO Holdco, Ltd., and managed entities), Highland CLO Funding, Ltd. (and any of its subsidiaries, members, and managed entities), NexBank, SSB (and any of its subsidiaries), Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. (and any of its subsidiaries and managed entities), the Hunter Mountain Investment Trust (or any trustee acting for the trust), the Dugaboy Investment Trust (or any trustee acting for the trust), or Grant Scott is included in the term “Protected Party.”

106. “*PTO Claims*” means any Claim for paid time off in favor of any Debtor employee in excess of the amount that would qualify as a Priority Non-Tax Claim under section 507(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

107. “*Reduced Employee Claims*” has the meaning set forth in ARTICLE IX.D.

108. “*Reinstated*” means, with respect to any Claim or Equity Interest, (a) leaving unaltered the legal, equitable, and contractual rights to which a Claim entitles the Holder of such Claim or Equity Interest in accordance with section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code or (b) notwithstanding any contractual provision or applicable law that entitles the Holder of such Claim or Equity Interest to demand or receive accelerated payment of such Claim or Equity Interest after the occurrence of a default: (i) curing any such default that occurred before or after the Petition Date, other than a default of a kind specified in section 365(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code or of a kind that section 365(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code expressly does not require to be cured; (ii) reinstating the maturity of such Claim or Equity Interest as such maturity existed before such default; (iii) compensating the Holder of such Claim or Equity Interest for any damages incurred as a result of any reasonable reliance by such Holder on such contractual provision or such applicable law; (iv) if such Claim or Equity Interest arises from any failure to perform a nonmonetary obligation, other than a default arising from failure to operate a non-residential real property lease subject to section 365(b)(1)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code, compensating the Holder

of such Claim or Equity Interest (other than any Debtor or an insider of any Debtor) for any actual pecuniary loss incurred by such Holder as a result of such failure; and (v) not otherwise altering the legal, equitable, or contractual rights to which such Claim entitles the Holder of such Claim.

109. “*Rejection Claim*” means any Claim for monetary damages as a result of the rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease pursuant to the Confirmation Order.

110. “*Related Entity*” means, without duplication, (a) Dondero, (b) Mark Okada (“*Okada*”), (c) Grant Scott (“*Scott*”), (d) Hunter Covitz (“*Covitz*”), (e) any entity or person that was an insider of the Debtor on or before the Petition Date under Section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code, including, without limitation, any entity or person that was a non-statutory insider, (f) any entity that, after the Effective Date, is an insider or Affiliate of one or more of Dondero, Okada, Scott, Covitz, or any of their respective insiders or Affiliates, including, without limitation, The Dugaboy Investment Trust, (g) the Hunter Mountain Investment Trust and any of its direct or indirect parents, (h) the Charitable Donor Advised Fund, L.P., and any of its direct or indirect subsidiaries, and (i) Affiliates of the Debtor and any other Entities listed on the Related Entity List.

111. “*Related Entity List*” means that list of Entities filed with the Plan Supplement.

112. “*Related Persons*” means, with respect to any Person, such Person’s predecessors, successors, assigns (whether by operation of law or otherwise), and each of their respective present, future, or former officers, directors, employees, managers, managing members, members, financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, consultants, professionals, advisors, shareholders, principals, partners, subsidiaries, divisions, management companies, heirs, agents, and other representatives, in each case solely in their capacity as such.

113. “*Released Parties*” means, collectively, (i) the Independent Directors; (ii) Strand (solely from the date of the appointment of the Independent Directors through the Effective Date); (iii) the CEO/CRO; (iv) the Committee; (v) the members of the Committee (in their official capacities), (vi) the Professionals retained by the Debtor and the Committee in the Chapter 11 Case; and (vii) the Employees.

114. “*Reorganized Debtor*” means the Debtor, as reorganized pursuant to this Plan on and after the Effective Date.

115. “*Reorganized Debtor Assets*” means any limited and general partnership interests held by the Debtor, the management of the Managed Funds and those Causes of Action (including, without limitation, claims for breach of fiduciary duty), that, for any reason, are not capable of being transferred to the Claimant Trust. For the avoidance of doubt, “*Reorganized Debtor Assets*” includes any partnership interests or shares of Managed Funds held by the Debtor but does not include the underlying portfolio assets held by the Managed Funds.

116. “*Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement*” means that certain Fifth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Highland Capital Management, L.P., by and among the Claimant Trust, as limited partner, and New GP LLC, as general partner, Filed with the Plan Supplement.

117. “*Restructuring*” means the restructuring of the Debtor, the principal terms of which are set forth in this Plan and the Disclosure Statement.

118. “*Retained Employee Claim*” means any Claim filed by a current employee of the Debtor who will be employed by the Reorganized Debtor upon the Effective Date.

119. “*Schedules*” means the schedules of Assets and liabilities, statements of financial affairs, lists of Holders of Claims and Equity Interests and all amendments or supplements thereto Filed by the Debtor with the Bankruptcy Court [D.I. 247].

120. “*Secured*” means, when referring to a Claim: (a) secured by a Lien on property in which the Debtor’s Estate has an interest, which Lien is valid, perfected, and enforceable pursuant to applicable law or by reason of a Bankruptcy Court order, or that is subject to setoff pursuant to section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code, to the extent of the value of the creditor’s interest in the interest of the Debtor’s Estate in such property or to the extent of the amount subject to setoff, as applicable, as determined pursuant to section 506(a) of the Bankruptcy Code or (b) Allowed pursuant to the Plan as a Secured Claim.

121. “*Security*” or “*security*” means any security as such term is defined in section 101(49) of the Bankruptcy Code.

122. “*Senior Employees*” means the senior employees of the Debtor Filed in the Plan Supplement.

123. “*Senior Employee Stipulation*” means the agreements filed in the Plan Supplement between each Senior Employee and the Debtor.

124. “*Stamp or Similar Tax*” means any stamp tax, recording tax, personal property tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, real estate transfer tax, sales tax, use tax, transaction privilege tax (including, without limitation, such taxes on prime contracting and owner-builder sales), privilege taxes (including, without limitation, privilege taxes on construction contracting with regard to speculative builders and owner builders), and other similar taxes imposed or assessed by any Governmental Unit.

125. “*Statutory Fees*” means fees payable pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930.

126. “*Strand*” means Strand Advisors, Inc., the Debtor’s general partner.

127. “*Sub-Servicer*” means a third-party selected by the Claimant Trustee to service or sub-service the Reorganized Debtor Assets.

128. “*Sub-Servicer Agreement*” means the agreement that may be entered into providing for the servicing of the Reorganized Debtor Assets by the Sub-Servicer.

129. “*Subordinated Claim*” means any Claim that is subordinated to the Convenience Claims and General Unsecured Claims pursuant to an order entered by the Bankruptcy Court (including any other court having jurisdiction over the Chapter 11 Case) after notice and a hearing.

130. “*Subordinated Claimant Trust Interests*” means the Claimant Trust Interests to be distributed to Holders of Allowed Subordinated Claims under the Plan, which such interests shall be subordinated in right and priority to the Claimant Trust Interests distributed to Holders of Allowed General Unsecured Claims as provided in the Claimant Trust Agreement.

131. “*Trust Distribution*” means the transfer of Cash or other property by the Claimant Trustee to the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries.

132. “*Trustees*” means, collectively, the Claimant Trustee and Litigation Trustee.

133. “*UBS*” means, collectively, UBS Securities LLC and UBS AG London Branch.

134. “*Unexpired Lease*” means a lease to which the Debtor is a party that is subject to assumption or rejection under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.

135. “*Unimpaired*” means, with respect to a Class of Claims or Equity Interests that is not impaired within the meaning of section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.

136. “*Voting Deadline*” means the date and time by which all Ballots to accept or reject the Plan must be received in order to be counted under the under the Order of the Bankruptcy Court approving the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information pursuant to section 1125(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and authorizing the Debtor to solicit acceptances of the Plan.

137. “*Voting Record Date*” means November 23, 2020.

## **ARTICLE II.**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND PRIORITY TAX CLAIMS**

#### **A. Administrative Expense Claims**

On the later of the Effective Date or the date on which an Administrative Expense Claim becomes an Allowed Administrative Expense Claim, or, in each such case, as soon as practicable thereafter, each Holder of an Allowed Administrative Expense Claim (other than Professional Fee Claims) will receive, in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, such Allowed Administrative Expense Claim either (i) payment in full in Available Cash for the unpaid portion of such Allowed Administrative Expense Claim; or (ii) such other less favorable treatment as agreed to in writing by the Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, and such Holder; *provided, however*, that Administrative Expense Claims incurred by the Debtor in the ordinary course of business may be paid in the ordinary course of business in the discretion of the Debtor in accordance with such applicable terms and conditions relating thereto without further notice to or order of the Bankruptcy Court. All statutory fees payable under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a) shall be paid as such fees become due.

If an Administrative Expense Claim (other than a Professional Fee Claim) is not paid by the Debtor in the ordinary course, the Holder of such Administrative Expense Claim must File, on

or before the applicable Administrative Expense Claims Bar Date, and serve on the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, and such other Entities who are designated by the Bankruptcy Rules, the Confirmation Order or other order of the Bankruptcy Court, an application for allowance and payment of such Administrative Expense Claim.

Objections to any Administrative Expense Claim (other than a Professional Fee Claim) must be Filed and served on the Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, and the party asserting such Administrative Expense Claim by the Administrative Expense Claims Objection Deadline.

**B. Professional Fee Claims**

Professionals or other Entities asserting a Professional Fee Claim for services rendered through the Effective Date must submit fee applications under sections 327, 328, 329,330, 331, 503(b) or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code and, upon entry of an order of the Bankruptcy Court granting such fee applications, such Professional Fee Claim shall promptly be paid in Cash in full to the extent provided in such order.

Professionals or other Entities asserting a Professional Fee Claim for services rendered on or prior to the Effective Date must File, on or before the Professional Fee Claims Bar Date, and serve on the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, and such other Entities who are designated as requiring such notice by the Bankruptcy Rules, the Confirmation Order or other order of the Bankruptcy Court, an application for final allowance of such Professional Fee Claim.

Objections to any Professional Fee Claim must be Filed and served on the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, and the party asserting the Professional Fee Claim by the Professional Fee Claim Objection Deadline. Each Holder of an Allowed Professional Fee Claim will be paid by the Debtor or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, in Cash within ten (10) Business Days of entry of the order approving such Allowed Professional Fee Claim.

On the Effective Date, the Claimant Trustee shall establish the Professional Fee Reserve. The Professional Fee Reserve shall vest in the Claimant Trust and shall be maintained by the Claimant Trustee in accordance with the Plan and Claimant Trust Agreement. The Claimant Trust shall fund the Professional Fee Reserve on the Effective Date in an estimated amount determined by the Debtor in good faith prior to the Confirmation Date and that approximates the total projected amount of unpaid Professional Fee Claims on the Effective Date. Following the payment of all Allowed Professional Fee Claims, any excess funds in the Professional Fee Reserve shall be released to the Claimant Trust to be used for other purposes consistent with the Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement.

**C. Priority Tax Claims**

On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the later of (i) the Initial Distribution Date if such Priority Tax Claim is an Allowed Priority Tax Claim as of the Effective Date or (ii) the date on which such Priority Tax Claim becomes an Allowed Priority Tax Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim will receive in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, such Allowed Priority Tax Claim, at the election of the Debtor: (a) Cash in an amount of a total value as of the Effective Date of the Plan equal to the amount of such Allowed

Priority Tax Claim in accordance with section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code, or (b) if paid over time, payment of such Allowed Priority Tax Claim in accordance with section 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Bankruptcy Code; or (c) such other less favorable treatment as agreed to in writing by the Debtor and such Holder. Payment of statutory fees due pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6) will be made at all appropriate times until the entry of a final decree; *provided, however*, that the Debtor may prepay any or all such Claims at any time, without premium or penalty.

**ARTICLE III.**  
**CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF**  
**CLASSIFIED CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS**

**A. Summary**

All Claims and Equity Interests, except Administrative Expense Claims and Priority Tax Claims, are classified in the Classes set forth below. In accordance with section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, Administrative Expense Claims, and Priority Tax Claims have not been classified.

The categories of Claims and Equity Interests listed below classify Claims and Equity Interests for all purposes including, without limitation, confirmation and distribution pursuant to the Plan and pursuant to sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan deems a Claim or Equity Interest to be classified in a particular Class only to the extent that the Claim or Equity Interest qualifies within the description of that Class and will be deemed classified in a different Class to the extent that any remainder of such Claim or Equity Interest qualifies within the description of such different Class. A Claim or Equity Interest is in a particular Class only to the extent that any such Claim or Equity Interest is Allowed in that Class and has not been paid, released or otherwise settled (in each case, by the Debtor or any other Entity) prior to the Effective Date.

**B. Summary of Classification and Treatment of Classified Claims and Equity Interests**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Claim</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Voting Rights</b>
1	Jefferies Secured Claim	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
2	Frontier Secured Claim	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
3	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
4	Priority Non-Tax Claim	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
5	Retained Employee Claim	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
6	PTO Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
7	Convenience Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
8	General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
9	Subordinated Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
10	Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
11	Class A Limited Partnership Interests	Impaired	Entitled to Vote

**C. Elimination of Vacant Classes**

Any Class that, as of the commencement of the Confirmation Hearing, does not have at least one Holder of a Claim or Equity Interest that is Allowed in an amount greater than zero for voting purposes shall be considered vacant, deemed eliminated from the Plan for purposes of voting to accept or reject the Plan, and disregarded for purposes of determining whether the Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to such Class.

**D. Impaired/Voting Classes**

Claims and Equity Interests in Class 2 and Class 7 through Class 11 are Impaired by the Plan, and only the Holders of Claims or Equity Interests in those Classes are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

**E. Unimpaired/Non-Voting Classes**

Claims in Class 1 and Class 3 through Class 6 are Unimpaired by the Plan, and such Holders are deemed to have accepted the Plan and are therefore not entitled to vote on the Plan.

**F. Impaired/Non-Voting Classes**

There are no Classes under the Plan that will not receive or retain any property and no Classes are deemed to reject the Plan.

**G. Cramdown**

If any Class of Claims or Equity Interests is deemed to reject this Plan or does not vote to accept this Plan, the Debtor may (i) seek confirmation of this Plan under section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code or (ii) amend or modify this Plan in accordance with the terms hereof and the Bankruptcy Code. If a controversy arises as to whether any Claims or Equity Interests, or any class of Claims or Equity Interests, are Impaired, the Bankruptcy Court shall, after notice and a hearing, determine such controversy on or before the Confirmation Date.

**H. Classification and Treatment of Claims and Equity Interests**

1. Class 1 – Jefferies Secured Claim

- *Classification:* Class 1 consists of the Jefferies Secured Claim.
- *Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, each Holder of an Allowed Class 1 Claim will receive in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, such Allowed Class 1 Claim, at the election of the Debtor: (A) Cash equal to the amount of such Allowed Class 1 Claim; (B) such other less favorable treatment as to which the Debtor and the Holder of such Allowed Class 1 Claim will have agreed upon in writing; or (C) such other treatment rendering such Claim Unimpaired. Each Holder of an Allowed Class 1 Claim will retain the Liens securing its Allowed Class 1 Claim as of the Effective Date until

full and final payment of such Allowed Class 1 Claim is made as provided herein.

- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 1 is Unimpaired, and the Holders of Class 1 Claims are conclusively deemed to have accepted this Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Holders of Class 1 Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan and will not be solicited.

2. *Class 2 – Frontier Secured Claim*

- *Classification:* Class 2 consists of the Frontier Secured Claim.
- *Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, each Holder of an Allowed Class 2 Claim will receive in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, such Allowed Class 2 Claim: (A) Cash in an amount equal to all accrued but unpaid interest on the Frontier Claim through and including the Effective Date and (B) the New Frontier Note. The Holder of an Allowed Class 2 Claim will retain the Liens securing its Allowed Class 2 Claim as of the Effective Date until full and final payment of such Allowed Class 2 Claim is made as provided herein.
- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 2 is Impaired, and the Holders of Class 2 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan.

3. *Class 3 – Other Secured Claims*

- *Classification:* Class 3 consists of the Other Secured Claims.
- *Allowance and Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the later of (i) the Initial Distribution Date if such Class 3 Claim is Allowed on the Effective Date or (ii) the date on which such Class 3 Claim becomes an Allowed Class 3 Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Class 3 Claim will receive in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, its Allowed Claim 3 Claim, at the option of the Debtor, or following the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtor or Claimant Trustee, as applicable, (i) Cash equal to such Allowed Other Secured Claim, (ii) the collateral securing its Allowed Other Secured Claim, plus postpetition interest to the extent required under Bankruptcy Code Section 506(b), or (iii) such other treatment rendering such Claim Unimpaired.
- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 3 is Unimpaired, and the Holders of Class 3 Claims are conclusively deemed to have accepted this Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Holders of Class 3 Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan and will not be solicited.

4. Class 4 – Priority Non-Tax Claims

- *Classification:* Class 4 consists of the Priority Non-Tax Claims.
- *Allowance and Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the later of (i) the Initial Distribution Date if such Class 4 Claim is Allowed on the Effective Date or (ii) the date on which such Class 4 Claim becomes an Allowed Class 4 Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Class 4 Claim will receive in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, its Allowed Claim 4 Claim Cash equal to the amount of such Allowed Class 4 Claim.
- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 4 is Unimpaired, and the Holders of Class 4 Claims are conclusively deemed to have accepted this Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Holders of Class 4 Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan and will not be solicited.

5. Class 5 – Retained Employee Claims

- *Classification:* Class 5 consists of the Retained Employee Claims.
- *Allowance and Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, each Allowed Class 5 Claim will be Reinstated.
- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 5 is Unimpaired, and the Holders of Class 5 Claims are conclusively deemed to have accepted this Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Holders of Class 5 Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan and will not be solicited.

6. Class 6 – PTO Claims

- *Classification:* Class 6 consists of the PTO Claims.
- *Allowance and Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the later of (i) the Initial Distribution Date if such Class 6 Claim is Allowed on the Effective Date or (ii) the date on which such Class 6 Claim becomes an Allowed Class 6 Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Class 6 Claim will receive in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, its Allowed Claim 6 Claim Cash equal to the amount of such Allowed Class 6 Claim.
- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 6 is Unimpaired, and the Holders of Class 6 Claims are conclusively deemed to have accepted this Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Holders of Class 6

Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan and will not be solicited.

7. Class 7 – Convenience Claims

- *Classification:* Class 7 consists of the Convenience Claims.
- *Allowance and Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the later of (i) the Initial Distribution Date if such Class 7 Claim is Allowed on the Effective Date or (ii) the date on which such Class 7 Claim becomes an Allowed Class 7 Claim, each Holder of an Allowed Class 7 Claim will receive in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, its Allowed Class 7 Claim (1) the treatment provided to Allowed Holders of Class 8 General Unsecured Claims if the Holder of such Class 7 Claim makes the GUC Election or (2) an amount in Cash equal to the lesser of (a) 85% of the Allowed amount of such Holder's Class 7 Claim or (b) such Holder's Pro Rata share of the Convenience Claims Cash Pool.
- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 7 is Impaired, and the Holders of Class 7 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan.

8. Class 8 – General Unsecured Claims

- *Classification:* Class 8 consists of the General Unsecured Claims.
- *Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, each Holder of an Allowed Class 8 Claim, in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, such Claim shall receive (i) its Pro Rata share of the Claimant Trust Interests, (ii) such other less favorable treatment as to which such Holder and the Claimant Trustee shall have agreed upon in writing, or (iii) the treatment provided to Allowed Holders of Class 7 Convenience Claims if the Holder of such Class 8 General Unsecured Claim is eligible and makes a valid Convenience Class Election.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, after the Effective Date and subject to the other provisions of this Plan, the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, and the Claimant Trust, as applicable, will have and will retain any and all rights and defenses under bankruptcy or nonbankruptcy law that the Debtor had with respect to any General Unsecured Claim, except with respect to any General Unsecured Claim Allowed by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 8 is Impaired, and the Holders of Class 8 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan.

9. Class 9 – Subordinated Claims

- *Classification:* Class 9 consists of the Subordinated Claims.

*Treatment:* On the Effective Date, Holders of Subordinated Claims shall receive either (i) their Pro Rata share of the Subordinated Claimant Trust Interests or, (ii) such other less favorable treatment as to which such Holder and the Claimant Trustee may agree upon in writing.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, after the Effective Date and subject to the other provisions of this Plan, the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, and the Claimant Trust, as applicable, will have and will retain any and all rights and defenses under bankruptcy or nonbankruptcy law that the Debtor had with respect to any Subordinated Claim, except with respect to any Subordinated Claim Allowed by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 9 is Impaired, and the Holders of Class 9 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan.

10. Class 10 – Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests

- *Classification:* Class 10 consists of the Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests.

- *Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, each Holder of an Allowed Class 10 Claim, in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, such Claim shall receive (i) its Pro Rata share of the Contingent Claimant Trust Interests or (ii) such other less favorable treatment as to which such Holder and the Claimant Trustee shall have agreed upon in writing.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, after the Effective Date and subject to the other provisions of this Plan, the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, and the Claimant Trust, as applicable, will have and will retain any and all rights and defenses under bankruptcy or nonbankruptcy law that the Debtor had with respect to any Class B/C Limited Partnership Interest Claim, except with respect to any Class B/C Limited Partnership Interest Claim Allowed by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 10 is Impaired, and the Holders of Class 10 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan.

11. Class 11 – Class A Limited Partnership Interests

- *Classification:* Class 11 consists of the Class A Limited Partnership Interests.

- *Treatment:* On or as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date, each Holder of an Allowed Class 11 Claim, in full satisfaction, settlement, discharge and release of, and in exchange for, such Claim shall receive (i) its Pro Rata share of the Contingent Claimant Trust Interests or (ii) such other less favorable treatment as to which such Holder and the Claimant Trustee shall have agreed upon in writing.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, after the Effective Date and subject to the other provisions of this Plan, the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, and the Claimant Trust, as applicable, will have and will retain any and all rights and defenses under bankruptcy or nonbankruptcy law that the Debtor had with respect to any Class A Limited Partnership Interest, except with respect to any Class A Limited Partnership Interest Allowed by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

- *Impairment and Voting:* Class 11 is Impaired, and the Holders of Class 11 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject this Plan.

#### **I. Special Provision Governing Unimpaired Claims**

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, nothing under the Plan will affect the Debtor's rights in respect of any Unimpaired Claims, including, without limitation, all rights in respect of legal and equitable defenses to or setoffs or recoupments against any such Unimpaired Claims.

#### **J. Subordinated Claims**

The allowance, classification, and treatment of all Claims under the Plan shall take into account and conform to the contractual, legal, and equitable subordination rights relating thereto, whether arising under general principles of equitable subordination, section 510(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, or otherwise. Upon written notice and hearing, the Debtor the Reorganized Debtor, and the Claimant Trustee reserve the right to seek entry of an order by the Bankruptcy Court to re-classify or to subordinate any Claim in accordance with any contractual, legal, or equitable subordination relating thereto, and the treatment afforded any Claim under the Plan that becomes a subordinated Claim at any time shall be modified to reflect such subordination.

### **ARTICLE IV.** **MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PLAN**

#### **A. Summary**

As discussed in the Disclosure Statement, the Plan will be implemented through (i) the Claimant Trust, (ii) the Litigation Sub-Trust, and (iii) the Reorganized Debtor.

On the Effective Date, all Class A Limited Partnership Interests, including the Class A Limited Partnership Interests held by Strand, as general partner, and Class B/C Limited Partnerships in the Debtor will be cancelled, and new Class A Limited Partnership Interests in the Reorganized Debtor will be issued to the Claimant Trust and New GP LLC – a newly-chartered limited liability company wholly-owned by the Claimant Trust. The Claimant Trust, as limited

partner, will ratify New GP LLC's appointment as general partner of the Reorganized Debtor, and on and following the Effective Date, the Claimant Trust will be the Reorganized Debtor's limited partner and New GP LLC will be its general partner. The Claimant Trust, as limited partner, and New GP LLC, as general partner, will execute the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, which will amend and restate, in all respects, the Debtor's current Limited Partnership Agreement. Following the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtor will be managed consistent with the terms of the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement by New GP LLC. The sole managing member of New GP LLC will be the Claimant Trust, and the Claimant Trustee will be the sole officer of New GP LLC on the Effective Date.

Following the Effective Date, the Claimant Trust will administer the Claimant Trust Assets pursuant to this Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement, and the Litigation Trustee will pursue, if applicable, the Estate Claims pursuant to the terms of the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement and the Plan. The Reorganized Debtor will administer the Reorganized Debtor Assets and, if needed, with the utilization of a Sub-Servicer, which administration will include, among other things, managing the wind down of the Managed Funds.

Although the Reorganized Debtor will manage the wind down of the Managed Funds, it is currently anticipated that neither the Reorganized Debtor nor the Claimant Trust will assume or assume and assign the contracts between the Debtor and certain Related Entities pursuant to which the Debtor provides shared services and sub-advisory services to those Related Entities. The Debtor believes that the continued provision of the services under such contracts will not be cost effective.

The Reorganized Debtor will distribute all proceeds from the wind down to the Claimant Trust, as its limited partner, and New GP LLC, as its general partner, in each case in accordance with the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement. Such proceeds, along with the proceeds of the Claimant Trust Assets, will ultimately be distributed to the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries as set forth in this Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement.

**B. The Claimant Trust<sup>2</sup>**

1. Creation and Governance of the Claimant Trust and Litigation Sub-Trust.

On or prior to the Effective Date, the Debtor and the Claimant Trustee shall execute the Claimant Trust Agreement and shall take all steps necessary to establish the Claimant Trust and the Litigation Sub-Trust in accordance with the Plan in each case for the benefit of the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries. Additionally, on or prior to the Effective Date, the Debtor shall irrevocably transfer and shall be deemed to have irrevocably transferred to the Claimant Trust all of its rights, title, and interest in and to all of the Claimant Trust Assets, and in accordance with section 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Claimant Trust Assets shall automatically vest in the Claimant Trust free and clear of all Claims, Liens, encumbrances, or interests subject only to the Claimant Trust Interests and the Claimant Trust Expenses, as provided for in the Claimant Trust Agreement, and

<sup>2</sup> In the event of a conflict between the terms of this summary and the terms of the Claimant Trust Agreement and the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, the terms of the Claimant Trust Agreement or the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, as applicable, shall control.

such transfer shall be exempt from any stamp, real estate transfer, mortgage from any stamp, transfer, reporting, sales, use, or other similar tax.

The Claimant Trustee shall be the exclusive trustee of the Claimant Trust Assets, excluding the Estate Claims and the Litigation Trustee shall be the exclusive trustee with respect to the Estate Claims in each case for purposes of 31 U.S.C. § 3713(b) and 26 U.S.C. § 6012(b)(3), as well as the representative of the Estate appointed pursuant to section 1123(b)(3)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to the Claimant Trust Assets. The Claimant Trustee shall also be responsible for resolving all Claims and Equity Interests in Class 8 through Class 11, under the supervision of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee.

On the Effective Date, the Claimant Trustee and Litigation Trustee shall execute the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement and shall take all steps necessary to establish the Litigation Sub-Trust. Upon the creation of the Litigation Sub-Trust, the Claimant Trust shall irrevocably transfer and assign to the Litigation Sub-Trust the Estate Claims. The Claimant Trust shall be governed by the Claimant Trust Agreement and administered by the Claimant Trustee. The powers, rights, and responsibilities of the Claimant Trustee shall be specified in the Claimant Trust Agreement and shall include the authority and responsibility to, among other things, take the actions set forth in this ARTICLE IV, subject to any required reporting to the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee as may be set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement. The Claimant Trust shall hold and distribute the Claimant Trust Assets (including the proceeds from the Estate Claims, if any) in accordance with the provisions of the Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement; *provided* that the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee may direct the Claimant Trust to reserve Cash from distributions as necessary to fund the Claimant Trust and Litigation Sub-Trust. Other rights and duties of the Claimant Trustee and the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries shall be as set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement. After the Effective Date, neither the Debtor nor the Reorganized Debtor shall have any interest in the Claimant Trust Assets.

The Litigation Sub-Trust shall be governed by the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement and administered by the Litigation Trustee. The powers, rights, and responsibilities of the Litigation Trustee shall be specified in the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement and shall include the authority and responsibility to, among other things, take the actions set forth in this ARTICLE IV, subject to any required reporting as may be set forth in the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement. The Litigation Sub-Trust shall investigate, prosecute, settle, or otherwise resolve the Estate Claims in accordance with the provisions of the Plan and the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement and shall distribute the proceeds therefrom to the Claimant Trust for distribution. Other rights and duties of the Litigation Trustee shall be as set forth in the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement.

## 2. Claimant Trust Oversight Committee

The Claimant Trust, the Claimant Trustee, the management and monetization of the Claimant Trust Assets, and the management of the Reorganized Debtor (through the Claimant Trust's role as managing member of New GP LLC) and the Litigation Sub-Trust will be overseen by the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee, subject to the terms of the Claimant Trust Agreement and the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, as applicable.

The Claimant Trust Oversight Committee will initially consist of five members. Four of the five members will be representatives of the members of the Committee: (i) the Redeemer Committee of Highland Crusader Fund, (ii) UBS, (iii) Acis, and (iv) Meta-e Discovery. The fifth member will be an independent, natural Person chosen by the Committee and reasonably acceptable to the Debtor. The members of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee may be replaced as set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement. The identity of the members of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee will be disclosed in the Plan Supplement.

As set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement, in no event will any member of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee with a Claim against the Estate be entitled to vote, opine, or otherwise be involved in any matters related to such member's Claim.

The independent member(s) of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee may be entitled to compensation for their services as set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement. Any member of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee may be removed, and successor chosen, in the manner set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement.

3. Purpose of the Claimant Trust.

The Claimant Trust shall be established for the purpose of (i) managing and monetizing the Claimant Trust Assets, subject to the terms of the Claimant Trust Agreement and the oversight of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee, (ii) serving as the limited partner of, and holding the limited partnership interests in, the Reorganized Debtor, (iii) serving as the sole member and manager of New GP LLC, the Reorganized Debtor's general partner, (iv) in its capacity as the sole member and manager of New GP LLC, overseeing the management and monetization of the Reorganized Debtor Assets pursuant to the terms of the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement; and (v) administering the Disputed Claims Reserve and serving as Distribution Agent with respect to Disputed Claims in Class 7 or Class 8.

In its management of the Claimant Trust Assets, the Claimant Trust will also reconcile and object to the General Unsecured Claims, Subordinated Claims, Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests, and Class A Limited Partnership Interests, as provided for in this Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement, and make Trust Distributions to the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries in accordance with Treasury Regulation section 301.7701-4(d), with no objective to continue or engage in the conduct of a trade or business.

The purpose of the Reorganized Debtor is discussed at greater length in ARTICLE IV.C.

4. Purpose of the Litigation Sub-Trust.

The Litigation Sub-Trust shall be established for the purpose of investigating, prosecuting, settling, or otherwise resolving the Estate Claims. Any proceeds therefrom shall be distributed by the Litigation Sub-Trust to the Claimant Trust for distribution to the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries pursuant to the terms of the Claimant Trust Agreement.

5. Claimant Trust Agreement and Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement.

The Claimant Trust Agreement generally will provide for, among other things:

- (i) the payment of the Claimant Trust Expenses;
- (ii) the payment of other reasonable expenses of the Claimant Trust;
- (iii) the retention of employees, counsel, accountants, financial advisors, or other professionals and the payment of their reasonable compensation;
- (iv) the investment of Cash by the Claimant Trustee within certain limitations, including those specified in the Plan;
- (v) the orderly monetization of the Claimant Trust Assets;
- (vi) litigation of any Causes of Action, which may include the prosecution, settlement, abandonment, or dismissal of any such Causes of Action, subject to reporting and oversight by the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee;
- (vii) the resolution of Claims and Equity Interests in Class 8 through Class 11, subject to reporting and oversight by the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee;
- (viii) the administration of the Disputed Claims Reserve and distributions to be made therefrom; and
- (ix) the management of the Reorganized Debtor, including the utilization of a Sub-Servicer, with the Claimant Trust serving as the managing member of New GP LLC.

Except as otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, the Claimant Trust Expenses shall be paid from the Claimant Trust Assets in accordance with the Plan and Claimant Trust Agreement. The Claimant Trustee may establish a reserve for the payment of Claimant Trust Expense (including, without limitation, any reserve for potential indemnification claims as authorized and provided under the Claimant Trust Agreement), and shall periodically replenish such reserve, as necessary.

In furtherance of, and consistent with the purpose of, the Claimant Trust and the Plan, the Trustees, for the benefit of the Claimant Trust, shall, subject to reporting and oversight by the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee as set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement: (i) hold the Claimant Trust Assets for the benefit of the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries, (ii) make Distributions to the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries as provided herein and in the Claimant Trust Agreement, and (iii) have the sole power and authority to prosecute and resolve any Causes of Action and objections to Claims and Equity Interests (other than those assigned to the Litigation Sub-Trust), without approval of the Bankruptcy Court. Except as otherwise provided in the Claimant Trust Agreement, the Claimant Trustee shall be responsible for all decisions and duties with respect to the Claimant Trust and the Claimant Trust Assets; *provided, however*, that the prosecution and resolution of any Estate Claims included in the Claimant Trust Assets shall be the responsibility of the Litigation Trustee. The Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement generally will provide for, among other things:

- (i) the payment of other reasonable expenses of the Litigation Sub-Trust;

(ii) the retention of employees, counsel, accountants, financial advisors, or other professionals and the payment of their reasonable compensation; and

(iii) the investigation and prosecution of Estate Claims, which may include the prosecution, settlement, abandonment, or dismissal of any such Estate Claims, subject to reporting and oversight as set forth in the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement.

The Trustees, on behalf of the Claimant Trust and Litigation Sub-Trust, as applicable, may each employ, without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, employees and other professionals (including those previously retained by the Debtor and the Committee) to assist in carrying out the Trustees' duties hereunder and may compensate and reimburse the reasonable expenses of these professionals without further Order of the Bankruptcy Court from the Claimant Trust Assets in accordance with the Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement.

The Claimant Trust Agreement and Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement may include reasonable and customary provisions that allow for indemnification by the Claimant Trust in favor of the Claimant Trustee, Litigation Trustee, and the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee. Any such indemnification shall be the sole responsibility of the Claimant Trust and payable solely from the Claimant Trust Assets.

6. Compensation and Duties of Trustees.

The salient terms of each Trustee's employment, including such Trustee's duties and compensation shall be set forth in the Claimant Trust Agreement and the Litigation Sub-Trust Agreement, as appropriate. The Trustees shall each be entitled to reasonable compensation in an amount consistent with that of similar functionaries in similar types of bankruptcy cases.

7. Cooperation of Debtor and Reorganized Debtor.

To effectively investigate, prosecute, compromise and/or settle the Claims and/or Causes of Action that constitute Claimant Trust Assets (including Estate Claims), the Claimant Trustee, Litigation Trustee, and each of their professionals may require reasonable access to the Debtor's and Reorganized Debtor's documents, information, and work product relating to the Claimant Trust Assets. Accordingly, the Debtor and the Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, shall reasonably cooperate with the Claimant Trustee and Litigation Trustee, as applicable, in their prosecution of Causes of Action and in providing the Claimant Trustee and Litigation Trustee with copies of documents and information in the Debtor's possession, custody, or control on the Effective Date that either Trustee indicates relates to the Estate Claims or other Causes of Action.

The Debtor and Reorganized Debtor shall preserve all records, documents or work product (including all electronic records, documents, or work product) related to the Claims and Causes of Action, including Estate Claims, until the earlier of (a) the dissolution of the Reorganized Debtor or (b) termination of the Claimant Trust and Litigation Sub-Trust.

8. United States Federal Income Tax Treatment of the Claimant Trust.

Unless the IRS requires otherwise, for all United States federal income tax purposes, the parties shall treat the transfer of the Claimant Trust Assets to the Claimant Trust as: (a) a transfer

of the Claimant Trust Assets (other than the amounts set aside in the Disputed Claims Reserve, if the Claimant Trustee makes the election described in Section 7 below) directly to the applicable Claimant Trust Beneficiaries followed by (b) the transfer by the such Claimant Trust Beneficiaries to the Claimant Trust of such Claimant Trust Assets in exchange for the Claimant Trust Interests. Accordingly, the applicable Claimant Trust Beneficiaries shall be treated for United States federal income tax purposes as the grantors and owners of their respective share of the Claimant Trust Assets. The foregoing treatment shall also apply, to the extent permitted by applicable law, for state and local income tax purposes.

9. Tax Reporting.

(a) The Claimant Trustee shall file tax returns for the Claimant Trust treating the Claimant Trust as a grantor trust pursuant to Treasury Regulation section 1.671-4(a). The Claimant Trustee may file an election pursuant to Treasury Regulation 1.468B-9(c) to treat the Disputed Claims Reserve as a disputed ownership fund, in which case the Claimant Trustee will file federal income tax returns and pay taxes for the Disputed Claims Reserve as a separate taxable entity.

(b) The Claimant Trustee shall be responsible for payment, out of the Claimant Trust Assets, of any taxes imposed on the Claimant Trust or its assets.

(c) The Claimant Trustee shall determine the fair market value of the Claimant Trust Assets as of the Effective Date and notify the applicable Claimant Trust Beneficiaries of such valuation, and such valuation shall be used consistently for all federal income tax purposes.

(d) The Claimant Trustee shall distribute such tax information to the applicable Claimant Trust Beneficiaries as the Claimant Trustee determines is required by applicable law.

10. Claimant Trust Assets.

The Claimant Trustee shall have the exclusive right, on behalf of the Claimant Trust, to institute, file, prosecute, enforce, abandon, settle, compromise, release, or withdraw any and all Causes of Action included in the Claimant Trust Assets (except for the Estate Claims) without any further order of the Bankruptcy Court, and the Claimant Trustee shall have the exclusive right, on behalf of the Claimant Trust, to sell, liquidate, or otherwise monetize all Claimant Trust Assets, except as otherwise provided in this Plan or in the Claimant Trust Agreement, without any further order of the Bankruptcy Court. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Litigation Trustee shall have the exclusive right to institute, file, prosecute, enforce, abandon, settle, compromise, release, or withdraw any and all Estate Claims included in the Claimant Trust Assets without any further order of the Bankruptcy Court.

From and after the Effective Date, the Trustees, in accordance with section 1123(b)(3) and (4) of the Bankruptcy Code, and on behalf of the Claimant Trust, shall each serve as a representative of the Estate with respect to any and all Claimant Trust Assets, including the Causes of Action and Estate Claims, as appropriate, and shall retain and possess the right to (a) commence, pursue, settle, compromise, or abandon, as appropriate, any and all Causes of Action in any court or other tribunal and (b) sell, liquidate, or otherwise monetize all Claimant Trust Assets.

11. Claimant Trust Expenses.

From and after the Effective Date, the Claimant Trust shall, in the ordinary course of business and without the necessity of any approval by the Bankruptcy Court, pay the reasonable professional fees and expenses incurred by the Claimant Trust, the Litigation Sub-Trust, and any professionals retained by such parties and entities from the Claimant Trust Assets, except as otherwise provided in the Claimant Trust Agreement.

12. Trust Distributions to Claimant Trust Beneficiaries.

The Claimant Trustee, in its discretion, may make Trust Distributions to the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries at any time and/or use the Claimant Trust Assets or proceeds thereof, *provided* that such Trust Distributions or use is otherwise permitted under the terms of the Plan, the Claimant Trust Agreement, and applicable law.

13. Cash Investments.

With the consent of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee, the Claimant Trustee may invest Cash (including any earnings thereon or proceeds therefrom) in a manner consistent with the terms of the Claimant Trust Agreement; *provided, however*, that such investments are investments permitted to be made by a “liquidating trust” within the meaning of Treasury Regulation section 301.7701-4(d), as reflected therein, or under applicable IRS guidelines, rulings or other controlling authorities.

14. Dissolution of the Claimant Trust and Litigation Sub-Trust.

The Trustees and the Claimant Trust and Litigation Sub-Trust shall be discharged or dissolved, as the case may be, at such time as: (a) the Litigation Trustee determines that the pursuit of Estate Claims is not likely to yield sufficient additional proceeds to justify further pursuit of such Estate Claims, (b) the Claimant Trustee determines that the pursuit of Causes of Action (other than Estate Claims) is not likely to yield sufficient additional proceeds to justify further pursuit of such Causes of Action, (c) the Claimant Trustee determines that the pursuit of sales of other Claimant Trust Assets is not likely to yield sufficient additional proceeds to justify further pursuit of such sales of Claimant Trust Assets, (d) all objections to Disputed Claims and Equity Interests are fully resolved, (e) the Reorganized Debtor is dissolved, and (f) all Distributions required to be made by the Claimant Trustee to the Claimant Trust Beneficiaries under the Plan have been made, but in no event shall the Claimant Trust be dissolved later than three years from the Effective Date unless the Bankruptcy Court, upon motion made within the six-month period before such third anniversary (and, in the event of further extension, by order of the Bankruptcy Court, upon motion made at least six months before the end of the preceding extension), determines that a fixed period extension (not to exceed two years, together with any prior extensions, without a favorable letter ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or an opinion of counsel that any further extension would not adversely affect the status of the Claimant Trust as a liquidating trust for federal income tax purposes) is necessary to facilitate or complete the recovery on, and liquidation of, the Claimant Trust Assets; *provided, however*, that each extension must be approved, upon a finding that the extension is necessary to facilitate or complete the recovery on, and liquidation of the Claimant Trust Assets, by the Bankruptcy Court within 6 months of the beginning of the extended term and

no extension, together with any prior extensions, shall exceed three years without a favorable letter ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or an opinion of counsel that any further extension would not adversely affect the status of the Claimant Trust as a liquidating trust for federal income tax purposes.

Upon dissolution of the Claimant Trust, and pursuant to the Claimant Trust Agreement, any remaining Claimant Trust Assets that exceed the amounts required to be paid under the Plan will be transferred (in the sole discretion of the Claimant Trustee) in Cash or in-kind to the Holders of the Claimant Trust Interests as provided in the Claimant Trust Agreement.

**C. The Reorganized Debtor**

1. Corporate Existence

The Debtor will continue to exist after the Effective Date, with all of the powers of partnerships pursuant to the law of the State of Delaware and as set forth in the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement.

2. Cancellation of Equity Interests and Release

On the Effective Date, (i) all prepetition Equity Interests, including the Class A Limited Partnership Interests and the Class B/C Limited Partnership Interests, in the Debtor shall be canceled, and (ii) all obligations or debts owed by, or Claims against, the Debtor on account of, or based upon, the Interests shall be deemed as cancelled, released, and discharged, including all obligations or duties by the Debtor relating to the Equity Interests in any of the Debtor's formation documents, including the Limited Partnership Agreement.

3. Issuance of New Partnership Interests

On the Effective Date, the Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, will issue new Class A Limited Partnership Interests to (i) the Claimant Trust, as limited partner, and (ii) New GP LLC, as general partner, and will admit (a) the Claimant Trust as the limited partner of the Reorganized Debtor, and (b) New GP LLC as the general partner of the Reorganized Debtor. The Claimant Trust, as limited partner, will ratify New GP LLC's appointment as general partner of the Reorganized Debtor. Also, on the Effective Date, the Claimant Trust, as limited partner, and New GP LLC, as general partner, will execute the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement and receive partnership interests in the Reorganized Debtor consistent with the terms of the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement.

The Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement does not provide for, and specifically disclaims, the indemnification obligations under the Limited Partnership Agreement, including any such indemnification obligations that accrued or arose or could have been brought prior to the Effective Date. Any indemnification Claims under the Limited Partnership Agreement that accrued, arose, or could have been filed prior to the Effective Date will be resolved through the Claims resolution process provided that a Claim is properly filed in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan, or the Bar Date Order. Each of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trust, and the Litigation Sub-Trust reserve all rights with respect to any such indemnification Claims.

4. Management of the Reorganized Debtor

Subject to and consistent with the terms of the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, the Reorganized Debtor shall be managed by its general partner, New GP LLC. The initial officers and employees of the Reorganized Debtor shall be selected by the Claimant Trustee. The Reorganized Debtor may, in its discretion, also utilize a Sub-Servicer in addition to or in lieu of the retention of officers and employees.

As set forth in the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, New GP LLC will receive a fee for managing the Reorganized Debtor. Although New GP LLC will be a limited liability company, it will elect to be treated as a C-Corporation for tax purposes. Therefore, New GP LLC (and any taxable income attributable to it) will be subject to corporate income taxation on a standalone basis, which may reduce the return to Claimants.

5. Vesting of Assets in the Reorganized Debtor

Except as otherwise provided in this Plan or the Confirmation Order, on or after the Effective Date, all Reorganized Debtor Assets will vest in the Reorganized Debtor, free and clear of all Liens, Claims, charges or other encumbrances pursuant to section 1141(c) of the Bankruptcy Code except with respect to such Liens, Claims, charges and other encumbrances that are specifically preserved under this Plan upon the Effective Date.

The Reorganized Debtor shall be the exclusive trustee of the Reorganized Debtor Assets for purposes of 31 U.S.C. § 3713(b) and 26 U.S.C. § 6012(b)(3), as well as the representative of the Estate appointed pursuant to section 1123(b)(3)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to the Reorganized Debtor Assets.

6. Purpose of the Reorganized Debtor

Except as may be otherwise provided in this Plan or the Confirmation Order, the Reorganized Debtor will continue to manage the Reorganized Debtor Assets (which shall include, for the avoidance of doubt, serving as the investment manager of the Managed Funds) and may use, acquire or dispose of the Reorganized Debtor Assets and compromise or settle any Claims with respect to the Reorganized Debtor Assets without supervision or approval by the Bankruptcy Court and free of any restrictions of the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules. The Reorganized Debtor shall oversee the resolution of Claims in Class 1 through Class 7.

Without limiting the foregoing, the Reorganized Debtor will pay the charges that it incurs after the Effective Date for Professionals' fees, disbursements, expenses or related support services (including reasonable fees relating to the preparation of Professional fee applications) in the ordinary course of business and without application or notice to, or order of, the Bankruptcy Court.

7. Distribution of Proceeds from the Reorganized Debtor Assets; Transfer of Reorganized Debtor Assets

Any proceeds received by the Reorganized Debtor will be distributed to the Claimant Trust, as limited partner, and New GP LLC, as general partner, in the manner set forth in the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement. As set forth in the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement,

the Reorganized Debtor may, from time to time distribute Reorganized Debtor Assets to the Claimant Trust either in Cash or in-kind, including to institute the wind-down and dissolution of the Reorganized Debtor. Any assets distributed to the Claimant Trust will be (i) deemed transferred in all respects as forth in ARTICLE IV.B.1, (ii) deemed Claimant Trust Assets, and (iii) administered as Claimant Trust Assets.

**D. Company Action**

Each of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, and the Trustees, as applicable, may take any and all actions to execute, deliver, File or record such contracts, instruments, releases and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and implement the provisions of this Plan, the Claimant Trust Agreement, the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, or the New GP LLC Documents, as applicable, in the name of and on behalf of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Trustees, as applicable, and in each case without further notice to or order of the Bankruptcy Court, act or action under applicable law, regulation, order, or rule or any requirement of further action, vote or other approval or authorization by the security holders, officers, or directors of the Debtor or the Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, or by any other Person.

Prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate), all matters provided for pursuant to this Plan that would otherwise require approval of the stockholders, partners, directors, managers, or members of the Debtor, any Related Entity, or any Affiliate thereof (as of prior to the Effective Date) will be deemed to have been so approved and will be in effect prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate) pursuant to applicable law and without any requirement of further action by the stockholders, partners, directors, managers or members of such Persons, or the need for any approvals, authorizations, actions or consents of any Person.

All matters provided for in this Plan involving the legal or corporate structure of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, and any legal or corporate action required by the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, in connection with this Plan, will be deemed to have occurred and will be in full force and effect in all respects, in each case without further notice to or order of the Bankruptcy Court, act or action under applicable law, regulation, order, or rule or any requirement of further action, vote or other approval or authorization by the security holders, partners, directors, managers, or members of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, or by any other Person. On the Effective Date, the appropriate officers of the Debtor and the Reorganized Debtor, as applicable, as well as the Trustees, are authorized to issue, execute, deliver, and consummate the transactions contemplated by, the contracts, agreements, documents, guarantees, pledges, consents, securities, certificates, resolutions and instruments contemplated by or described in this Plan in the name of and on behalf of the Debtor and the Reorganized Debtor, as well as the Trustees, in each case without further notice to or order of the Bankruptcy Court, act or action under applicable law, regulation, order, or rule or any requirement of further action, vote or other approval or authorization by any Person. The appropriate officer of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, as well as the Trustees, will be authorized to certify or attest to any of the foregoing actions.

**E. Release of Liens, Claims and Equity Interests**

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any contract, instrument, release or other agreement or document entered into or delivered in connection with the Plan, from and after the Effective Date and concurrently with the applicable distributions made pursuant to the Plan, all Liens, Claims, Equity Interests, mortgages, deeds of trust, or other security interests against the property of the Estate will be fully released, terminated, extinguished and discharged, in each case without further notice to or order of the Bankruptcy Court, act or action under applicable law, regulation, order, or rule or the vote, consent, authorization or approval of any Entity. Any Entity holding such Liens or Equity Interests extinguished pursuant to the prior sentence will, pursuant to section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code, promptly execute and deliver to the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, such instruments of termination, release, satisfaction and/or assignment (in recordable form) as may be reasonably requested by the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable. For the avoidance of doubt, this section is in addition to, and shall not be read to limit in any respects, ARTICLE IV.C.2.

**F. Cancellation of Notes, Certificates and Instruments**

Except for the purpose of evidencing a right to a distribution under this Plan and except as otherwise set forth in this Plan, on the Effective Date, all agreements, instruments, Securities and other documents evidencing any prepetition Claim or Equity Interest and any rights of any Holder in respect thereof shall be deemed cancelled, discharged, and of no force or effect. The holders of or parties to such cancelled instruments, Securities, and other documentation will have no rights arising from or related to such instruments, Securities, or other documentation or the cancellation thereof, except the rights provided for pursuant to this Plan, and the obligations of the Debtor thereunder or in any way related thereto will be fully released, terminated, extinguished and discharged, in each case without further notice to or order of the Bankruptcy Court, act or action under applicable law, regulation, order, or rule or any requirement of further action, vote or other approval or authorization by any Person. For the avoidance of doubt, this section is in addition to, and shall not be read to limit in any respects, ARTICLE IV.C.2.

**G. Cancellation of Existing Instruments Governing Security Interests**

Upon payment or other satisfaction of an Allowed Class 1 or Allowed Class 2 Claim, or promptly thereafter, the Holder of such Allowed Class 1 or Allowed Class 2 Claim shall deliver to the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, any collateral or other property of the Debtor held by such Holder, together with any termination statements, instruments of satisfaction, or releases of all security interests with respect to its Allowed Class 1 or Allowed Class 2 Claim that may be reasonably required to terminate any related financing statements, mortgages, mechanics' or other statutory Liens, or *lis pendens*, or similar interests or documents.

**H. Control Provisions**

To the extent that there is any inconsistency between this Plan as it relates to the Claimant Trust, the Claimant Trust Agreement, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, this Plan shall control.

**I. Treatment of Vacant Classes**

Any Claim or Equity Interest in a Class considered vacant under ARTICLE III.C of this Plan shall receive no Plan Distributions.

**J. Plan Documents**

The documents, if any, to be Filed as part of the Plan Documents, including any documents filed with the Plan Supplement, and any amendments, restatements, supplements, or other modifications to such documents, and any consents, waivers, or other deviations under or from any such documents, shall be incorporated herein by this reference (including to the applicable definitions in ARTICLE I hereof) and fully enforceable as if stated in full herein.

The Debtor and the Committee are currently working to finalize the forms of certain of the Plan Documents to be filed with the Plan Supplement. To the extent that the Debtor and the Committee cannot agree as to the form and content of such Plan Documents, they intend to submit the issue to non-binding mediation pursuant to the *Order Directing Mediation* entered on August 3, 2020 [D.I. 912].

**K. Highland Capital Management, L.P. Retirement Plan and Trust**

The Highland Capital Management, L.P. Retirement Plan And Trust (“Pension Plan”) is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan covered by Title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”). 29 U.S.C. §§ 1301-1461. The Debtor is the contributing sponsor and, as such, the PBGC asserts that the Debtor is liable along with any members of the contributing sponsor’s controlled-group within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§ 1301(a)(13), (14) with respect to the Pension Plan.

Upon the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtor shall be deemed to have assumed the Pension Plan and shall comply with all applicable statutory provisions of ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code (the “IRC”), including, but not limited to, satisfying the minimum funding standards pursuant to 26 U.S.C. §§ 412, 430, and 29 U.S.C. §§ 1082, 1083; paying the PBGC premiums in accordance with 29 U.S.C. §§ 1306 and 1307; and administering the Pension Plan in accordance with its terms and the provisions of ERISA and the IRC. In the event that the Pension Plan terminates after the Plan of Reorganization Effective Date, the PBGC asserts that the Reorganized Debtor and each of its controlled group members will be responsible for the liabilities imposed by Title IV of ERISA.

Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan, the Confirmation Order, or the Bankruptcy Code (including section 1141 thereof) to the contrary, neither the Plan, the Confirmation Order, or the Bankruptcy Code shall be construed as discharging, releasing, exculpating or relieving the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or any person or entity in any capacity, from any liability or responsibility, if any, with respect to the Pension Plan under any law, governmental policy, or regulatory provision. PBGC and the Pension Plan shall not be enjoined or precluded from enforcing such liability or responsibility against any person or entity as a result of any of the provisions of the Plan, the Confirmation Order, or the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor reserves the right to contest any such liability or responsibility.

**ARTICLE V.**  
**TREATMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES**

**A. Assumption, Assignment, or Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases**

Unless an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease: (i) was previously assumed or rejected by the Debtor pursuant to this Plan on or prior to the Confirmation Date; (ii) previously expired or terminated pursuant to its own terms or by agreement of the parties thereto; (iii) is the subject of a motion to assume filed by the Debtor on or before the Confirmation Date; (iv) contains a change of control or similar provision that would be triggered by the Chapter 11 Case (unless such provision has been irrevocably waived); or (v) is specifically designated as a contract or lease to be assumed in the Plan or the Plan Supplement, on the Confirmation Date, each Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease shall be deemed rejected pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, without the need for any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court, unless such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease is listed in the Plan Supplement.

At any time on or prior to the Confirmation Date, the Debtor may (i) amend the Plan Supplement in order to add or remove a contract or lease from the list of contracts to be assumed or (ii) assign (subject to applicable law) any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, as determined by the Debtor in consultation with the Committee, or the Reorganized Debtor, as applicable.

The Confirmation Order will constitute an order of the Bankruptcy Court approving the above-described assumptions, rejections, and assumptions and assignments. Except as otherwise provided herein or agreed to by the Debtor and the applicable counterparty, each assumed Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease shall include all modifications, amendments, supplements, restatements, or other agreements related thereto, and all rights related thereto. Modifications, amendments, supplements, and restatements to prepetition Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that have been executed by the Debtor during the Chapter 11 Case shall not be deemed to alter the prepetition nature of the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease or the validity, priority, or amount of any Claims that may arise in connection therewith. To the extent applicable, no change of control (or similar provision) will be deemed to occur under any such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease.

If certain, but not all, of a contract counterparty's Executory Contracts and/or Unexpired Leases are rejected pursuant to the Plan, the Confirmation Order shall be a determination that such counterparty's Executory Contracts and/or Unexpired Leases that are being assumed pursuant to the Plan are severable agreements that are not integrated with those Executory Contracts and/or Unexpired Leases that are being rejected pursuant to the Plan. Parties seeking to contest this finding with respect to their Executory Contracts and/or Unexpired Leases must file a timely objection to the Plan on the grounds that their agreements are integrated and not severable, and any such dispute shall be resolved by the Bankruptcy Court at the Confirmation Hearing (to the extent not resolved by the parties prior to the Confirmation Hearing).

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Debtor shall assume or reject that certain real property lease with Crescent TC Investors L.P. ("Landlord") for the Debtor's headquarters located at 200/300 Crescent Ct., Suite #700, Dallas, Texas 75201 (the "Lease") in accordance with the notice to Landlord, procedures and timing required by 11 U.S.C. §365(d)(4),

as modified by that certain *Agreed Order Granting Motion to Extend Time to Assume or Reject Unexpired Nonresidential Real Property Lease* [Docket No. 1122].

**B. Claims Based on Rejection of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases**

Any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease not assumed or rejected on or before the Confirmation Date shall be deemed rejected, pursuant to the Confirmation Order. Any Person asserting a Rejection Claim shall File a proof of claim within thirty days of the Confirmation Date. Any Rejection Claims that are not timely Filed pursuant to this Plan shall be forever disallowed and barred. If one or more Rejection Claims are timely Filed, the Claimant Trustee may File an objection to any Rejection Claim.

Rejection Claims shall be classified as General Unsecured Claims and shall be treated in accordance with ARTICLE III of this Plan.

**C. Cure of Defaults for Assumed or Assigned Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases**

Any monetary amounts by which any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to be assumed or assigned hereunder is in default shall be satisfied, under section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, by the Debtor upon assumption or assignment thereof, by payment of the default amount in Cash as and when due in the ordinary course or on such other terms as the parties to such Executory Contracts may otherwise agree. The Debtor may serve a notice on the Committee and parties to Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases to be assumed or assigned reflecting the Debtor's or Reorganized Debtor's intention to assume or assign the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease in connection with this Plan and setting forth the proposed cure amount (if any).

If a dispute regarding (1) the amount of any payments to cure a default, (2) the ability of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or any assignee to provide "adequate assurance of future performance" (within the meaning of section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code) under the Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to be assumed or assigned or (3) any other matter pertaining to assumption or assignment, the cure payments required by section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code will be made following the entry of a Final Order or orders resolving the dispute and approving the assumption or assignment.

Assumption or assignment of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease pursuant to the Plan or otherwise and full payment of any applicable cure amounts pursuant to this ARTICLE V.C shall result in the full release and satisfaction of any cure amounts, Claims, or defaults, whether monetary or nonmonetary, including defaults of provisions restricting the change in control or ownership interest composition or other bankruptcy-related defaults, arising under any assumed or assigned Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease at any time prior to the effective date of assumption or assignment. Any and all Proofs of Claim based upon Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases that have been assumed or assigned in the Chapter 11 Case, including pursuant to the Confirmation Order, and for which any cure amounts have been fully paid pursuant to this ARTICLE V.C, shall be deemed disallowed and expunged as of the Confirmation Date without the need for any objection thereto or any further notice to or action, order, or approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

**ARTICLE VI.**  
**PROVISIONS GOVERNING DISTRIBUTIONS**

**A. Dates of Distributions**

Except as otherwise provided in this Plan, on the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter (or if a Claim is not an Allowed Claim or Equity Interest on the Effective Date, on the date that such Claim or Equity Interest becomes an Allowed Claim or Equity Interest, or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter), each Holder of an Allowed Claim or Equity Interest against the Debtor shall receive the full amount of the distributions that this Plan provides for Allowed Claims or Allowed Equity Interests in the applicable Class and in the manner provided herein. If any payment or act under this Plan is required to be made or performed on a date that is not on a Business Day, then the making of such payment or the performance of such act may be completed on the next succeeding Business Day, but shall be deemed to have been completed as of the required date. If and to the extent there are Disputed Claims or Equity Interests, distributions on account of any such Disputed Claims or Equity Interests shall be made pursuant to the provisions provided in this Plan. Except as otherwise provided in this Plan, Holders of Claims and Equity Interests shall not be entitled to interest, dividends or accruals on the distributions provided for therein, regardless of whether distributions are delivered on or at any time after the Effective Date.

Upon the Effective Date, all Claims and Equity Interests against the Debtor shall be deemed fixed and adjusted pursuant to this Plan and none of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trust will have liability on account of any Claims or Equity Interests except as set forth in this Plan and in the Confirmation Order. All payments and all distributions made by the Distribution Agent under this Plan shall be in full and final satisfaction, settlement and release of all Claims and Equity Interests against the Debtor and the Reorganized Debtor.

At the close of business on the Distribution Record Date, the transfer ledgers for the Claims against the Debtor and the Equity Interests in the Debtor shall be closed, and there shall be no further changes in the record holders of such Claims and Equity Interests. The Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, the Trustees, and the Distribution Agent, and each of their respective agents, successors, and assigns shall have no obligation to recognize the transfer of any Claims against the Debtor or Equity Interests in the Debtor occurring after the Distribution Record Date and shall be entitled instead to recognize and deal for all purposes hereunder with only those record holders stated on the transfer ledgers as of the close of business on the Distribution Record Date irrespective of the number of distributions to be made under this Plan to such Persons or the date of such distributions.

**B. Distribution Agent**

Except as provided herein, all distributions under this Plan shall be made by the Claimant Trustee, as Distribution Agent, or by such other Entity designated by the Claimant Trustee, as a Distribution Agent on the Effective Date or thereafter. The Reorganized Debtor will be the Distribution Agent with respect to Claims in Class 1 through Class 7.

The Claimant Trustee, or such other Entity designated by the Claimant Trustee to be the Distribution Agent, shall not be required to give any bond or surety or other security for the performance of such Distribution Agent's duties unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court.

The Distribution Agent shall be empowered to (a) effect all actions and execute all agreements, instruments, and other documents necessary to perform its duties under this Plan; (b) make all distributions contemplated hereby; (c) employ professionals to represent it with respect to its responsibilities; and (d) exercise such other powers as may be vested in the Distribution Agent by order of the Bankruptcy Court, pursuant to this Plan, or as deemed by the Distribution Agent to be necessary and proper to implement the provisions hereof.

The Distribution Agent shall not have any obligation to make a particular distribution to a specific Holder of an Allowed Claim if such Holder is also the Holder of a Disputed Claim.

**C. Cash Distributions**

Distributions of Cash may be made by wire transfer from a domestic bank, except that Cash payments made to foreign creditors may be made in such funds and by such means as the Distribution Agent determines are necessary or customary in a particular foreign jurisdiction.

**D. Disputed Claims Reserve**

On or prior to the Initial Distribution Date, the Claimant Trustee shall establish, fund and maintain the Disputed Claims Reserve(s) in the appropriate Disputed Claims Reserve Amounts on account of any Disputed Claims.

**E. Distributions from the Disputed Claims Reserve**

The Disputed Claims Reserve shall at all times hold Cash in an amount no less than the Disputed Claims Reserve Amount. To the extent a Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim pursuant to the terms of this Plan, within 30 days of the date on which such Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim pursuant to the terms of this Plan, the Claimant Trustee shall distribute from the Disputed Claims Reserve to the Holder thereof any prior distributions, in Cash, that would have been made to such Allowed Claim if it had been Allowed as of the Effective Date. For the avoidance of doubt, each Holder of a Disputed Claim that subsequently becomes an Allowed Claim will also receive its Pro Rata share of the Claimant Trust Interests. If, upon the resolution of all Disputed Claims any Cash remains in the Disputed Claims Reserve, such Cash shall be transferred to the Claimant Trust and be deemed a Claimant Trust Asset.

**F. Rounding of Payments**

Whenever this Plan would otherwise call for, with respect to a particular Person, payment of a fraction of a dollar, the actual payment or distribution shall reflect a rounding of such fraction to the nearest whole dollar (up or down), with half dollars being rounded down. To the extent that Cash to be distributed under this Plan remains undistributed as a result of the aforementioned rounding, such Cash or stock shall be treated as "Unclaimed Property" under this Plan.

**G. De Minimis Distribution**

Except as to any Allowed Claim that is Unimpaired under this Plan, none of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Distribution Agent shall have any obligation to make any Plan Distributions with a value of less than \$100, unless a written request therefor is received by the Distribution Agent from the relevant recipient at the addresses set forth in ARTICLE VI.J hereof within 120 days after the later of the (i) Effective Date and (ii) the date such Claim becomes an Allowed Claim. *De minimis* distributions for which no such request is timely received shall revert to the Claimant Trust. Upon such reversion, the relevant Allowed Claim (and any Claim on account of missed distributions) shall be automatically deemed satisfied, discharged and forever barred, notwithstanding any federal or state escheat laws to the contrary.

**H. Distributions on Account of Allowed Claims**

Except as otherwise agreed by the Holder of a particular Claim or as provided in this Plan, all distributions shall be made pursuant to the terms of this Plan and the Confirmation Order. Except as otherwise provided in this Plan, distributions to any Holder of an Allowed Claim shall, to the extent applicable, be allocated first to the principal amount of any such Allowed Claim, as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes and then, to the extent the consideration exceeds such amount, to the remainder of such Claim comprising accrued but unpaid interest, if any (but solely to the extent that interest is an allowable portion of such Allowed Claim).

**I. General Distribution Procedures**

The Distribution Agent shall make all distributions of Cash or other property required under this Plan, unless this Plan specifically provides otherwise. All Cash and other property held by the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, for ultimate distribution under this Plan shall not be subject to any claim by any Person.

**J. Address for Delivery of Distributions**

Distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims, to the extent provided for under this Plan, shall be made (1) at the addresses set forth in any written notices of address change delivered to the Debtor and the Distribution Agent; (2) at the address set forth on any Proofs of Claim Filed by such Holders (to the extent such Proofs of Claim are Filed in the Chapter 11 Case), (2), or (3) at the addresses in the Debtor's books and records.

If there is any conflict or discrepancy between the addresses set forth in (1) through (3) in the foregoing sentence, then (i) the address in Section (2) shall control; (ii) if (2) does not apply, the address in (1) shall control, and (iii) if (1) does not apply, the address in (3) shall control.

**K. Undeliverable Distributions and Unclaimed Property**

If the distribution to the Holder of any Allowed Claim is returned to the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trust as undeliverable, no further distribution shall be made to such Holder, and Distribution Agent shall not have any obligation to make any further distribution to the Holder, unless and until the Distribution Agent is notified in writing of such Holder's then current address.

Any Entity that fails to claim any Cash within six months from the date upon which a distribution is first made to such Entity shall forfeit all rights to any distribution under this Plan and such Cash shall thereafter be deemed an Claimant Trust Asset in all respects and for all purposes. Entities that fail to claim Cash shall forfeit their rights thereto and shall have no claim whatsoever against the Debtor's Estate, the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trust, or against any Holder of an Allowed Claim to whom distributions are made by the Distribution Agent.

**L. Withholding Taxes**

In connection with this Plan, to the extent applicable, the Distribution Agent shall comply with all tax withholding and reporting requirements imposed on them by any Governmental Unit, and all distributions made pursuant to this Plan shall be subject to such withholding and reporting requirements. The Distribution Agent shall be entitled to deduct any U.S. federal, state or local withholding taxes from any Cash payments made with respect to Allowed Claims, as appropriate. As a condition to receiving any distribution under this Plan, the Distribution Agent may require that the Holder of an Allowed Claim entitled to receive a distribution pursuant to this Plan provide such Holder's taxpayer identification number and such other information and certification as may be deemed necessary for the Distribution Agent to comply with applicable tax reporting and withholding laws. If a Holder fails to comply with such a request within one year, such distribution shall be deemed an unclaimed distribution. Any amounts withheld pursuant hereto shall be deemed to have been distributed to and received by the applicable recipient for all purposes of this Plan.

**M. Setoffs**

The Distribution Agent may, to the extent permitted under applicable law, set off against any Allowed Claim and any distributions to be made pursuant to this Plan on account of such Allowed Claim, the claims, rights and causes of action of any nature that the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Distribution Agent may hold against the Holder of such Allowed Claim that are not otherwise waived, released or compromised in accordance with this Plan; *provided, however,* that neither such a setoff nor the allowance of any Claim hereunder shall constitute a waiver or release by the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee of any such claims, rights and causes of action that the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or Claimant Trustee possesses against such Holder. Any Holder of an Allowed Claim subject to such setoff reserves the right to challenge any such setoff in the Bankruptcy Court or any other court with jurisdiction with respect to such challenge.

**N. Surrender of Cancelled Instruments or Securities**

As a condition precedent to receiving any distribution pursuant to this Plan on account of an Allowed Claim evidenced by negotiable instruments, securities, or notes canceled pursuant to ARTICLE IV of this Plan, the Holder of such Claim will tender the applicable negotiable instruments, securities, or notes evidencing such Claim (or a sworn affidavit identifying the negotiable instruments, securities, or notes formerly held by such Holder and certifying that they have been lost), to the Distribution Agent unless waived in writing by the Distribution Agent.

**O. Lost, Stolen, Mutilated or Destroyed Securities**

In addition to any requirements under any applicable agreement and applicable law, any Holder of a Claim or Equity Interest evidenced by a security or note that has been lost, stolen, mutilated, or destroyed will, in lieu of surrendering such security or note to the extent required by this Plan, deliver to the Distribution Agent: (i) evidence reasonably satisfactory to the Distribution Agent of such loss, theft, mutilation, or destruction; and (ii) such security or indemnity as may be required by the Distribution Agent to hold such party harmless from any damages, liabilities, or costs incurred in treating such individual as a Holder of an Allowed Claim or Equity Interest. Upon compliance with ARTICLE VI.O of this Plan as determined by the Distribution Agent, by a Holder of a Claim evidenced by a security or note, such Holder will, for all purposes under this Plan, be deemed to have surrendered such security or note to the Distribution Agent.

**ARTICLE VII.  
PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING CONTINGENT,  
UNLIQUIDATED AND DISPUTED CLAIMS**

**A. Filing of Proofs of Claim**

Unless such Claim appeared in the Schedules and is not listed as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated, or such Claim has otherwise been Allowed or paid, each Holder of a Claim was required to file a Proof of Claim on or prior to the Bar Date.

**B. Disputed Claims**

Following the Effective Date, each of the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, may File with the Bankruptcy Court an objection to the allowance of any Disputed Claim or Disputed Equity Interest, request the Bankruptcy Court subordinate any Claims to Subordinated Claims, or any other appropriate motion or adversary proceeding with respect to the foregoing by the Claims Objection Deadline or, at the discretion of the Reorganized Debtor or Claimant Trustee, as applicable, compromised, settled, withdrew or resolved without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, and (ii) unless otherwise provided in the Confirmation Order, the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, are authorized to settle, or withdraw any objections to, any Disputed Claim or Disputed Equity Interests following the Effective Date without further notice to creditors (other than the Entity holding such Disputed Claim or Disputed Equity Interest) or authorization of the Bankruptcy Court, in which event such Claim or Equity Interest shall be deemed to be an Allowed Claim or Equity Interest in the amount compromised for purposes of this Plan.

**C. Procedures Regarding Disputed Claims or Disputed Equity Interests**

No payment or other distribution or treatment shall be made on account of a Disputed Claim or Disputed Equity Interest unless and until such Disputed Claim or Disputed Equity Interest becomes an Allowed Claim or Equity Interests and the amount of such Allowed Claim or Equity Interest, as applicable, is determined by order of the Bankruptcy Court or by stipulation between the Reorganized Debtor or Claimant Trust, as applicable, and the Holder of the Claim or Equity Interest.

**D. Allowance of Claims and Equity Interests**

Following the date on which a Disputed Claim or Disputed Equity Interest becomes an Allowed Claim or Equity Interest after the Distribution Date, the Distribution Agent shall make a distribution to the Holder of such Allowed Claim or Equity Interest in accordance with the Plan.

1. Allowance of Claims

After the Effective Date and subject to the other provisions of this Plan, the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, will have and will retain any and all rights and defenses under bankruptcy or nonbankruptcy law that the Debtor had with respect to any Claim. Except as expressly provided in this Plan or in any order entered in the Chapter 11 Case prior to the Effective Date (including, without limitation, the Confirmation Order), no Claim or Equity Interest will become an Allowed Claim or Equity Interest unless and until such Claim or Equity Interest is deemed Allowed under this Plan or the Bankruptcy Code or the Bankruptcy Court has entered an order, including, without limitation, the Confirmation Order, in the Chapter 11 Case allowing such Claim or Equity Interest.

2. Estimation

Subject to the other provisions of this Plan, the Debtor, prior to the Effective Date, and the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, after the Effective Date, may, at any time, request that the Bankruptcy Court estimate (a) any Disputed Claim or Disputed Equity Interest pursuant to applicable law and in accordance with this Plan and (b) any contingent or unliquidated Claim pursuant to applicable law, including, without limitation, section 502(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, and the Bankruptcy Court will retain jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 to estimate any Disputed Claim or Disputed Equity Interest, contingent Claim or unliquidated Claim, including during the litigation concerning any objection to any Claim or Equity Interest or during the pendency of any appeal relating to any such objection. All of the aforementioned objection, estimation and resolution procedures are cumulative and not exclusive of one another. Claims or Equity Interests may be estimated and subsequently compromised, settled, withdrawn or resolved by any mechanism approved by the Bankruptcy Court. The rights and objections of all parties are reserved in connection with any such estimation proceeding.

3. Disallowance of Claims

Any Claims or Equity Interests held by Entities from which property is recoverable under sections 542, 543, 550, or 553 of the Bankruptcy Code, or that are a transferee of a transfer avoidable under sections 522(f), 522(h), 544, 545, 547, 548, 549, or 724(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall be deemed disallowed pursuant to section 502(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, and holders of such Claims or Interests may not receive any distributions on account of such Claims or Interests until such time as such Causes of Action against that Entity have been settled or a Bankruptcy Court Order with respect thereto has been entered and all sums due, if any, to the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, by that Entity have been turned over or paid to the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trust, as applicable.

**EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED HEREIN OR AS AGREED TO BY THE DEBTOR, REORGANIZED DEBTOR, OR CLAIMANT TRUSTEE, AS APPLICABLE,**

**ANY AND ALL PROOFS OF CLAIM FILED AFTER THE BAR DATE SHALL BE DEEMED DISALLOWED AND EXPUNGED AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE TO OR ACTION, ORDER, OR APPROVAL OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT, AND HOLDERS OF SUCH CLAIMS MAY NOT RECEIVE ANY DISTRIBUTIONS ON ACCOUNT OF SUCH CLAIMS, UNLESS SUCH LATE PROOF OF CLAIM HAS BEEN DEEMED TIMELY FILED BY A FINAL ORDER.**

**ARTICLE VIII.  
EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN**

**A. Conditions Precedent to the Effective Date**

The Effective Date of this Plan will be conditioned upon the satisfaction or waiver by the Debtor (and, to the extent such condition requires the consent of the Committee, the consent of the Committee with such consent not to be unreasonably withheld), pursuant to the provisions of ARTICLE VIII.B of this Plan of the following:

- This Plan and the Plan Documents, including the Claimant Trust Agreement and the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, and all schedules, documents, supplements and exhibits to this Plan shall have been Filed in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtor and the Committee.
- The Confirmation Order shall have become a Final Order and shall be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtor and the Committee. The Confirmation Order shall provide that, among other things, (i) the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trustee, or the Litigation Trustee are authorized to take all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate and consummate this Plan, including, without limitation, (a) entering into, implementing, effectuating, and consummating the contracts, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents created in connection with or described in this Plan, (b) assuming the Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases set forth in the Plan Supplement, (c) making all distributions and issuances as required under this Plan; and (d) entering into any transactions as set forth in the Plan Documents; (ii) the provisions of the Confirmation Order and this Plan are nonseverable and mutually dependent; (iii) the implementation of this Plan in accordance with its terms is authorized; (iv) pursuant to section 1146 of the Bankruptcy Code, the delivery of any deed or other instrument or transfer order, in furtherance of, or in connection with this Plan, including any deeds, bills of sale, or assignments executed in connection with any disposition or transfer of Assets contemplated under this Plan, shall not be subject to any Stamp or Similar Tax; and (v) the vesting of the Claimant Trust Assets in the Claimant Trust and the Reorganized Debtor Assets in the Reorganized Debtor, in each case as of the Effective Date free and clear of liens and claims to the fullest extent permissible under applicable law pursuant to section 1141(c) of the Bankruptcy Code except with respect to such Liens, Claims, charges and other encumbrances that are specifically preserved under this Plan upon the Effective Date.
- All documents and agreements necessary to implement this Plan, including without limitation, the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, the Claimant Trust

Agreement, and the New GP LLC Documents, in each case in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtor and the Committee, shall have (a) been tendered for delivery, and (b) been effected by, executed by, or otherwise deemed binding upon, all Entities party thereto and shall be in full force and effect. All conditions precedent to such documents and agreements shall have been satisfied or waived pursuant to the terms of such documents or agreements.

- All authorizations, consents, actions, documents, approvals (including any governmental approvals), certificates and agreements necessary to implement this Plan, including, without limitation, the Reorganized Limited Partnership Agreement, the Claimant Trust Agreement, and the New GP LLC Documents, shall have been obtained, effected or executed and delivered to the required parties and, to the extent required, filed with the applicable governmental units in accordance with applicable laws and any applicable waiting periods shall have expired without any action being taken or threatened by any competent authority that would restrain or prevent effectiveness or consummation of the Restructuring.
- The Debtor shall have obtained applicable directors' and officers' insurance coverage that is acceptable to each of the Debtor, the Committee, the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee, the Claimant Trustee and the Litigation Trustee.
- The Professional Fee Reserve shall be funded pursuant to this Plan in an amount determined by the Debtor in good faith.

#### **B. Waiver of Conditions**

The conditions to effectiveness of this Plan set forth in this ARTICLE VIII (other than that the Confirmation Order shall have been entered) may be waived in whole or in part by the Debtor (and, to the extent such condition requires the consent of the Committee, the consent of the Committee), without notice, leave or order of the Bankruptcy Court or any formal action other than proceeding to confirm or effectuate this Plan. The failure to satisfy or waive a condition to the Effective Date may be asserted by the Debtor regardless of the circumstances giving rise to the failure of such condition to be satisfied. The failure of the Debtor to exercise any of the foregoing rights will not be deemed a waiver of any other rights, and each right will be deemed an ongoing right that may be asserted at any time by the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trust, as applicable.

#### **C. Dissolution of the Committee**

On the Effective Date, the Committee will dissolve, and the members of the Committee and the Committee's Professionals will cease to have any role arising from or relating to the Chapter 11 Case, except in connection with final fee applications of Professionals for services rendered prior to the Effective Date (including the right to object thereto). The Professionals retained by the Committee and the members thereof will not be entitled to assert any fee claims for any services rendered to the Committee or expenses incurred in the service of the Committee after the Effective Date, except for reasonable fees for services rendered, and actual and necessary costs incurred, in connection with any applications for allowance of Professional Fees pending on

the Effective Date or filed and served after the Effective Date pursuant to the Plan. Nothing in the Plan shall prohibit or limit the ability of the Debtor's or Committee's Professionals to represent either of the Trustees or to be compensated or reimbursed per the Plan and the Claimant Trust Agreement in connection with such representation.

**ARTICLE IX.**  
**EXCULPATION, INJUNCTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS**

**A. General**

Notwithstanding anything contained in the Plan to the contrary, the allowance, classification and treatment of all Allowed Claims and Equity Interests and their respective distributions and treatments under the Plan shall take into account the relative priority and rights of the Claims and the Equity Interests in each Class in connection with any contractual, legal and equitable subordination rights relating thereto whether arising under general principles of equitable subordination, section 510 of the Bankruptcy Code, or otherwise.

**B. Discharge of Claims**

To the fullest extent provided under section 1141(d)(1)(A) and other applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, except as otherwise expressly provided by this Plan or the Confirmation Order, all consideration distributed under this Plan will be in exchange for, and in complete satisfaction, settlement, discharge, and release of, all Claims and Equity Interests of any kind or nature whatsoever against the Debtor or any of its Assets or properties, and regardless of whether any property will have been distributed or retained pursuant to this Plan on account of such Claims or Equity Interests. Except as otherwise expressly provided by this Plan or the Confirmation Order, upon the Effective Date, the Debtor and its Estate will be deemed discharged and released under and to the fullest extent provided under section 1141(d)(1)(A) and other applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code from any and all Claims and Equity Interests of any kind or nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, demands and liabilities that arose before the Confirmation Date, and all debts of the kind specified in section 502(g), 502(h), or 502(i) of the Bankruptcy Code.

**C. Exculpation**

Subject in all respects to ARTICLE XII.D of this Plan, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, no Exculpated Party will have or incur, and each Exculpated Party is hereby exculpated from, any claim, obligation, suit, judgment, damage, demand, debt, right, Cause of Action, remedy, loss, and liability for conduct occurring on or after the Petition Date in connection with or arising out of (i) the filing and administration of the Chapter 11 Case; (ii) the negotiation and pursuit of the Disclosure Statement, the Plan, or the solicitation of votes for, or confirmation of, the Plan; (iii) the funding or consummation of the Plan (including the Plan Supplement) or any related agreements, instruments, or other documents, the solicitation of votes on the Plan, the offer, issuance, and Plan Distribution of any securities issued or to be issued pursuant to the Plan, including the Claimant Trust Interests, whether or not such Plan Distributions occur following the Effective Date; (iv) the implementation of the Plan; and (v) any negotiations, transactions, and documentation in connection with the foregoing clauses (i)-(iv); *provided, however*, the foregoing

will not apply to (a) any acts or omissions of an Exculpated Party arising out of or related to acts or omissions that constitute bad faith, fraud, gross negligence, criminal misconduct, or willful misconduct or (b) Strand or any Employee other than with respect to actions taken by such Entities from the date of appointment of the Independent Directors through the Effective Date. This exculpation shall be in addition to, and not in limitation of, all other releases, indemnities, exculpations, any other applicable law or rules, or any other provisions of this Plan, including ARTICLE IV.C.2, protecting such Exculpated Parties from liability.

**D. Releases by the Debtor**

On and after the Effective Date, each Released Party is deemed to be, hereby conclusively, absolutely, unconditionally, irrevocably, and forever released and discharged by the Debtor and the Estate, in each case on behalf of themselves and their respective successors, assigns, and representatives, including, but not limited to, the Claimant Trust and the Litigation Sub-Trust from any and all Causes of Action, including any derivative claims, asserted on behalf of the Debtor, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, matured or unmatured, existing or hereafter arising, in law, equity, contract, tort or otherwise, that the Debtor or the Estate would have been legally entitled to assert in their own right (whether individually or collectively) or on behalf of the holder of any Claim against, or Interest in, a Debtor or other Person.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the foregoing release does not release: (i) any obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement executed to implement the Plan, (ii) the rights or obligations of any current employee of the Debtor under any employment agreement or plan, (iii) the rights of the Debtor with respect to any confidentiality provisions or covenants restricting competition in favor of the Debtor under any employment agreement with a current or former employee of the Debtor, (iv) any Avoidance Actions, or (v) any Causes of Action arising from willful misconduct, criminal misconduct, actual fraud, or gross negligence of such applicable Released Party as determined by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court or any other court of competent jurisdiction.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, any release provided pursuant to this ARTICLE IX.D (i) with respect to a Senior Employee, is conditioned in all respects on (a) such Senior Employee executing a Senior Employee Stipulation on or prior to the Effective Date and (b) the reduction of such Senior Employee's Allowed Claim as set forth in the Senior Employee Stipulation (such amount, the "Reduced Employee Claim"), and (ii) with respect to any Employee, including a Senior Employee, shall be deemed null and void and of no force and effect (1) if there is more than one member of the Claimant Trust Oversight Committee who does not represent entities holding a Disputed or Allowed Claim (the "Independent Members"), the Claimant Trustee and the Independent Members by majority vote determine or (2) if there is only one Independent Member, the Independent Member after discussion with the Claimant Trustee, determines (in each case after discussing with the full Claimant Trust Oversight Committee) that such Employee (regardless of whether the Employee is then currently employed by the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee):

- sues, attempts to sue, or threatens or works with or assists any entity or person to sue, attempt to sue, or threaten the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trust, the Litigation

Sub-Trust, or any of their respective employees or agents, or any Released Party on or in connection with any claim or cause of action arising prior to the Effective Date,

- has taken any action that, impairs or harms the value of the Claimant Trust Assets or the Reorganized Debtor Assets, or
- (x) upon the request of the Claimant Trustee, has failed to provide reasonable assistance in good faith to the Claimant Trustee or the Reorganized Debtor with respect to (1) the monetization of the Claimant Trust Assets or Reorganized Debtor Assets, as applicable, or (2) the resolution of Claims, or (y) has taken any action that impedes or frustrates the Claimant Trustee or the Reorganized Debtor with respect to any of the foregoing.

*Provided, however,* that the release provided pursuant to this ARTICLE IX.D will vest and the Employee will be indefeasibly released pursuant to this ARTICLE IX.D if such Employee's release has not been deemed null and void and of no force and effect on or prior to the date that is the date of dissolution of the Claimant Trust pursuant to the Claimant Trust Agreement.

By executing the Senior Employee Stipulation embodying this release, each Senior Employee acknowledges and agrees, without limitation, to the terms of this release and the tolling agreement contained in the Senior Employee Stipulation.

The provisions of this release and the execution of a Senior Employee Stipulation will not in any way prevent or limit any Employee from (i) prosecuting its Claims, if any, against the Debtor's Estate, (ii) defending him or herself against any claims or causes of action brought against the Employee by a third party, or (iii) assisting other persons in defending themselves from any Estate Claims brought by the Litigation Trustee (but only with respect to Estate Claims brought by the Litigation Trustee and not collection or other actions brought by the Claimant Trustee).

#### **E. Preservation of Rights of Action**

##### *1. Maintenance of Causes of Action*

Except as otherwise provided in this Plan, after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trust will retain all rights to commence, pursue, litigate or settle, as appropriate, any and all Causes of Action included in the Reorganized Debtor Assets or Claimant Trust Assets, as applicable, whether existing as of the Petition Date or thereafter arising, in any court or other tribunal including, without limitation, in an adversary proceeding Filed in the Chapter 11 Case and, as the successors in interest to the Debtor and the Estate, may, and will have the exclusive right to, enforce, sue on, settle, compromise, transfer or assign (or decline to do any of the foregoing) any or all of the Causes of Action without notice to or approval from the Bankruptcy Court.

##### *2. Preservation of All Causes of Action Not Expressly Settled or Released*

Unless a Cause of Action against a Holder of a Claim or an Equity Interest or other Entity is expressly waived, relinquished, released, compromised or settled in this Plan or any Final Order (including, without limitation, the Confirmation Order), such Cause of Action is expressly reserved for later adjudication by the Reorganized Debtor or Claimant Trust, as applicable (including,

without limitation, Causes of Action not specifically identified or of which the Debtor may presently be unaware or that may arise or exist by reason of additional facts or circumstances unknown to the Debtor at this time or facts or circumstances that may change or be different from those the Debtor now believes to exist) and, therefore, no preclusion doctrine, including, without limitation, the doctrines of res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, waiver, estoppel (judicial, equitable or otherwise) or laches will apply to such Causes of Action as a consequence of the confirmation, effectiveness, or consummation of this Plan based on the Disclosure Statement, this Plan or the Confirmation Order, except where such Causes of Action have been expressly released in this Plan or any other Final Order (including, without limitation, the Confirmation Order). In addition, the right of the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trust to pursue or adopt any claims alleged in any lawsuit in which the Debtor is a plaintiff, defendant or an interested party, against any Entity, including, without limitation, the plaintiffs or co-defendants in such lawsuits, is expressly reserved.

**F. Injunction**

**Upon entry of the Confirmation Order, all Enjoined Parties are and shall be permanently enjoined, on and after the Effective Date, from taking any actions to interfere with the implementation or consummation of the Plan.**

**Except as expressly provided in the Plan, the Confirmation Order, or a separate order of the Bankruptcy Court, all Enjoined Parties are and shall be permanently enjoined, on and after the Effective Date, with respect to any Claims and Equity Interests, from directly or indirectly (i) commencing, conducting, or continuing in any manner any suit, action, or other proceeding of any kind (including any proceeding in a judicial, arbitral, administrative or other forum) against or affecting the Debtor or the property of the Debtor, (ii) enforcing, levying, attaching (including any prejudgment attachment), collecting, or otherwise recovering, enforcing, or attempting to recover or enforce, by any manner or means, any judgment, award, decree, or order against the Debtor or the property of the Debtor, (iii) creating, perfecting, or otherwise enforcing in any manner, any security interest, lien or encumbrance of any kind against the Debtor or the property of the Debtor, (iv) asserting any right of setoff, directly or indirectly, against any obligation due to the Debtor or against property or interests in property of the Debtor, except to the limited extent permitted under Sections 553 and 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code, and (v) acting or proceeding in any manner, in any place whatsoever, that does not conform to or comply with the provisions of the Plan.**

**The injunctions set forth herein shall extend to, and apply to any act of the type set forth in any of clauses (i)-(v) of the immediately preceding paragraph against any successors of the Debtor, including, but not limited to, the Reorganized Debtor, the Litigation Sub-Trust, and the Claimant Trust and their respective property and interests in property.**

**Subject in all respects to ARTICLE XII.D, no Enjoined Party may commence or pursue a claim or cause of action of any kind against any Protected Party that arose or arises from or is related to the Chapter 11 Case, the negotiation of the Plan, the administration of the Plan or property to be distributed under the Plan, the wind down of the business of the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, the administration of the Claimant Trust or the Litigation Sub-Trust, or the transactions in furtherance of the foregoing without the Bankruptcy Court**

(i) first determining, after notice and a hearing, that such claim or cause of action represents a colorable claim of any kind, including, but not limited to, negligence, bad faith, criminal misconduct, willful misconduct, fraud, or gross negligence against a Protected Party and (ii) specifically authorizing such Enjoined Party to bring such claim or cause of action against any such Protected Party; *provided, however*, the foregoing will not apply to a claim or cause of action against Strand or against any Employee other than with respect to actions taken, respectively, by Strand or by such Employee from the date of appointment of the Independent Directors through the Effective Date. The Bankruptcy Court will have sole and exclusive jurisdiction to determine whether a claim or cause of action is colorable and, only to the extent legally permissible and as provided for in ARTICLE XI, shall have jurisdiction to adjudicate the underlying colorable claim or cause of action.

**G. Duration of Injunctions and Stays**

ARTICLE II. Unless otherwise provided in this Plan, in the Confirmation Order, or in a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, (i) all injunctions and stays entered during the Chapter 11 Case and in existence on the Confirmation Date shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their terms; and (ii) the automatic stay arising under section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code shall remain in full force and effect subject to Section 362(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, and to the extent necessary if the Debtor does not receive a discharge, the Court will enter an equivalent order under Section 105.

**H. Continuance of January 9 Order**

Unless otherwise provided in this Plan, in the Confirmation Order, or in a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, the restrictions set forth in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the *Order Approving Settlement with Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors Regarding Governance of the Debtor and Procedures for Operations in the Ordinary Course*, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on January 9, 2020 [D.I. 339] shall remain in full force and effect following the Effective Date.

**ARTICLE X.  
BINDING NATURE OF PLAN**

On the Effective Date, and effective as of the Effective Date, the Plan, including, without limitation, the provisions in ARTICLE IX, will bind, and will be deemed binding upon, all Holders of Claims against and Equity Interests in the Debtor and such Holder's respective successors and assigns, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, notwithstanding whether or not such Holder will receive or retain any property or interest in property under the Plan. All Claims and Debts shall be fixed and adjusted pursuant to this Plan. The Plan shall also bind any taxing authority, recorder of deeds, or similar official for any county, state, Governmental Unit or parish in which any instrument related to the Plan or related to any transaction contemplated thereby is to be recorded with respect to any taxes of the kind specified in Bankruptcy Code section 1146(a).

**ARTICLE XI.**  
**RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

Pursuant to sections 105 and 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code and notwithstanding the entry of the Confirmation Order and the occurrence of the Effective Date, the Bankruptcy Court shall, after the Effective Date, retain such jurisdiction over the Chapter 11 Case and all Entities with respect to all matters related to the Chapter 11 Case, the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trust, and this Plan to the maximum extent legally permissible, including, without limitation, jurisdiction to:

- allow, disallow, determine, liquidate, classify, estimate or establish the priority, secured, unsecured, or subordinated status of any Claim or Equity Interest, including, without limitation, the resolution of any request for payment of any Administrative Expense Claim and the resolution of any and all objections to the allowance or priority of any Claim or Equity Interest;
- grant or deny any applications for allowance of compensation or reimbursement of expenses authorized pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code or this Plan, for periods ending on or before the Effective Date; *provided, however*, that, from and after the Effective Date, the Reorganized Debtor shall pay Professionals in the ordinary course of business for any work performed after the Effective Date subject to the terms of this Plan and the Confirmation Order, and such payment shall not be subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court;
- resolve any matters related to the assumption, assignment or rejection of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to which the Debtor is party or with respect to which the Debtor, Reorganized Debtor, or Claimant Trust may be liable and to adjudicate and, if necessary, liquidate, any Claims arising therefrom, including, without limitation, any dispute regarding whether a contract or lease is or was executory or expired;
- make any determination with respect to a claim or cause of action against a Protected Party as set forth in ARTICLE IX;
- resolve any claim or cause of action against an Exculpated Party or Protected Party arising from or related to the Chapter 11 Case, the negotiation of this Plan, the administration of the Plan or property to be distributed under the Plan, the wind down of the business of the Debtor or Reorganized Debtor, or the transactions in furtherance of the foregoing;
- if requested by the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trustee, authorize, approve, and allow any sale, disposition, assignment or other transfer of the Reorganized Debtor Assets or Claimant Trust Assets, including any break-up compensation or expense reimbursement that may be requested by a purchaser thereof; *provided, however*, that neither the Reorganized Debtor nor the Claimant Trustee shall be required to seek such authority or approval from the Bankruptcy Court unless otherwise specifically required by this Plan or the Confirmation Order;

- if requested by the Reorganized Debtor or the Claimant Trustee, authorize, approve, and allow any borrowing or the incurrence of indebtedness, whether secured or unsecured by the Reorganized Debtor or Claimant Trust; *provided, however*, that neither the Reorganized Debtor nor the Claimant Trustee shall be required to seek such authority or approval from the Bankruptcy Court unless otherwise specifically required by this Plan or the Confirmation Order;
- resolve any issues related to any matters adjudicated in the Chapter 11 Case;
- ensure that distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims and Allowed Equity Interests are accomplished pursuant to the provisions of this Plan;
- decide or resolve any motions, adversary proceedings, contested or litigated matters and any other Causes of Action (including Estate Claims) that are pending as of the Effective Date or that may be commenced in the future, including approval of any settlements, compromises, or other resolutions as may be requested by the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trustee, or the Litigation Trustee whether under Bankruptcy Rule 9019 or otherwise, and grant or deny any applications involving the Debtor that may be pending on the Effective Date or instituted by the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trustee, or Litigation Trustee after the Effective Date, provided that the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trustee, and the Litigation Trustee shall reserve the right to commence actions in all appropriate forums and jurisdictions;
- enter such orders as may be necessary or appropriate to implement, effectuate, or consummate the provisions of this Plan, the Plan Documents, and all other contracts, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents adopted in connection with this Plan, the Plan Documents, or the Disclosure Statement;
- resolve any cases, controversies, suits or disputes that may arise in connection with the implementation, effectiveness, consummation, interpretation, or enforcement of this Plan or any Entity's obligations incurred in connection with this Plan;
- issue injunctions and enforce them, enter and implement other orders or take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to restrain interference by any Entity with implementation, effectiveness, consummation, or enforcement of this Plan, except as otherwise provided in this Plan;
- enforce the terms and conditions of this Plan and the Confirmation Order;
- resolve any cases, controversies, suits or disputes with respect to the release, exculpation, indemnification, and other provisions contained herein and enter such orders or take such others actions as may be necessary or appropriate to implement or enforce all such releases, injunctions and other provisions;
- enter and implement such orders or take such others actions as may be necessary or appropriate if the Confirmation Order is modified, stayed, reversed, revoked or vacated;

- resolve any other matters that may arise in connection with or relate to this Plan, the Disclosure Statement, the Confirmation Order, the Plan Documents, or any contract, instrument, release, indenture or other agreement or document adopted in connection with this Plan or the Disclosure Statement; and
- enter an order concluding or closing the Chapter 11 Case after the Effective Date.

**ARTICLE XII.**  
**MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

**A. Payment of Statutory Fees and Filing of Reports**

All outstanding Statutory Fees shall be paid on the Effective Date. All such fees payable, and all such fees that become due and payable, after the Effective Date shall be paid by the Reorganized Debtor when due or as soon thereafter as practicable until the Chapter 11 Case is closed, converted, or dismissed. The Claimant Trustee shall File all quarterly reports due prior to the Effective Date when they become due, in a form reasonably acceptable to the U.S. Trustee. After the Effective Date, the Claimant Trustee shall File with the Bankruptcy Court quarterly reports when they become due, in a form reasonably acceptable to the U.S. Trustee. The Reorganized Debtor shall remain obligated to pay Statutory Fees to the Office of the U.S. Trustee until the earliest of the Debtor's case being closed, dismissed, or converted to a case under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

**B. Modification of Plan**

Effective as of the date hereof and subject to the limitations and rights contained in this Plan: (a) the Debtor reserves the right, in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, to amend or modify this Plan prior to the entry of the Confirmation Order with the consent of the Committee, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld; and (b) after the entry of the Confirmation Order, the Debtor may, after notice and hearing and entry of an order of the Bankruptcy Court, amend or modify this Plan, in accordance with section 1127(b) of the Bankruptcy Code or remedy any defect or omission or reconcile any inconsistency in this Plan in such manner as may be necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of this Plan.

**C. Revocation of Plan**

The Debtor reserves the right to revoke or withdraw this Plan prior to the Confirmation Date and to File a subsequent chapter 11 plan with the consent of the Committee. If the Debtor revokes or withdraws this Plan prior to the Confirmation Date, then: (i) this Plan shall be null and void in all respects; (ii) any settlement or compromise embodied in this Plan, assumption of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases effected by this Plan and any document or agreement executed pursuant hereto shall be deemed null and void except as may be set forth in a separate order entered by the Bankruptcy Court; and (iii) nothing contained in this Plan shall: (a) constitute a waiver or release of any Claims by or against, or any Equity Interests in, the Debtor or any other Entity; (b) prejudice in any manner the rights of the Debtor or any other Entity; or (c) constitute an admission, acknowledgement, offer or undertaking of any sort by the Debtor or any other Entity.

**D. Obligations Not Changed**

Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, nothing herein will affect or otherwise limit or release any non-Debtor Entity's (including any Exculpated Party's) duties or obligations, including any contractual and indemnification obligations, to the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or any other Entity whether arising under contract, statute, or otherwise.

**E. Entire Agreement**

Except as otherwise described herein, this Plan supersedes all previous and contemporaneous negotiations, promises, covenants, agreements, understandings, and representations on such subjects, all of which have become merged and integrated into this Plan.

**F. Closing of Chapter 11 Case**

The Claimant Trustee shall, after the Effective Date and promptly after the full administration of the Chapter 11 Case, File with the Bankruptcy Court all documents required by Bankruptcy Rule 3022 and any applicable order of the Bankruptcy Court to close the Chapter 11 Case.

**G. Successors and Assigns**

This Plan shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Debtor and its successors and assigns, including, without limitation, the Reorganized Debtor and the Claimant Trustee. The rights, benefits, and obligations of any Person or Entity named or referred to in this Plan shall be binding on, and shall inure to the benefit of, any heir, executor, administrator, successor, or assign of such Person or Entity.

**H. Reservation of Rights**

Except as expressly set forth herein, this Plan shall have no force or effect unless and until the Bankruptcy Court enters the Confirmation Order and the Effective Date occurs. Neither the filing of this Plan, any statement or provision contained herein, nor the taking of any action by the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trustee, or any other Entity with respect to this Plan shall be or shall be deemed to be an admission or waiver of any rights of: (1) the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee with respect to the Holders of Claims or Equity Interests or other Entity; or (2) any Holder of a Claim or an Equity Interest or other Entity prior to the Effective Date.

Neither the exclusion or inclusion by the Debtor of any contract or lease on any exhibit, schedule, or other annex to this Plan or in the Plan Documents, nor anything contained in this Plan, will constitute an admission by the Debtor that any such contract or lease is or is not an executory contract or lease or that the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, the Claimant Trustee, or their respective Affiliates has any liability thereunder.

Except as explicitly provided in this Plan, nothing herein shall waive, excuse, limit, diminish, or otherwise alter any of the defenses, claims, Causes of Action, or other rights of the

Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee under any executory or non-executory contract.

Nothing in this Plan will increase, augment, or add to any of the duties, obligations, responsibilities, or liabilities of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, under any executory or non-executory contract or lease.

If there is a dispute regarding whether a contract or lease is or was executory at the time of its assumption under this Plan, the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, shall have thirty (30) days following entry of a Final Order resolving such dispute to alter their treatment of such contract.

**I. Further Assurances**

The Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable, all Holders of Claims and Equity Interests receiving distributions hereunder, and all other Entities shall, from time to time, prepare, execute and deliver any agreements or documents and take any other actions as may be necessary or advisable to effectuate the provisions and intent of this Plan or the Confirmation Order. On or before the Effective Date, the Debtor shall File with the Bankruptcy Court all agreements and other documents that may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and further evidence the terms and conditions hereof.

**J. Severability**

If, prior to the Confirmation Date, any term or provision of this Plan is determined by the Bankruptcy Court to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the Bankruptcy Court will have the power to alter and interpret such term or provision to make it valid or enforceable to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with the original purpose of the term or provision held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, and such term or provision will then be applicable as altered or interpreted. Notwithstanding any such holding, alteration or interpretation, the remainder of the terms and provisions of this Plan will remain in full force and effect and will in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated by such holding, alteration, or interpretation. The Confirmation Order will constitute a judicial determination and will provide that each term and provision of this Plan, as it may have been altered or interpreted in accordance with the foregoing, is valid and enforceable pursuant to its terms.

**K. Service of Documents**

All notices, requests, and demands to or upon the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, or the Claimant Trustee to be effective shall be in writing and, unless otherwise expressly provided herein, shall be deemed to have been duly given or made when actually delivered addressed as follows:

**If to the Claimant Trust:**

Highland Claimant Trust  
c/o Highland Capital Management, L.P.  
300 Crescent Court, Suite 700

Dallas, Texas 75201  
Attention: James P. Seery, Jr.

**If to the Debtor:**

Highland Capital Management, L.P.  
300 Crescent Court, Suite 700  
Dallas, Texas 75201  
Attention: James P. Seery, Jr.

**with copies to:**

Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP  
10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
Telephone: (310) 277-6910  
Facsimile: (310) 201-0760  
Attn: Jeffrey N. Pomerantz, Esq.  
Ira D. Kharasch, Esq.  
Gregory V. Demo, Esq.

**If to the Reorganized Debtor:**

Highland Capital Management, L.P.  
300 Crescent Court, Suite 700  
Dallas, Texas 75201  
Attention: James P. Seery, Jr.

**with copies to:**

Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP  
10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
Attn: Jeffrey N. Pomerantz, Esq.  
Ira D. Kharasch, Esq.  
Gregory V. Demo, Esq.

**L. Exemption from Certain Transfer Taxes Pursuant to Section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code**

To the extent permitted by applicable law, pursuant to section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, any transfers of property pursuant hereto shall not be subject to any Stamp or Similar Tax or governmental assessment in the United States, and the Confirmation Order shall direct the appropriate federal, state or local governmental officials or agents or taxing authority to forego the collection of any such Stamp or Similar Tax or governmental assessment and to accept for filing and recordation instruments or other documents pursuant to such transfers of property without the payment of any such Stamp or Similar Tax or governmental assessment. Such exemption specifically applies, without limitation, to (i) all actions, agreements and documents necessary to

evidence and implement the provisions of and the distributions to be made under this Plan; (ii) the maintenance or creation of security or any Lien as contemplated by this Plan; and (iii) assignments, sales, or transfers executed in connection with any transaction occurring under this Plan.

**M. Governing Law**

Except to the extent that the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules or other federal law is applicable, or to the extent that an exhibit or schedule to this Plan provides otherwise, the rights and obligations arising under this Plan shall be governed by, and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of Texas, without giving effect to the principles of conflicts of law of such jurisdiction; *provided, however*, that corporate governance matters relating to the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, New GP LLC, or the Claimant Trust, as applicable, shall be governed by the laws of the state of organization of the Debtor, the Reorganized Debtor, New GP LLC, or the Claimant Trustee, as applicable.

**N. Tax Reporting and Compliance**

The Debtor is hereby authorized to request an expedited determination under section 505(b) of the Bankruptcy Code of the tax liability of the Debtor is for all taxable periods ending after the Petition Date through, and including, the Effective Date.

**O. Exhibits and Schedules**

All exhibits and schedules to this Plan, if any, including the Exhibits and the Plan Documents, are incorporated and are a part of this Plan as if set forth in full herein.

**P. Controlling Document**

In the event of an inconsistency between this Plan and any other instrument or document created or executed pursuant to this Plan, or between this Plan and the Disclosure Statement, this Plan shall control. The provisions of this Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and any Plan Document, on the one hand, and of the Confirmation Order, on the other hand, shall be construed in a manner consistent with each other so as to effectuate the purposes of each; *provided, however*, that if there is determined to be any inconsistency between any provision of this Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and any Plan Document, on the one hand, and any provision of the Confirmation Order, on the other hand, that cannot be so reconciled, then, solely to the extent of such inconsistency, the provisions of the Confirmation Order shall govern, and any such provisions of the Confirmation Order shall be deemed a modification of this Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and the Plan Documents, as applicable.

*[Remainder of Page Intentionally Blank]*

Dated: January 22, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

**HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.**

By: 

James P. Seery, Jr.  
Chief Executive Officer and Chief Restructuring  
Officer

Prepared by:

**PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP**

Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (CA Bar No.143717)  
Ira D. Kharasch (CA Bar No. 109084)  
Gregory V. Demo (NY Bar No. 5371992)  
10100 Santa Monica Boulevard, 13th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
Telephone: (310) 277-6910  
Facsimile: (310) 201-0760  
Email: jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com  
ikharasch@pszjlaw.com  
gdemo@pszjlaw.com

and

**HAYWARD & ASSOCIATES PLLC**

Melissa S. Hayward (TX Bar No. 24044908)  
Zachery Z. Annable (TX Bar No. 24053075)  
10501 N. Central Expy, Ste. 106  
Dallas, TX 75231  
Telephone: (972) 755-7100  
Facsimile: (972) 755-7110  
Email: MHayward@HaywardFirm.com  
ZAnnable@HaywardFirm.com

*Counsel for the Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession*

**Exhibit B**

**Schedule of CLO Management Agreements and Related Contracts to Be Assumed**

### **Schedule of CLO Management Agreements and Related Contracts to Be Assumed**

1. Servicing Agreement, dated December 20, 2007, by and among Greenbriar CLO, Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
2. Investment Management Agreement, dated November 1, 2007, by and between Longhorn Credit Funding, LLC, and Highland Capital Management, L.P. (as amended)
3. Reference Portfolio Management Agreement, dated August 1, 2016, by and between Highland Capital Management, L.P., and Valhalla CLO, Ltd.
4. Collateral Servicing Agreement, dated December 20, 2006, by and among Highland Park CDO I, Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
5. Portfolio Management Agreement, dated March 15, 2005, by and among Southfork CLO Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
6. Amended and Restated Portfolio Management Agreement, dated November 30, 2005, by and among Jasper CLO Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
7. Servicing Agreement, dated May 31, 2007, by and among Westchester CLO, Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
8. Servicing Agreement, dated May 10, 2006, by and among Rockwall CDO Ltd. and Highland Capital Management, L.P. (as amended)
9. Portfolio Management Agreement, dated December 8, 2005, by and between Liberty CLO, Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
10. Servicing Agreement, dated March 27, 2008, by and among Aberdeen Loan Funding, Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
11. Servicing Agreement, dated May 9, 2007, by and among Rockwall CDO II Ltd. and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
12. Collateral Management Agreement, by and between, Highland Loan Funding V Ltd. and Highland Capital Management, L.P., dated August 1, 2001.
13. Collateral Management Agreement, dated August 18, 1999, by and between Highland Legacy Limited and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
14. Servicing Agreement, dated November 30, 2006, by and among Grayson CLO Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P. (as amended)
15. Servicing Agreement, dated October 25, 2007, by and among Stratford CLO Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
16. Servicing Agreement, dated August 3, 2006, by and among Red River CLO Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P. (as amended)
17. Servicing Agreement, dated December 21, 2006, by and among Brentwood CLO, Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
18. Servicing Agreement, dated March 13, 2007, by and among Eastland CLO Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.

19. Portfolio Management, Agreement, dated October 13, 2005, by and among Gleneagles CLO, Ltd., and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
20. Members' Agreement and Amendment, dated November 15, 2017, by and between Highland CLO Funding, Ltd. and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
21. Collateral Management Agreement, dated May 19, 1998, by and between Pam Capital Funding LP, Ranger Asset Mgt LP and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
22. Collateral Management Agreement, dated August 6, 1997, by and between Pamco Cayman Ltd., Ranger Asset Mgt LP and Highland Capital Management, L.P.
23. Amendment No. 1 to Servicing Agreement, October 2, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd. et al
24. Interim Collateral Management Agreement, June 15, 2005, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Rockwall CDO Ltd
25. Amendment No. 1 to Servicing Agreement, October 2, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Rockwall CDO Ltd
26. Collateral Servicing Agreement dated December 20, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Highland Park CDO I, Ltd.; The Bank of New York Trust Company, National Association
27. Representations and Warranties Agreement, dated December 20, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Highland Park CDO I, Ltd.
28. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated March 27, 2008, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Aberdeen Loan Funding, Ltd.; State Street Bank and Trust Company
29. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated December 20, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Greenbriar CLO, Ltd.; State Street Bank and Trust Company
30. Collateral Acquisition Agreement, dated March 13, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Eastland CLO, Ltd
31. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated March 13, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Eastland CLO, Ltd. and Investors Bank and Trust Company
32. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated October 13, 2005, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Gleneagles CLO, Ltd.; JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
33. Collateral Acquisition Agreement, dated November 30, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Grayson CLO, Ltd.
34. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated November 30, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Grayson CLO, Ltd.; Investors Bank & Trust Company
35. Collateral Acquisition Agreement, dated August 3, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO, Ltd.

36. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated August 3, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO, Ltd.; U.S. Bank National Association
37. Master Warehousing and Participation Agreement, dated April 19, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company
38. Master Warehousing and Participation Agreement, dated February 2, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; MMP-5 Funding, LLC; IXIS Financial Products Inc.
39. Master Warehousing and Participation Agreement (Amendment No. 2), dated May 5, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; MMP-5 Funding, LLC; IXIS Financial Products Inc.
40. Master Warehousing and Participation Agreement (Amendment No. 1), dated April 12, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; MMP-5 Funding, LLC; IXIS Financial Products Inc.
41. Master Warehousing and Participation Agreement (Amendment No. 3), dated June 22, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; MMP-5 Funding, LLC; IXIS Financial Products Inc.
42. Master Warehousing and Participation Agreement (Amendment No. 4), dated July 17, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; MMP-5 Funding, LLC; IXIS Financial Products Inc.
43. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated February 2, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; U.S. Bank National Association; IXIS Financial Products Inc.
44. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated April 18, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; Highland Special Opportunities Holding Company; U.S. Bank National Association
45. Master Participation Agreement, dated June 5, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Red River CLO Ltd.; Grand Central Asset Trust
46. A&R Asset Acquisition Agreement, dated July 18, 2001, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Salomon Smith Barney Inc.; Highland Loan Funding V Ltd.
47. A&R Master Participation Agreement, dated July 18, 2001, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Salomon Brothers Holding Company; Highland Loan Funding V Ltd.
48. Collateral Acquisition Agreement, dated June 29, 2005, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Jasper CLO Ltd.
49. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated June 29, 2005, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Jasper CLO Ltd.; JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
50. Master Warehousing and Participation Agreement, dated March 24, 2005, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Jasper CLO Ltd; MMP-5 Funding, LLC; and IXIS Financial Products Inc.

51. Master Warehousing and Participation Agreement (Amendment No. 1), dated May 16, 2005, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Jasper CLO Ltd; MMP-5 Funding, LLC; and IXIS Financial Products Inc.
52. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated December 8, 2005, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Liberty CLO Ltd.
53. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated May 10, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Rockwall CDO Ltd; JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
54. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated May 9, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Rockwall CDO II, Ltd.; Investors Bank & Trust Company
55. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated March 15, 2005, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Southfork CLO Ltd.; JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
56. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated October 25, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Stratford CLO Ltd.; State Street
57. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated August 18, 2004, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Valhalla CLO, Ltd.; JPMorgan Chase Bank
58. Collateral Acquisition Agreement, dated May 31, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Westchester CLO, Ltd.
59. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated May 31, 2007, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Westchester CLO, Ltd.; Investors Bank & Trust Company
60. Collateral Administration Agreement, dated December 21, 2006, between Highland Capital Management, L.P. and Brentwood CLO, Ltd.; Investors Bank & Trust Company