Date Filed: 12/06/2022 Date Filed: 12/6/2022 Document: 00516569248 Case: 22-10960 Page 1

Case No. 22-10960

# IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

In the Matter of: Highland Capital Management, L.P.,

Debtor

The Dugaboy Investment Trust,

Appellant

v.

Highland Capital Management, L.P.,

Appellee

# RECORD EXCERPTS TO THE OPENING BRIEF OF APPELLANT, THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST

Appeal from the United States District Court for The Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, Honorable Sam A. Lindsey; USDC No. 3:21-CV-261

Douglas S. Draper, Esq.

# HELLER, DRAPER & HORN, L.L.C.

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Telephone: (504) 299-3300 Facsimile: (504) 299-3399

Attorneys for Appellant, The Dugaboy Investment Trust



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1 Docket Sheet ROA.22-10960.1-9

2 Notice of Appeal ROA.22-10960.3880-3885

3 Order Appealed ROA.22-10960.3875-3879

4 Certificate of Service

TAB 1

APPEAL, BKAPP, CLOSED, TOLIVER

# U.S. District Court Northern District of Texas (Dallas) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 3:21-cv-00261-L

The Dugaboy Investment Trust and Get Good Trust et al v.

Highland Capital Management LP Assigned to: Judge Sam A. Lindsay

Case in other court: BK Court, 19-34054-sgj11

USCA5, 22-10960

Cause: 28:0158 Notice of Appeal re Bankruptcy Matter (BA)

<u>Debtor</u>

Highland Capital Management LP

Date Filed: 02/05/2021

Date Terminated: 09/26/2022

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 422 Bankruptcy: Appeal 28

USC 158

Jurisdiction: Federal Question

#### represented by Melissa S Hayward

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Document: 00516569248 Case: 22-10960 Date Filed: 12/06/2022 Page: 5

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Case: 22-10960 Document: 00516569248 Date Filed: 12/06/2022 Page: 6

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#### Jeffrey N Pomerantz

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#### **Notice Only**

Case Admin Sup

ο.

#### represented by Case Admin Sup

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Date Filed	#	Docket Text	
02/05/2021	1 (p.10)	Pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 8003(d), the bankruptcy clerk has transmitted the notice of appeal filed in <a href="bankruptcy case">bankruptcy case</a> number 19-34054 and the notice of app has now been docketed in the district court in case 3:21-cv-261. (The filing fee he been paid in the Bankruptcy Court.) Pursuant to <a href="Fed. R. Bankr. P.">Fed. R. Bankr. P.</a> 8009, before to record on appeal can be assembled and filed in the district court, designations of items to be included in the record on appeal and statements of issues must be filed the bankruptcy case. If a sealed document is designated, the designating party may file a motion in the district court case for the document to be accepted under seal See also <a href="District Court Local Bankruptcy Rule">District Court Local Bankruptcy Rule</a> 8012.1. Unless exempted, attorned who are not admitted to practice in the Northern District of Texas must seek admission promptly. Forms and Instructions found at www.txnd.uscourts.gov, or clicking here: <a href="Attorney Information - Bar Membership">Attorney Information - Bar Membership</a> . If admission requirement are not satisfied within 21 days, the clerk will notify the presiding judge. (Attachments: # <a href="1">1</a> (p.10) Notice of appeal and supporting documents) (Blanco - TXNB, Juan) (Entered: 02/05/2021)	
02/05/2021	New Case Notes: A filing fee has been paid. (axm) (Entered: 02/05/2021		
		Application for Admission Pro Hac Vice with Certificate of Good Standing (Filing fee \$100; Receipt number 0539-11618202) filed by The Dugaboy Investment Trust	

		and Get Good Trust (Attachments: # 1 (p.10) Exhibit(s)) (Draper, Douglas) (Entered: 02/19/2021)	
02/19/2021 3		ELECTRONIC ORDER granting 2 (p.315) Application for Admission Pro Hac Vice of Douglas S. Draper. Important Reminder: Unless excused for cause, an attorney who is not an ECF user must register within 14 days of the date the attorney appears in a case pursuant to LR 5.1(f) and LCrR 49.2(g). (Ordered by Judge Sam A. Lindsay on 2/19/2021) (chmb) (Entered: 02/19/2021)	
02/19/2021 <u>4 (p.319)</u>		MOTION to Waive Requirement of Local Rule 83.10 for Designation of Lead Counsel for Appellant The Dugaboy Investment Trust and Get Good Trust. (Draper, Douglas) Modified event text on 2/22/2021 (jmg). (Entered: 02/19/2021)	
03/19/2021	5 (p.323)	MOTION for Authority to Accept Documents Under Seal filed by The Dugabor Investment Trust and Get Good Trust (Draper, Douglas) (Entered: 03/19/2021)	
03/22/2021	6	ELECTRONIC ORDER granting 4 (p.319) Motion to Waive Requirement for Local Counsel. Accordingly, the court allows Douglas S. Draper and the law firm of Heller, Draper & Horn, LLC to proceed without designating local counsel in this action. (Ordered by Judge Sam A. Lindsay on 3/22/2021) (chmb) (Entered: 03/22/2021)	
The Dugaboy In pursuant to Fede Bankruptcy Cou Amended Design notification by the Bankruptcy Couthe Bankruptcy Couthe Bankruptcy Couther Bankruptc		ORDER: 5 (p.323) Motion for Authority to Accept Documents Under Seal filed by The Dugaboy Investment Trust and Get Good Trust is Granted. Accordingly, pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 8009(f), the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court is directed to transmit the sealed documents identified in the Amended Designation of Record Pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 8009 after proper notification by the Appellants of a ruling providing for the transmittal to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court, which includes filing a notice of this order on the docket of the Bankruptcy Court. (Ordered by Judge Sam A. Lindsay on 3/22/2021) (svc) (Entered: 03/22/2021)	
Attorney Gregory V. Demo (Filing fee \$100; I by Highland Capital Management LP (Attachr		Application for Admission Pro Hac Vice with Certificate of Good Standing for Attorney Gregory V. Demo (Filing fee \$100; Receipt number 0539-11783346) filed by Highland Capital Management LP (Attachments: # 1 (p.10) Certificate of Good Standing) (Hayward, Melissa) (Entered: 04/09/2021)	
of Gregory V. Demo. Important Reminder: Unl who is not an ECF user must register within 14 in a case pursuant to LR 5.1(f) and LCrR 49.2(s		ELECTRONIC ORDER granting <u>8 (p.328)</u> Application for Admission Pro Hac Vice of Gregory V. Demo. Important Reminder: Unless excused for cause, an attorney who is not an ECF user must register within 14 days of the date the attorney appears in a case pursuant to LR 5.1(f) and LCrR 49.2(g). (Ordered by Judge Sam A. Lindsay on 4/9/2021) (chmb) (Entered: 04/09/2021)	
fee \$100; Receipt number 0539-11783675) filed by Highland Capital Ma LP (Attachments: # 1 (p.10) Certificate of Good Standing)Attorney John added to party Highland Capital Management LP(pty:dbpos), Attorney John		Application for Admission Pro Hac Vice with Certificate of Good Standing (Filing fee \$100; Receipt number 0539-11783675) filed by Highland Capital Management LP (Attachments: # 1 (p.10) Certificate of Good Standing)Attorney John A Morris added to party Highland Capital Management LP(pty:dbpos), Attorney John A Morris added to party Highland Capital Management LP(pty:e) (Morris, John) (Entered: 04/09/2021)	
(p.338) Transmitting BK Appeal or Withdraw Record Vol. 1, # 2 (p.315) Appellant I 4 (p.319) Appellant Record Vol. 4, # 3 Appellant Record Vol. 6, # 7 (p.327)		Notice Transmitting COMPLETE BK Record on Appeal re 1 (p.10) Notice Transmitting BK Appeal or Withdrawal of Reference. (Attachments: #1 (p.10) Mini Record Vol. 1, #2 (p.315) Appellant Record Vol. 2, #3 Appellant Record Vol. 3, #4 (p.319) Appellant Record Vol. 4, #5 (p.323) Appellant Record Vol. 5, #6 Appellant Record Vol. 6, #7 (p.327) Appellant Record Vol. 7, #8 (p.328) Appellant Record Vol. 8, #9 Appellant Record Vol. 9, #10 (p.333) Appellee Record Vol. 10,	

,		# <u>11 (p.338)</u> Appellee Record Vol. 11, # <u>12 (p.3655)</u> Appellee Record Vol.12, # <u>13 (p.3658)</u> Appellee Record Vol.13) (Blanco - TXNB, Juan) (Entered: 04/13/2021)	
(p.3655)		NOTICE of Attorney Appearance by Paige Holden Montgomery on behalf of Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors. (Filer confirms contact info in ECF is current.). Party Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors added. (Montgomery, Paige) (Entered: 04/13/2021)	
04/13/2021	13 (p.3658)	NOTICE of Attorney Appearance by Juliana Lorraine Hoffman on behalf of Of Committee of Unsecured Creditors. (Filer confirms contact info in ECF is curre (Hoffman, Juliana) (Entered: 04/13/2021)	
04/13/2021	14 (p.3661)	-   **	
04/13/2021	<u>16</u>	(Document Restricted) Sealed Notice of Transmittal: Appellant Record 1708, 1717, 1738, 1739 and 1740 transmitted. (Attachments: # 1 (p.10) Appellant Record 1708, # 2 (p.315) Appellant Record 1717, # 3 Appellant Record 1738, # 4 (p.319) Appellant Record 1739, # 5 (p.323) Appellant Record 1740) (axm) (Entered: 04/15/2021)	
04/14/2021	15 (p.3666)	NOTICE of Attorney Appearance by Penny P Reid on behalf of Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors. (Filer confirms contact info in ECF is current.) (Reid, Penny) (Entered: 04/14/2021)	
04/19/2021	17	ELECTRONIC ORDER granting 10 (p.333) Application for Admission Pro Hac Vice of John A. Morris. Important Reminder: Unless excused for cause, an attorney who is not an ECF user must register within 14 days of the date the attorney appears in a case pursuant to LR 5.1(f) and LCrR 49.2(g). (Ordered by Judge Sam A. Lindsay on 4/19/2021) (chmb) (Entered: 04/19/2021)	
04/19/2021	18	ELECTRONIC ORDER granting 14 (p.3661) Application for Admission Pro Hac Vice of Jeffrey N. Pomerantz. Important Reminder: Unless excused for cause, an attorney who is not an ECF user must register within 14 days of the date the attorney appears in a case pursuant to LR 5.1(f) and LCrR 49.2(g). (Ordered by Judge Sam A. Lindsay on 4/19/2021) (chmb) (Entered: 04/19/2021)	
04/20/2021	19 CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PERSONS/DISCLOSURE STATEM (p.3669) Highland Capital Management LP. (Annable, Zachery) (Entered: 04/20//		
04/23/2021	20 NOTICE of Attorney Appearance by Gregory V Demo on behalf of Highland Capital Management LP. (Filer confirms contact info in ECF is current.) (Dem Gregory) (Entered: 04/23/2021)		
05/13/2021	2 <u>1</u> (p.3674)		
05/13/2021	22 (p.3694)		
06/09/2021	23 (p.3698)	MOTION (Unopposed Motion for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing the Acceptance under Seal of Documents Designated by Debtor as Part of the Record on Appeal and (II) Supplementing the Record on Appeal Therewith) filed by Highland Capital	

		Management LP (Attachments: # 1 (p.10) Exhibit(s) AProposed Order, # 2 (p.315) Exhibit(s) BAgreed Protective Order) (Annable, Zachery) (Entered: 06/09/2021)	
06/14/2021 <u>24</u> (p.3718)		CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE by Highland Capital Management LP re 23 (p.3698) MOTION (Unopposed Motion for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing the Acceptance under Seal of Documents Designated by Debtor as Part of the Record on Appeal and (II) Supplementing the Record on Appeal Therewith) (Annable, Zachery) (Entered: 06/14/2021)	
06/14/2021 <u>25</u> (p.3723)		ORDER Granting 23 (p.3698) Motion for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing the Acceptance Under Seal of Documents Designated by Debtor as Part of the Record on Appeal and (II) Supplementing the Record on Appeal. Accordingly, the court directs the clerk of court to: (i) accept from the clerk of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas certain sealed documents designated by the Debtor as part of the record on appeal in this Appeal, and (ii) supplement the Record with the Sealed Documents. (Ordered by Judge Sam A. Lindsay on 6/14/2021) (svc) (Entered: 06/14/2021)	
06/14/2021	26 (p.3725)	Appellee's BRIEF by Highland Capital Management LP. (Annable, Zachery) (Entered: 06/14/2021)	
06/16/2021	(p.3763)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE by Highland Capital Management LP re 26 (p.3725) Appellee's Brief, 25 (p.3723) Order on Motion for Miscellaneous Relief,, (Annable, Zachery) (Entered: 06/16/2021)	
06/28/2021	28 (p.3769)	Appellant's REPLY BRIEF by The Dugaboy Investment Trust and Get Good Trust. (Draper, Douglas) (Entered: 06/28/2021)	
06/28/2021	29 (p.3781)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE by The Dugaboy Investment Trust and Get Good Trust re 28 (p.3769) Appellant's Reply Brief (Draper, Douglas) (Entered: 06/28/2021)	
06/28/2021	30 (p.3782)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE by The Dugaboy Investment Trust and Get Good Trust re 28 (p.3769) Appellant's Reply Brief (Draper, Douglas) (Entered: 06/28/2021)	
07/06/2021 31 Notice Transmitting APPELLEE SUPPLEMENT (p.3786) on Appeal re 11 (p.338) Notice Transmitting B		Notice Transmitting APPELLEE SUPPLEMENTAL RECORD VOL. 1 BK Record on Appeal re 11 (p.338) Notice Transmitting BK Record on Appeal. (Attachments: # 1 (p.10) Appellee Supplemental Record Vol. 1) (Blanco - TXNB, Juan) (Entered: 07/06/2021)	
07/06/2021	32	(Document Restricted) SEALED Notice Transmitting BK Record on Appeal: Appellee Supplemental Record Vol. 1. (jmg) (Entered: 07/07/2021)	
01/13/2022	(p.3813)	MOTION to Dismiss for Lack of Jurisdiction (Appellee's Motion to Dismiss Appeal as Constitutionally Moot) filed by Highland Capital Management LP (Annable, Zachery) (Entered: 01/13/2022)	
01/19/2022	34 (p.3829)		
01/20/2022	35 (p.3834)	<u> </u>	
01/27/2022			

	36 (p.3855)	REPLY filed by Highland Capital Management LP re: 33 (p.3813) MOTION to Dismiss for Lack of Jurisdiction (Appellee's Motion to Dismiss Appeal as Constitutionally Moot) (Annable, Zachery) (Entered: 01/27/2022)	
02/02/2022	37 (p.3870)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE by Highland Capital Management LP re 36 (p.3855) Reply (Annable, Zachery) (Entered: 02/02/2022)	
09/26/2022	38 (p.3875)	ORDER granting 33 (p.3813) Motion to Dismiss for Lack of Jurisdiction. (Ordere by Judge Sam A. Lindsay on 9/26/2022) (ndt) (Entered: 09/27/2022)	
09/26/2022	<u>39</u> (p.3879)	JUDGMENT: The appeal by Appellants The Dugaboy Investment Trust and Get Good Trust is dismissed by agreement as to Get Good Trust and dismissed for lack of bankruptcy standing as to The Dugaboy Investment Trust. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy 8014, all reasonable and allowable costs are to be taxed against Appellants. (Ordered by Deputy Clerk on 9/26/2022) (ndt) (Entered: 09/27/2022)	
10/04/2022	<u>40</u> (p.3880)	NOTICE OF APPEAL as to 39 (p.3879) Judgment, to the Fifth Circuit by The Dugaboy Investment Trust. Filing fee \$505, receipt number ATXNDC-13199701. T.O. form to appellant electronically at Transcript Order Form or US Mail as appropriate. Copy of NOA to be sent US Mail to parties not electronically noticed. IMPORTANT ACTION REQUIRED: Provide an electronic copy of any exhibit you offered during a hearing or trial that was admitted into evidence to the clerk of the district court within 14 days of the date of this notice. Copies must be transmitted as PDF attachments through ECF by all ECF Users or delivered to the clerk on a CD by all non-ECF Users. See detailed instructions here. (Exception: This requirement does not apply to a pro se prisoner litigant.) Please note that if original exhibits are in your possession, you must maintain them through final disposition of the case. (Draper, Douglas) (Entered: 10/04/2022)	
10/07/2022		USCA Case Number 22-10960 in USCA5 for 40 (p.3880) Notice of Appeal filed by The Dugaboy Investment Trust. (svc) (Entered: 10/07/2022)	

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TAB 2

Case 3:21-cv-00261-L Document 40 Filed 10/04/22 Page 1 of 6 PageID 4223

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

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST and GET GOOD TRUST Appellants,	
v. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Appellee	CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:21-cv-261-L
In re: HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Debtor	CASE NO. 19-34054-sgj11

COME NOW, The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("Appellant"), creditor and party in interest in the above-captioned bankruptcy case and appellant in the above-captioned bankruptcy appeal, and, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 158(d), hereby appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit that certain *Order* (the "Order") entered by the District Court on September 26, 2022, at ECF Docket No. 38 affirming the bankruptcy court's order.

The names of the parties to the Order and the contact information for their attorneys are as follows:

Case 3:21-cv-00261-L Document 40 Filed 10/04/22 Page 2 of 6 PageID 4224

### 1. Appellant:

The Dugaboy Investment Trust

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Case 3:21-cv-00261-L Document 40 Filed 10/04/22 Page 3 of 6 PageID 4225

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# 3. Appellee:

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Case 3:21-cv-00261-L Document 40 Filed 10/04/22 Page 4 of 6 PageID 4226

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# 4. <u>Party-In-Interest:</u>

HarbourVest 2017 Global Fund L.P., HarbourVest 2017 Global AIF L.P., HarbourVest Dover Street IX Investment L.P., HV International VIII Secondary L.P., HarbourVest Skew Base AIF L.P., and HarbourVest Partners L.P.:

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Case 3:21-cv-00261-L Document 40 Filed 10/04/22 Page 5 of 6 PageID 4227

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Respectfully Submitted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022.

# HELLER, DRAPER & HORN, L.L.C.

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ATTORNEYS FOR THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST

Case 3:21-cv-00261-L Document 40 Filed 10/04/22 Page 6 of 6 PageID 4228

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that, on this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022, true and correct copies of this document were electronically served by the Court's ECF system on parties entitled to notice thereof, including on counsel for the Appellee.

The undersigned hereby certifies that, on this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022, true and correct copies of this document were served via U.S. Mail, First Class, properly addressed with pre-paid postage to the counsel for the Party-in-Interest and counsel for the Debtor.

/s/ Douglas S. Draper
Douglas S. Draper

**TAB 3** 

Case 3:21-cv-00261-L Document 38 Filed 09/26/22 Page 1 of 4 PageID 4218

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

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST
and GET GOOD TRUST,

Appellants,

V. S Civil Action No. 3:21-CV-261-L

HIGHLAND CAPITAL

MANAGEMENT, LP,

Appellee.

#### **ORDER**

The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("Dugaboy") and Get Good Trust ("Get Good") (collectively, "Appellants") brought this action on February 5, 2021, to appeal the bankruptcy court's order granting Debtor Highland Capital Management, LP's Motion For Entry of an Order Approving Settlement with HarbourVest ("9019 Motion") (Claim Nos. 143, 147, 149, 150, 153, 154) and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith (Bankr. Doc. 1788), based on its finding that the 9019 Motion was in the best interest of the Debtor's estate, bankruptcy appeal. On January 13, 2022, Appellee Highland Capital Management, LP, ("Appellee" or "Highland Capital") filed its Motion to Dismiss Appeal as Constitutionally Moot (Doc. 33) which Appellants oppose in part. For the reasons herein explained, the court grants Highland Capital's Motion to Dismiss (Doc. 33) and affirms the bankruptcy court order appealed by Appellants.

Highland Capital contends that all claims asserted by Appellees are moot, as they were withdrawn after this appeal was taken. Highland Capital further asserts that Appellees lack standing as a result to pursue this appeal. Below is a summary of claims that Highland Capital contends were withdrawn for which standing is lacking:

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	Summary of Appellants' Claims					
	Appellant	Claims at Time of Appeal	Disposition	Result		
<u>.</u>	Get Good	Claim No. 120	Withdrawn / disallowed	No standing		
		Claim No. 128	Withdrawn / disallowed	No standing		
		Claim No. 129	Withdrawn / disallowed	No standing		
	Dugaboy	Claim No. 113	Withdrawn / disallowed	No standing		
		Claim No. 131	Withdrawn / disallowed	No standing		
,		Claim No. 177	Withdrawn / disallowed	No standing		

Appellee's Mot. 4.

Appellants concede that dismissal of Get Good is appropriate given the dismissal of its claims and "lack of an ownership interest in any of the non-debtor affiliates or the Debtor." Appellants' Resp. 1 & n.1. Appellants, therefore, "consent" to the dismissal of Get Good. *Id.* In light of this concession, the appeal as to Get Good will be dismissed by agreement.

Appellants nevertheless contend that, because Dugaboy has a direct pecuinary interest in the HarborVest Settlement, it continues to have standing to appeal the bankruptcy court's order granting the Debtor's 9019 Motion. Appellants argue that, "[w]ithout HarbourVest's 80 million in claims granted under the HarbourVest Settlement, Dugaboy's recovery would be much more likely." *Id.* at 2. For this reason, it contends that it has bankruptcy standing under the "person aggrieved" test.

Alternatively, it asserts that it has standing under section 1109 of the Bankruptcy Code, which provides: "A party in interest, including the debtor, the trustee, a creditors' committee, an equity security holders' committee, a creditor, an equity security holder, or any indenture trustee, may raise and may appear and be heard on any issue in a case under this chapter." 11 U.S.C. § 1109(b). Appellants contend that "Dugaboy, as an equity holder, defendant to multiple actions commenced by the Debtor, and a party enjoined under the Plan[,] is a 'party-in-interest." Appellants' Resp. 1 & n.13

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As correctly noted by Highland Capital, however, the mere possibility of obtaining relief is insufficient for purposes of bankruptcy standing. As the Fifth Circuit in *In re Technicool Systems, Incorporated* aptly explained:

The narrow inquiry for bankruptcy standing—known as the "person aggrieved" test—is "more exacting" than the test for Article III standing. Rather than showing the customary "fairly traceable" causal connection, a bankruptcy appellant must instead show that he was "directly and adversely affected pecuniarily by the order of the bankruptcy court." In essence, bankruptcy standing requires "a higher causal nexus between act and injury." This restriction narrows the playing field, ensuring that only those with a direct, financial stake in a given order can appeal it. Thus in bankruptcy litigation, as in life, "the more money we come across, the more problems we see."

In re Technicool Sys., Inc., 896 F.3d 382, 385-86 (5th Cir. 2018) (footnotes and citations omitted).

The court in *Technicool* went on to conclude that the appellant in that case could not satisfy the narrow, more exacting test for bankruptcy standing because the prospect of harm was speculative rather than direct:

Furlough cannot show that he was "directly and adversely affected pecuniarily by the order of the bankruptcy court." Furlough's primary contention is that, but for NOV's proof of claim, Technicool's assets would exceed its debt, and he would be entitled to any estate surplus. Because SBPC represents both NOV and the Trustee, Furlough argues, it might fail to disclose any problems with NOV's claim, robbing him of the possibility of recovering a surplus.

This speculative prospect of harm is far from a direct, adverse, pecuniary hit. Furlough must clear a higher standing hurdle: The order must burden his pocket before he burdens a docket. SBPC was appointed to assist the Trustee in consolidating claims and piercing the corporate veil. That appointment does not directly affect whether the bankruptcy court approves or denies NOV's claim against the estate, and thus it does not directly affect Furlough's pecuniary interests. Furlough's argument is essentially that if NOV's claim ceased to exist or dramatically decreased, the estate's assets would exceed its debt, and he would benefit financially. This might be true but it would not be a direct result of this appeal. That Furlough feels grieved by SBPC's appointment does not make him a "person aggrieved" for purposes of bankruptcy standing.

*Id.* at 386 (citations and footnote omitted).

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Notwithstanding Dugaboy's attempt at distinguishing *Technicool*, the court, for similar reasons, agrees with Highland Capital that Dugaboy's indirect interest in the order approving the HarbourVest Settlement and prospect of harm is speculative and insufficient to meet the strict requirements for bankruptcy standing. Further, Appellants acknowledge that "[t]he Fifth Circuit has not decided the issue of whether section 1109(b) confers appellate standing one way or the other." Appellants' Resp. 11. Accordingly, the court: (1) dismisses by agreement this appeal as to Get Good; (2) dismisses for lack of bankruptcy standing the appeal by Dugaboy; and affirms the bankruptcy court order appealed by Dugaboy.

It is so ordered this 26th day of September, 2022.

Sam A. Lindsay

United States District Judge

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

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST
and GET GOOD TRUST,

Appellants,

V. S Civil Action No. 3:21-CV-261-L

HIGHLAND CAPITAL

MANAGEMENT, LP,

Appellee.

S Appellee.

#### **JUDGMENT**

In accordance with the court's September 26, 2022 order, it is **ordered**, **adjudged**, **and decreed** that the bankruptcy court's order granting Debtor Highland Capital Management, LP's Motion For Entry of an Order Approving Settlement with HarbourVest (Claim Nos. 143, 147, 149, 150, 153, 154) and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith (Bankr. Doc. 1788) is **affirmed**; and that the appeal by Appellants The Dugaboy Investment Trust and Get Good Trust is **dismissed** by agreement as to Get Good Trust and **dismissed** for lack of bankruptcy standing as to The Dugaboy Investment Trust. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy 8014, all reasonable and allowable costs are to be taxed against Appellants.

Signed and entered this 26th day of September, 2022.

Karen Mitchell, Clerk of the Court

By s/Tannica Stewart
Tannica Stewart, Deputy Clerk

TAB 4

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court for the United States Court of Appeals for the Firth Circuit by using the appellate CM/ECF system.

Participants in the case who are registered CM/ECF users will be served by the appellate CM/ECF system.

There are no participants in the case who are not registered CM/ECF users.

Dated: December 6, 2022 New Orleans, Louisiana

Ċ,

/s/ Douglas S. Draper
Douglas S. Draper

Attorney for Appellant, The Dugaboy Investment Trust