PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (admitted *pro hac vice*) John A. Morris (admitted *pro hac vice*) Gregory V. Demo (admitted *pro hac vice*) Jordan A. Kroop (admitted *pro hac vice*) Hayley R. Winograd (admitted *pro hac vice*)

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067

Tel: (310) 277-6910

HAYWARD PLLC Melissa S. Hayward

Texas Bar No. 24044908 MHayward@HaywardFirm.com Zachery Z. Annable

Zachery Z. Annable
Texas Bar No. 24053075
ZAnnable@HaywardFirm.com
10501 N. Central Expy, Ste. 106

Dallas, Texas 75231 Tel: (972) 755-7100 QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN LLP

Deborah J. Newman (admitted *pro hac vice*) Robert S. Loigman (admitted *pro hac vice*)

51 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor

New York, NY 10010 Telephone: (212) 849-7000

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP

Paige Holden Montgomery 2021 McKinney Avenue

**Suite 2000** 

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone: (214) 981-3300

Counsel for Highland Capital Management, L.P. and the Highland Claimant Trust

Co-Counsel for Marc S. Kirschner, as Litigation Trustee of The Highland Litigation Sub-Trust

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

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

# HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P. AND HIGHLAND CLAIMANT TRUST'S OPPOSED MOTION FOR AN EMERGENCY HEARING ON MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENAS SERVED BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

Highland Capital Management, L.P., the reorganized debtor ("<u>Highland</u>") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "<u>Bankruptcy Case</u>"), and the Highland Claimant Trust (the "<u>Claimant Trust</u>," and together with Highland, the "<u>Movants</u>"), by and through their undersigned

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



counsel, hereby file this **OPPOSED** motion (the "Motion to Expedite") requesting an emergency hearing on the *Motion to Quash Subpoenas Served by Patrick Daugherty* [Docket No. 4248] (the "Motion to Quash") through which Movants seek to (a) quash the subpoenas served by Patrick Daugherty ("Daugherty") directed to (i) James P. Seery, Jr. (the "Seery Subpoena"), (ii) Mark Patrick (the "Patrick Subpoena"), and (iii) Highland's corporate representative (the "Rule 30(b)(6) Subpoena," and collectively with the Seery Subpoena and Patrick Subpoena, the "Subpoenas"). In support of the Motion to Expedite, Movants state as follows:

### I. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. The Court has jurisdiction to consider this Motion to Expedite pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue for this matter is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409. The statutory predicates for the relief requested in this Motion to Expedite are section 105(a) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") and Rule 9006 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules").

### II. RELEVANT BACKGROUND

2. On May 19, 2025, Highland, the Claimant Trust, and the Highland Litigation Sub-Trust (the "Litigation Sub-Trust") filed the *Motion for Entry of an Order Pursuant to Bankruptcy* Rule 9019 and 11 U.S.C. § 363 Approving Settlement with the HMIT Entities and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith [Docket No. 4216] (the "9019 Motion"),<sup>2</sup> pursuant to which Highland, the Claimant Trust, the Litigation Sub-Trust, and the Highland Indemnity Trust (the "Indemnity Trust," and together with Highland, the Claimant Trust, and the Litigation Sub-Trust, the "Highland Entities") sought approval of a settlement with Hunter Mountain Investment Trust

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Any terms capitalized but not defined herein shall take on the meanings ascribed thereto in the 9019 Motion.

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("HMIT") and its affiliated entities (the "HMIT Settlement").

- 3. Daugherty has no meaningful economic interest in the outcome of the 9019 Motion. His Class 9 Claim has been paid in full, and his Class 8 Claim has been fully reserved in an amount he agreed to and in accordance with the Disputed Claims Reserve requirements in the Plan (Plan, Art. I.B.49, I.B.50, VI.E). Nevertheless, on June 9, 2025, Daugherty filed his *Objection to Motion for Entry of an Order Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019 and 11 U.S.C. § 363 Approving Settlement with the HMIT Entities and Authorizing Actions Consistent Therewith* [Docket No. 4229] (the "Daugherty Objection"). Pursuant to his Objection, Daugherty lodges a host of extensive, meritless, and unsupported objections to the 9019 Motion, asserting, for instance, that no settlement with HMIT can be reached until his disputed Class 8 claim has been resolved to Daugherty's satisfaction.
- 4. Objections to the 9019 Motion were also filed by The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("Dugaboy"), [Docket No. 4230] (the "Dugaboy Objection"), and the Dallas Foundation (on behalf of Empower Dallas Foundation and The Okada Family Foundation) and Crown Global Life Insurance, Ltd., [Docket No. 4231] (the "Crown Obj.," and together with the Daugherty Objection and the Dugaboy Objection, the "Objections").
- 5. In connection with the Dugaboy Objection, Dugaboy timely served reasonable discovery requests and agreed to a two-hour time limit on the four different depositions it sought. In response, Highland has produced over 4,000 documents to Dugaboy, and Highland and HMIT have made (or will make) their witnesses available for deposition.
- 6. On June 19, 2025 (a federal holiday), ten days after filing his Objection, and four business days before the hearing on the 9019 Motion, Daugherty served the Subpoenas. The Rule 30(b)(6) Subpoena—served with one business day's notice—identified nearly 40 separate

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deposition topics and nearly 40 separate document requests (certain of the topics and requests appear to concern unrelated litigation).

- 7. Within an hour of receiving the Subpoenas, counsel for Movants offered to provide Daugherty with *all* documents previously produced to Dugaboy—which includes over 4,000 documents—and to make Mr. Seery and Mr. Patrick available for additional one-hour depositions.<sup>3</sup> Daugherty refused Movants' offer; without agreeing to accept the documents, Mr. Daugherty insisted that Mr. Seery and Mr. Patrick sit for two hours, rather than one, and that Highland produce a Rule 30(b)(6) witness. In response, Highland agreed to (a) produce all documents to Mr. Daugherty that Highland produced to Dugaboy, and (b) make Mr. Seery and Mr. Patrick available for two-hour depositions (with Mr. Seery even agreeing to appear on Sunday), if Mr. Daugherty withdrew the Rule 30(b)(6) Subpoena. Late in the afternoon on June 20, 2025, Mr. Daugherty rejected Highland's offer.
- 8. Based on Mr. Daugherty's unreasonable discovery demands, Movants filed the Motion to Quash the evening of June 20, 2025. As set forth more fully in the Motion, Movants seek to quash the Subpoenas under Rule 45 because they fail to allow Movants a reasonable amount of time to comply; they are grossly overly broad and unduly burdensome; they seek information entirely irrelevant to the 9019 Motion; and they were served by a party, Mr. Daugherty, who does not have a legitimate economic interest in the outcome of the 9019 Motion.

#### III. ARGUMENT

9. Pursuant to section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Court "may issue any order . . . . that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of [the Bankruptcy Code]." 11 U.S.C. § 105(a). Furthermore, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9006, the Court may, for cause shown,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Together, Highland and HMIT were willing to make four witnesses available (Mr. Seery twice, once by Dugaboy and once by Mr. Daugherty) *for a total of twelve hours*.

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reduce the notice period required prior to a hearing.

- 10. A prompt hearing on or before Monday, June 23, 2025 on the Motion to Quash is necessary. The Subpoenas are noticed for Monday, June 23, 2025, and the Motion to Quash must be resolved prior to this time in order to potentially save the Movants from expending unnecessary burden, expense, and other resources participating in, and responding to, inappropriate discovery demands.
- 11. Notice of the proposed emergency hearing will be provided to counsel for Mr. Daugherty by email and the Court's CM/ECF system.
- 12. Movants are requesting an expedited hearing on the Motion to Quash to occur on or before June 23, 2025. Per the certificate of conference attached below, Mr. Daugherty is assumed to be **OPPOSED** to an expedited hearing on the Motion to Quash.

## IV. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Movants respectfully request that the Court enter an order (i) granting the Motion to Expedite, (ii) setting an expedited hearing on the Motion to Quash on or before June 23, 2025, and (iii) granting Movants such further and additional relief as the Court deems appropriate.

June 20, 2025

# PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (admitted *pro hac vice*)
John A. Morris (admitted *pro hac vice*)
Gregory V. Demo (admitted *pro hac vice*)
Jordan A. Kroop (admitted *pro hac vice*)
Hayley R. Winograd (admitted *pro hac vice*)
10100 Santa Monica Boulevard, 13th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Tel: (310) 277-6910 Fax: (310) 201-0760

Email: jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com

jmorris@pszjlaw.com gdemo@pszjlaw.com jkroop@pszjlaw.com hwinograd@pszjlaw.com

-and-

### **HAYWARD PLLC**

/s/ Zachery Z. Annable

Melissa S. Hayward
Texas Bar No. 24044908
MHayward@HaywardFirm.com
Zachery Z. Annable
Texas Bar No. 24053075
ZAnnable@HaywardFirm.com
10501 N. Central Expy, Ste. 106
Dallas, Texas 75231

Tel: (972) 755-7100 Fax: (972) 755-7110

Counsel for Highland Capital Management, L.P., and the Highland Claimant Trust

# QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN LLP

Deborah J. Newman (admitted *pro hac vice*) Robert S. Loigman (admitted *pro hac vice*) 51 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor New York, NY 10010 Telephone: (212) 849-7000

-and-

#### SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP

Paige Holden Montgomery 2021 McKinney Avenue

**Suite 2000** 

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone: (214) 981-3300

Co-Counsel for Marc S. Kirschner, as Litigation Trustee of the Highland Litigation Sub-Trust

### **CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that, on June 20, 2025, counsel for Movants attempted to correspond with counsel for Mr. Daugherty regarding the relief requested in the foregoing Motion to Expedite. As of the filing of the Motion to Expedite, counsel for Mr. Daugherty had not yet responded regarding Movants' request for an emergency hearing. Due to the need for an immediate hearing on the Motion to Quash, however, Movants are filing this Motion to Expedite. Accordingly, it is assumed Mr. Daugherty is **OPPOSED** to the relief requested in the Motion to Expedite.

/s/ Zachery Z. Annable
Zachery Z. Annable