

**COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS, MARULLO
& MATHERNE LLC**

Kaye N. Courington
616 Girod Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
Telephone: (504) 524-5510

Special Asbestos Counsel for Debtor

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND DIVISION**

In re:

HOPEMAN BROTHERS, INC.,

Debtor.

:
: **Chapter 11**
:
: **Case No. 24-32428 (KLP)**
:
:
:
:

**EIGHTH MONTHLY FEE STATEMENT OF COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS,
MARULLO & MATHERNE, LLC AS SPECIAL ASBESTOS COUNSEL
FOR THE DEBTOR FOR ALLOWANCE OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM FOR
COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED FROM
MARCH 1, 2025 THROUGH AND INCLUDING MARCH 31, 2025**

Name of Applicant:	Courington, Kiefer, Sommers, Marullo & Matherne, LLC
Name of Client:	Hopeman Brothers, Inc. Debtor and Debtor in Possession
Date of retention order entered:	September 11, 2024, effective as of June 30, 2024 [Docket No. 187]
Time Period Covered:	March 1, 2025 through and including March 31, 2025
Total Fees Requested:	\$6,546.00 (80% of \$8,182.50)
Total Expenses Requested:	\$122.15
Type of Fee Statement:	Monthly ¹

¹ Notice of this Monthly Fee Statement shall be served in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order (as defined herein) and objections to payment of the amounts described in this Monthly Fee Statement shall be addressed in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order.



Pursuant to sections 330, and 331 of title 11 of the United States Code, (the “Bankruptcy Code”), Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”), Rule 2016-1 of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedures of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (the “Local Bankruptcy Rules”), and the *Order (I) Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals and (II) Granting Related Relief* entered September 9, 2024 [Docket No. 187] (the “Interim Compensation Order”), the law firm of Courington, Kiefer, Sommers, Marullo & Matherne, LLC (“CKSMM”), special asbestos counsel for Hopeman Brothers, Inc., as debtor and debtor in possession (the “Debtor”), hereby submits this monthly fee statement (the “Monthly Fee Statement”) for the allowance of compensation for the reasonable and necessary legal services rendered by CKSMM for the period from March 1, 2025 through and including March 31, 2025 (the “Fee Period”) and reimbursement of the actual and necessary expenses that CKSMM incurred during the Fee Period. By this Monthly Fee Statement, CKSMM seeks allowance of compensation for services rendered in the amount of \$8,182.500 and payment in the amount of \$6,546.00 (which equals 80% of the compensation sought herein). CKSMM also seeks allowance and reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses in the amount of \$122.15.

Itemization of Services Rendered and Disbursements Incurred

1. In support of this Monthly Fee Statement, CKSMM has attached the following:
 - **Exhibit A** is a summary schedule of hours and fees covered by this Monthly Fee Statement, categorized by project code.
 - **Exhibit B** is a summary schedule of the time expended by all CKSMM professionals and paraprofessionals engaged in the representation of the Debtor during the Fee Period.
 - **Exhibit C** is a summary of the expenses incurred by CKSMM during the Fee Period.
 - **Exhibit D** is a detailed invoice for the hours expended and fees incurred by CKSMM professionals and paraprofessionals during the Fee Period.

Representations

2. Although every effort has been made to include all fees and expenses incurred in the Fee Period, some fees and expenses might not be included in this Monthly Fee Statement due to delays caused by accounting and processing during the Fee Period. CKSMM reserves the right to make further application to this Court for allowance of such fees and expenses not included herein. Subsequent fee statements and applications will be filed in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, Local Bankruptcy Rules, and Interim Compensation Order.

Notice

3. Notice of this Monthly Fee Statement has been provided to all necessary parties in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order.

WHEREFORE, CKSMM respectfully requests payment of its reasonable and necessary fees and expenses incurred during the Fee Period in the total amount of \$8,304.65, consisting of (i) \$6,546.00, which is 80% of the fees incurred by the Debtor for reasonable and necessary professional services rendered by CKSMM during the Fee Period, and (ii) \$122.15 for actual and necessary costs and expenses.

Dated: April 28, 2025

/s/ Kaye N. Courington

Kaye N. Courington
**COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS, MARULLO &
MATHERNE LLC**
616 Girod Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
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Special Asbestos Counsel for Debtor and Debtor in Possession

ELECTRONICALLY FILED BY:

/s/ Henry P. (Toby) Long, III
Henry P. (Toby) Long, III (VSB NO. 75134)
HUNTON ANDREWS KURTH LLP
Riverfront Plaza, East Tower
951 East Byrd Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Telephone: (804) 788-8200
Email: hlong@huntonak.com

EXHIBIT A

Statement of Fees by Subject Matter during the Fee Period

Matter Code	Matter Description	Hours	Fees Requested
B140	Relief from Stay	0.10	\$22.50
B190	Other Contested Matter	37.80	\$8,160.00
Total		37.90	\$8,182.50

EXHIBIT B

Professionals Rendering Services during the Fee Period

The CKSMM attorneys who rendered professional services in these cases during the Fee Period include:

Professional	Position	Year Admitted	Expertise	Hourly Billing Rate	Total Hours Billed	Total Compensation
Troy N Bell	Partner	1990	Asbestos Defense Counsel	\$225.00	17.10	\$3,847.50
Kaye N Courington	Partner	1988	Asbestos Defense Counsel	\$225.00	2.40	\$540.00
Scott B Kiefer	Partner	1988	Asbestos Defense Counsel	\$225.00	15.40	\$3,465.00
Totals					34.90	\$7,852.50

CKSMM paraprofessionals who rendered professional services in these cases during the Fee Period include:

Paraprofessional	Position	Department	Hourly Billing Rate	Total Hours Billed	Total Compensation
Catharine Roberts	Paralegal	Asbestos Defense Counsel	\$110.00	3.00	330.00
Totals				3.00	\$330.00

EXHIBIT C

Summary of Expenses Incurred during the Fee Period

Type	Expenses
Court Fees	\$25.00
Deposition Transcripts	\$97.15
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$122.15

EXHIBIT D

Detailed Invoice of Fees and Expenses Incurred During the Fee Period

616 GIROD STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

TELEPHONE (504) 524-5510
FACSIMILE (504) 524-7887

FEDERAL TAX ID# 36-4695739

April 21, 2025

Hopeman Brothers, Inc
Attn: Chris Lascell
6 Auburn Court
Brookline, MA 02446-6380

Invoice No.: 49165
Billed through: March 31, 2025
Account No.: 201670 003867

RE: HBI Bankruptcy

Balance forward from previous invoice	\$28,114.77
Less payments received since previous invoice	\$0.00
Net balance forward	\$28,114.77

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

		Hours	Rate	<u>Amount</u>
03/10/25	KNC B140 Draft correspondence to Tyler Brown re: status of stay	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
03/03/25	TNB B190 Review and analyze pleadings in preparation of perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple	0.40	\$225.00	\$90.00
03/04/25	KNC B190 Draft correspondence to Toby Long re: Depositions to Perpetuate Testimony During Stay Period	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
03/04/25	KNC B190 Review correspondence from Romar Knapp re: Traylor Morgan Petition for Damages, suit against Liberty Mutual as the insurer of Hopeman Brothers	0.20	\$225.00	\$45.00
03/04/25	KNC B190 Draft correspondence to Tyler Brown re: attending the perpetuation depositions of matters that could be sued by Liberty Mutual after the Stay is lifted	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
03/04/25	KNC B190 Draft correspondence to Romar Knapp re: lifting of bankruptcy Stay	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
03/04/25	KNC B190 Draft correspondence to team re: Notice of Plaintiff's Deposition to Potential Third Parties	0.40	\$225.00	\$90.00
03/04/25	KNC B190 Draft correspondence to Tyler Brown re: Depositions to Perpetuate Testimony During Stay Period	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
03/05/25	TNB B190 Review and analyze social security print out in preparation for upcoming perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple	0.40	\$225.00	\$90.00
03/05/25	TNB B190	0.40	\$225.00	\$90.00

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	Review and analyze Petition for Damages in preparation for upcoming perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple				
03/05/25	TNB B190	1.00	\$225.00	\$225.00	
	Review and analyze Avondale Ship List and Avondale Harvey Yard invoices in preparation for the upcoming perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple				
03/05/25	KNC B190	0.30	\$225.00	\$67.50	
	Draft correspondence to Romar Knapp re:status of the perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple				
03/05/25	TNB B190	3.00	\$225.00	\$675.00	
	Review and analyze of Slidell Memorial Hospital records (550 of 1248) in preparation for the upcoming video perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple				
03/05/25	TNB B190	1.30	\$225.00	\$292.50	
	Review and analyze Ochsner Medical Center medical records (272 pages) of Bobby Temple in preparation for his upcoming video perpetuation deposition				
03/05/25	TNB B190	0.30	\$225.00	\$67.50	
	Review and analyze Avondale personnel records in preparation for the upcoming perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple				
03/05/25	TNB B190	0.40	\$225.00	\$90.00	
	Review and analyze Petition for Damages in preparation for the upcoming video perpetuation deposition of Bobbie Temple				
03/06/25	TNB B190	5.10	\$225.00	\$1,147.50	
	Attend the perpetuation deposition of Bobbie Temple				
03/09/25	KNC B190	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50	
	Draft correspondence to Romar Knapp re: status of perpetuation deposition of Hyson Leblanc				
03/10/25	TNB B190	0.40	\$225.00	\$90.00	
	Review and analyze 9/9/24 deposition of Hyson Leblanc in preparation for upcoming perpetuation deposition				
03/10/25	TNB B190	3.60	\$225.00	\$810.00	
	Review and analyze Hyson Leblanc's 6/17/95 deposition (218 pages) in preparation for upcoming perpetuation deposition				
03/10/25	KNC B190	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50	
	Draft correspondence to Romar Knapp re: status of perpetuation deposition of Hyson Leblanc				
03/10/25	KNC B190	0.20	\$225.00	\$45.00	
	Review correspondence from Romar Knapp re: Traylor Morgan Petition for Damages				
03/10/25	KNC B190	0.20	\$225.00	\$45.00	
	Review correspondence from Romar Knapp re: participation and status of perputation deposition of Hyson Leblanc				
03/10/25	KNC B190	0.20	\$225.00	\$45.00	
	Draft correspondence to Romar Knapp re: perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple and attendance				
03/10/25	SBK B190	2.30	\$225.00	\$517.50	
	Read and analyze 1995 deposition of plaintiff for relevant Hopeman Brothers' testimony in preparation for the perpetuation deposition of Hyson Leblanc				
03/10/25	SBK B190	0.50	\$225.00	\$112.50	
	Read and analyze Petition for Damages in preparation for the perpetuation deposition of Hyson LeBlanc				
03/10/25	SBK B190	0.50	\$225.00	\$112.50	
	Begin preparing deposition outline in preparation for perpetuation deposition of Hyson LeBlanc				

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03/10/25	SBK B190	0.50	\$225.00	\$112.50
	Prepare for and attend telephone conference with MVS regarding case status and appearance in perpetuation deposition of Hyson LeBlanc			
03/10/25	SBK B190	0.20	\$225.00	\$45.00
	Analyze Judgment of Dismissal of Wayne and Hopeman Brothers in prior asbestosis suit in preparation for perpetuation deposition of Hyson LeBlanc			
03/10/25	CAR B190	0.90	\$110.00	\$99.00
	Review trial verdicts regarding Hyson Leblanc for information regarding Liberty/Wayne Manufacture and Hopeman in preparation for his perpetuation deposition			
03/10/25	CAR B190	2.10	\$110.00	\$231.00
	Review and identify Hyson LeBlanc's previous depositions, discovery responses, social security records, past global settlements in preparation of his upcoming perpetuation deposition			
03/11/25	SBK B190	0.80	\$225.00	\$180.00
	Continue to review Avondale employment records and prior testimony and prior depostion of in Hyson LeBlanc in preparation for perpetuation deposition			
03/11/25	SBK B190	0.70	\$225.00	\$157.50
	Analyze prior medical records of Hyson LeBlanc in preparation for perpetuation deposition			
03/11/25	SBK B190	6.00	\$225.00	\$1,350.00
	Attend/participate in video perpetuation deposition of Hyson LeBlanc			
03/12/25	KNC B190	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
	Draft correspondence to Romar Knapp re: outcome of perpetuation deposition of Bobby Temple and potential exposure.			
03/13/25	TNB B190	0.30	\$225.00	\$67.50
	Analyze social security printout of Traylor Morgan			
03/13/25	SBK B190	2.60	\$225.00	\$585.00
	Prepare deposition report regarding perpetuation deposition testimony of plaintiff			
03/17/25	KNC B190	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
	Draft correspondence to Romar Knapp re: status of Bobbie Temple trial set for September 2025 and course of action re: of same			
03/18/25	SBK B190	1.30	\$225.00	\$292.50
	Finalize deposition report regarding perpetuation deposition of Hyson Leblanc			
03/24/25	TNB B190	0.40	\$225.00	\$90.00
	Analyze petition for damages in preparation for upcoming perpetuation deposition of Richard Hotard			
03/26/25	TNB B190	0.10	\$225.00	\$22.50
	Analyze Notice of perpetuation deposition of Richard Hotard			
			37.90	\$8,182.50
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
03/27/25	E115	Connection fee for the deposition regarding Traylor Morgan Volume IV taken on 1/29/2025. Paszkiewicz Court Reporting		\$97.15
03/31/25	E112	Court costs associated with obtaining copy of Petition for Damages in the Richard Hotard matter. (LM as		\$21.00

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insurer of HB and Wayne are named and we received an invitation to participate in Plaintiff's deposition on 4/4/25)
Clerk of Court, Civil District Court

03/31/25	E112	Court costs associated with obtaining copy of Citation and Service Copies of Petitions Issued in the Richard Hotard matter. (LM as insurer of HB and Wayne are named and we received an invitation to participate in Plaintiff's deposition on 4/4/25) Clerk of Court, Civil District Court	\$4.00
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\$122.15

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RECAP

TNB	Bell, Troy N	17.10 hrs @	\$225.00 /hr	\$3,847.50
KNC	Courington, Kaye N.	2.40 hrs @	\$225.00 /hr	\$540.00
SBK	Kiefer, Scott B.	15.40 hrs @	\$225.00 /hr	\$3,465.00
CAR	Roberts, Catharine	3.00 hrs @	\$110.00 /hr	\$330.00

Fee Recap Totals	37.90 hrs	\$8,182.50
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TASK CODE RECAP

B140	Relief from Stay	0.10 hrs	\$22.50
B190	Other Contested Matters	37.80 hrs	\$8,160.00
		hrs	

Task Code Total	37.90 hrs	\$8,182.50
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EXPENSE RECAP

E112	Court Fees	\$25.00
E115	Deposition Transcripts	\$97.15

Expense Recap Total	\$122.15
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BILLING SUMMARY:

TOTAL FEES	\$8,182.50
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$122.15
TOTAL CHARGES FOR THIS BILL	\$8,304.65

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NET BALANCE FORWARD		\$28,114.77		
TOTAL NOW DUE		\$36,419.42		