

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re

VWS Holdco, Inc., *et al.*,

Debtors.¹

Chapter 11

Case No. 25-10979 (JKS)

Jointly Administered

Re: D.I. 62

**ORDER APPROVING PROCEDURES FOR THE
RETENTION AND COMPENSATION OF ORDINARY
COURSE PROFESSIONALS *NUNC PRO TUNC* TO THE PETITION DATE**

Upon the motion (the “Motion”)² of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (the “Debtors”) for entry of an order (this “Order”) pursuant to sections 105, 327, 328 and 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 2014 and Local Rule 2014-1 approving procedures for the retention and compensation of Ordinary Course Professionals, *nunc pro tunc* to the Petition Date, as more fully described in the Motion; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the matters raised in the Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334, and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware*, dated February 29, 2012; and the Court having authority to hear the matters raised in the Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157; and venue of the Chapter 11 Cases being proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and consideration of the Motion and the requested relief being a core proceeding that the Court can determine pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and due and proper notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion having been given to the parties listed therein, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and the Court having reviewed and

¹ The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification numbers are as follows: VWS Holdco, Inc. (5412) and Shoosmith Bros., Inc. (6914). The Debtors’ mailing address is P.O. Box 2770, Chesterfield, VA 23832.

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



considered the Motion; and the Court having had the opportunity to hold a hearing on the Motion; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and the Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors, their creditors, their estates and all other parties in interest; and upon all of the proceedings had before the Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The relief requested in the Motion is hereby **GRANTED** as set forth herein.
2. To the extent deemed necessary or appropriate by the Debtors, the Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to employ, in their sole discretion, the Ordinary Course Professionals *nunc pro tunc* to the Petition Date, and to compensate such Ordinary Course Professionals pursuant to the following procedures:
 - a. Within fifteen (15) days of the later of (a) the entry of an order granting the relief requested by this Motion or (b) the date on which the retained Ordinary Course Professional commences services for the Debtors, each Ordinary Course Professional shall provide the Debtors' attorney with a declaration (the "Ordinary Course Professional Declaration"), substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, certifying that the Ordinary Course Professional does not represent or hold any interest adverse to the Debtors or their estates with respect to the matter on which the Ordinary Course Professional is to be employed. In addition, each Ordinary Course Professional shall periodically update its Ordinary Course Professional Declaration to the extent necessary to reflect new facts or circumstances relevant to their retention.
 - b. The Debtors' attorneys shall promptly file each Ordinary Course Professional Declaration with the Court and serve such documents on the following parties (collectively, the "Reviewing Parties"):
 - i. U.S. Trustee, J. Caleb Boggs Building, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, Delaware, 19801, Attn: Jane M. Leamy (jane.m.leamy@usdoj.gov);

Debtors., P.O. 2770, Chesterfield, VA 23832, Attn: Steven Agran (sagran@carlmarks.com);

- ii. Counsel to the Debtors, Pashman Stein Walder Hayden, P.C., 824 N. Market Street, Suite 800, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: John W. Weiss (jweiss@pashmanstein.com), Richard W. Riley (rriley@pashmanstein.com), Leah M. Eisenberg (leisenberg@pashmanstein.com), and David E. Sklar (dsklar@pashmanstein.com); and
 - iii. Counsel to the DIP Lenders, Cole Schotz P.C., 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019, Attn: Daniel F. X. Geoghan (DGeoghan@coleschotz.com);
 - iv. Counsel to any statutory committee appointed in these Chapter 11 Cases (a “Committee”).
- c. The Reviewing Parties shall then have fourteen (14) days following such service (the “Objection Deadline”) to notify the Debtors, the other Reviewing Parties, and the applicable Ordinary Course Professional in writing of any objection to the proposed retention stemming from the contents of the Ordinary Course Professional Declaration (an “Objection”). The Debtors may extend the Objection Deadline as to any Reviewing Party without further order of the Court.
- d. If no objections are received by the Debtors by the Objection Deadline in accordance with paragraph (c) above, retention of the Ordinary Course Professional shall be deemed approved and effective as of the later of the Petition Date or the date the Ordinary Course Professional commenced work (the “Retention Date”).
- e. If an objection is asserted by a Reviewing Party in accordance with subparagraph (c) above and such objection is not resolved within ten (10) days of the Objection Deadline (the “Resolution Deadline”), the Debtors shall schedule the matter for a hearing before the Court to be held on the next regularly-scheduled hearing date that is at least fourteen (14) days after the Resolution Deadline (unless otherwise agreed to by the Debtors and the objecting Reviewing Party). No Ordinary Course Professional shall be paid any amounts for invoiced fees or expense reimbursement until the Ordinary Course Professional Declaration has been filed with the Court and (i) the Objection Deadline has passed with no objection asserted in accordance with subparagraph (c) above, or (ii) if an Objection is asserted in accordance with subparagraph (c) above, until such Objection is resolved or upon order of the Court.

- f. Provided that the Ordinary Course Professional's retention has been approved in accordance with the above procedures, the Debtors are authorized, but not directed to pay each such Ordinary Course Professional, without further application to the Court and upon the submission to, and approval by, the Debtors of appropriate invoices setting forth in reasonable detail the nature of the services rendered and disbursements incurred, 100% of the post-petition fees and disbursements incurred, up to the amount per month set forth for each professional as set forth in Exhibit A to the Motion, per month, on average, over a rolling three-month period per Ordinary Course Professional (the "Monthly Cap").
- g. If an Ordinary Course Professional seeks payment of an amount that is more than the Monthly Cap in a single month, such professional will be required to serve on the Reviewing Parties a monthly statement in compliance with sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and any applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and any other procedures and orders of the Court ("Monthly Statement") for the full amount of fees and disbursements sought in such month, on or after the 20th day of the month following the month for which the additional fees and disbursements are being sought; *provided, however*, that if an Ordinary Course Professional does not in the ordinary course of business maintain time records in tenth-of-an-hour increments, and indicates that to be the case in its Ordinary Course Professional Declaration, the requirements of Local Rule 2016-2 shall be waived to permit said Ordinary Course Professional to submit time records in whatever time increments such professional ordinarily maintains their time, and setting forth a description of the services rendered and the professionals rendering such services on behalf of the Debtor.
 - i. If any Reviewing Party has an objection to the compensation or reimbursement sought in a particular Monthly Statement, such party shall, within fourteen (14) calendar days following the service of the relevant Monthly Statement (the "Monthly Statement Objection Deadline"), serve upon the Debtors, the Ordinary Course Professional whose Monthly Statement is objected to, and the other Reviewing Parties, a written "Notice of Objection to Fee Statement" setting forth the nature of the Objection and the amount of fees or expenses at issue. The Debtors may extend the Monthly Statement Objection Deadline as to any Reviewing Party without further order of the Court.

- ii. If the Debtors do not receive an Objection to a particular Monthly Statement on or prior to the Monthly Statement Objection Deadline, the Debtors shall promptly thereafter pay all fees and expenses identified in such Monthly Statement to which no objection has been served in accordance with paragraph (g)(i) above.
 - iii. If the Debtors receive an Objection to a particular Monthly Statement served in accordance with paragraph (g)(i) above on or prior to the Monthly Statement Objection Deadline, they shall withhold payment of that portion of the Monthly Statement to which the Objection is directed and promptly thereafter pay the remainder of the fees and disbursements unless the Court, upon notice and a hearing, directs payment to be made.
 - iv. If the parties to an Objection are able to resolve their dispute, and if the Ordinary Course Professional whose Monthly Statement was objected to serves upon the Reviewing Parties a statement indicating that the Objection is withdrawn and describing in detail the terms of the resolution, then the Debtors shall promptly thereafter pay that portion of the Monthly Statement no longer subject to an Objection.
 - v. All Objections served in accordance with these procedures and not resolved by the relevant parties shall be preserved and presented to the Court on notice.
- h. At three-month intervals during the pendency of these Chapter 11 Cases (each, a “Quarter”), but beginning with the time interval which commences on the Petition Date and ends September 30, 2025, the Debtors shall file with the Court and serve on the Reviewing Parties, no later than thirty (30) days after the end of such Quarter, a statement that shall include the following information for each Ordinary Course Professional: (i) the name of the Ordinary Course Professional; (ii) the aggregate amounts paid as compensation for services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred by that Ordinary Course Professional during the reported Quarter; and (iii) all post-petition payments made to that Ordinary Course Professional through the reported Quarter.
- i. The Debtors reserve the right to retain additional Ordinary Course Professionals from time to time during these Chapter 11 Cases, *provided* that the Debtors and such Ordinary Course Professionals comply with these procedures.

- j. If the Debtors seek to retain an Ordinary Course Professional not already listed on the Ordinary Course Professional List during these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors shall file with the Court and serve upon the Reviewing Parties a notice listing those Ordinary Course Professionals to be added to the list of Ordinary Course Professionals (the “Supplemental Notice of Ordinary Course Professionals”), along with the attendant Ordinary Course Professional Declarations.
- k. If no objection to the Supplemental Notice of Ordinary Course Professionals is filed with the Court and served upon the Debtors’ counsel as set forth above, so as to be actually received within fourteen (14) days after the service thereof, the list set forth in the Supplemental Notice of Ordinary Course Professionals will be deemed approved by the Court and without the need for a hearing or further Court order. Any Ordinary Course Professionals retained pursuant to the Supplemental Notice of Ordinary Course Professionals will be paid in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the paragraphs above.

3. The Debtors’ right to dispute any invoices shall not be affected or prejudiced in any manner by the relief granted in this Order.

4. This Order shall not apply to any professional retained by the Debtors pursuant to a separate order of the Court.

5. This Order is without prejudice to the Debtors’ right to request modification of the Monthly Fee Cap.

6. All applicable banks and other financial institutions are hereby authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay any and all checks, drafts, wires, check transfer requests, or automated clearing house transfers evidencing amounts paid by the Debtors under this Order whether presented prior to, on, or after the Petition Date. Such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the representations of the Debtors as to which checks are issued or authorized to be paid pursuant to this Order without any duty of further inquiry and without liability for following the Debtors’ instructions.

7. Nothing in this Order or any action taken by the Debtors in furtherance of the implementation hereof shall be deemed to constitute an assumption or rejection of any executory contract or unexpired lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, and all of the Debtors' rights with respect to such matters are expressly reserved.

8. Notwithstanding the relief granted herein and any actions taken hereunder, nothing contained herein shall (a) create, nor is it intended to create, any rights in favor of, or enhance the status of any claim held by, any person or entity, or (b) be deemed to convert the priority of any claim from a prepetition claim into an administrative expense claim.

9. Nothing in this Order nor the Debtors' payment of claims pursuant to this Order shall be construed as or deemed to constitute (a) an agreement or admission by the Debtors as to the validity of any claim against the Debtors on any ground, (b) a grant of third party beneficiary status or bestowal of any additional rights on any third party, (c) a waiver or impairment of any rights, claims or defenses of the Debtors' rights to dispute any claim on any grounds, (d) a promise by the Debtors to pay any claim, or (e) an implication or admission by the Debtors that such claim is payable pursuant to this Order.

10. Any Bankruptcy Rule (including, but not limited to, Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h)) or Local Rule that might otherwise delay the effectiveness of this Order is hereby waived, and the terms and conditions of this Order shall be effective and enforceable immediately upon its entry.

11. The Debtors are authorized to take all such actions as are necessary or appropriate to implement the terms of this Order.

12. Proper, timely, adequate and sufficient notice of the Motion has been provided in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules, and no other or further notice of the Motion or the entry of this Order shall be required.

13. The Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

Dated: June 27th, 2025
Wilmington, Delaware


J. KATE STICKLES
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

Exhibit A

Ordinary Course Professional Declaration

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
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VWS Holdco, Inc., *et al.*,

Debtors.¹

Chapter 11

Case No. 25-10979 (JKS)

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Re: D.I. __

**DECLARATION AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
OF _____ PURSUANT TO
FEDERAL RULE OF BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE**

I, _____, declare and say:

1. I am a [_____] of _____, located at _____ (the “Firm”).

2. The debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the “Debtors”) in the above-captioned Chapter 11 Cases have requested that the Firm provide post-petition services to the Debtors, to which the Firm has consented.

3. The Firm may have performed services in the past, and may perform services in the future, in matters unrelated to these Chapter 11 Cases for persons that are claimants or other parties in interest in these Chapter 11 Cases. The Firm does not perform services for any such person in connection with these Chapter 11 Cases.

¹ The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification numbers are as follows: VWS Holdco, Inc. (5412) and Shoosmith Bros., Inc. (6914). The Debtors’ mailing address is P.O. Box 2770, Chesterfield, VA 23832.

4. Neither I nor any partner or associate of the Firm, insofar as I have been able to ascertain, holds or represents any interest adverse to the Debtors or their estates with respect to the matters on which the Firm is to be employed.

5. The Firm's process of ascertaining whether it holds or represents an interest adverse to the Debtors, their estates, or any class of creditors or equity interest holders consists of the following: _____.

6. Neither I nor any partner or associate of the Firm have agreed to share or will share any portion of the compensation to be received from the Debtors with any person other than partners and associates of the Firm.

7. The Debtors owe the Firm \$_____ for prepetition services, the payment of which is subject to the limitations contained in the Bankruptcy Code. [FOR LEGAL SERVICES FIRMS: The Firm understand that it must file a proof of claim for such fees and expenses unless the amount thereof is properly listed in the Debtors' schedules of liabilities and is not designated therein as contingent, unliquidated or disputed.] [FOR NON-LEGAL FIRMS: The Firm has waived or will waive any prepetition claim against the Debtors' estates.

8. The Firm is conducting further inquiries regarding its retention by any creditors of the Debtors, and upon conclusion of that inquiry, or at any time during the period of its employment, if the Firm should discover any facts bearing on the matter described herein, the Firm will supplement the information contained in this Declaration.

9. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: _____, 2025

BY: [Declarant]
[FIRM NAME]